

tech-20020403-min
LICKING AREA COMPUTER ASSOCIATION
LACA Tech Meeting
April 3, 2002 at 8:30am.

Call to order and roll call: Meeting was called to order and the following were present: Michele Berry(HE), Jesse Lyon(JV), Beth Spieth(LA), Dave Calloway(LC), Lesa McGarity(LH), Randy McFerren(TV), Kevin Snyder(WM), Shawn Wharton(JO), Larry Smith(NF), Sandy Mercer(LACA). Others attending included Barry Haley, Jill Merry, Chad Carson, Joey Alexander, Lonny Claypool, and Eric Thompson.

02-017 Approval of the minutes of the February 13, 2002 meeting.
Moved by Kevin Snyder and seconded by Dave Calloway. Vote of approval.

Sandy Mercer presented the E-Rate update. On February 22, LACA attended a service provider meeting at the MEC Data Center in Columbus. LACA will be reviewing and creating supporting documentation on LACA changing E-Rate filing from Consortium to Service Provider, only IF this proves a benefit to the schools. Sandy will be meeting individually with each district's Superintendent, Treasurer, and Tech Coordinator sometime in May or June to explain the exact process.

The WAN update included notice that Cisco LAN switches will need to be maintained for the next fiscal year. Districts are advised to budget for maintenance of these switches. Average cost is \$232.00 per year for SmartNet maintenance (next day). Please provide a list of serial numbers and switch locations to Chad Carson at LACA by May 15th of the switches you would like LACA to purchase maintenance for. Websense licensing has been increased from 3,000 unique IP addresses per day to 3,600 unique addresses, based on a 30 day study of usage. LACA can purchase increases at \$5.00 per license until September 30, 2002. This will be monitored at the beginning of next school year to determine if increases are necessary. The Packeteer packet shaper has been purchased and is in place. A network fee increase of around \$41.00 per building per month is necessary for the next fiscal year. The proposal is to use network pool money to cover these increasing costs. No verbal objections to this strategy were voiced in the meeting. A few days before the meeting, Websense had a problem that shut down Internet access briefly. LACA could have re-routed Internet connectivity AROUND the Websense filter while troubleshooting took place. This would have allowed access to ANY sites (unfiltered), but instead LACA chose to cut off Internet access completely until the problem was resolved. The group was asked which was the preferred method of dealing with Websense downtime, and the consensus was to cut off all Internet traffic while work is done on Websense.

The SchoolNet update gave notice of IVDL Tech Tuesday sessions. LACA is trying to host a session on April 30, 2002 from 10:00-11:00am on E-Learning. A detailed Tech Tuesdays document will be sent out via e-mail to the LACATech group, as well as notice if LACA hosts the April 30 session.

Other Discussion included an update on the IVDL problems at the state level, and notice that the April 9 meeting at the JVS may be cancelled. Cisco has offered the LACA consortium a 60 day demo of IP Telephony. The head-end equipment will be installed at LACA on April 10, 2002. Sandy Mercer will be contacting the Superintendent of interested districts to discuss the details of the demo, and determine where the demo phones should be placed. Tentative districts which will participate are : Northridge, Johnstown, North Fork, Licking Heights, and

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Tri-Valley. Dataserv has demonstrated a \$1,500.00 desktop IP video unit to LACA, which includes access to portions of their MINDS service. More information on MINDS can be found at <http://www.minds.tv/>

Work is progressing on LACA's CiscoWorks implementation. All routers and ATM switches in the network are currently in the system. If districts would like their district-owned Cisco 2924 LAN switches added to CiscoWorks, LACA will need access to the switches (passwords). Please let Chad Carson know if you have switches you would like monitored with CiscoWorks, and the access passwords. Governing Board Policy approvals included the LACA Service Level Agreement, LACA Internet Filtering Policy, and LACA's Web Hosting Policy. The SLA document will be sent to the LACATech Listserv. All districts are required to have a Filtering Policy Form on file with LACA by June 30, 2002. LACA will be working with districts who currently use more services under web hosting than the Policy provides to resolve any issues. This service will be moved to the WAN Services area, and out of the Library Services area. The Security Committee presented the first draft of a network security recommendations document, and LACA will be initiating discussion with NEOLA for development of a Security Policy. LACA will be bringing in vendors such as Excelsior (Pinnacle), Software Answers, and SchoolOne to present web-based messaging, gradebook, and e-mail software to present to the districts. This will be done ASAP, and firm dates will be released when they have been scheduled.

Unfinished business included notice that automated virus warnings are now being sent to individual tech coordinators when anyone in their district sends e-mail with an attached virus. Also, Sophos Virus Alerts are being forwarded to the LACATech Listserv to provide virus warnings in the most timely manner. Notice that McAfee licenses are expiring for many schools who purchased McAfee licenses through LACA was given. LACA will be researching Sophos Anti-Virus costs as an alternative to districts who may want to switch. LACA will be presenting an update on user evaluation of Reflection for the Web and Persona at the next LACATech meeting. Additional unfinished discussion took place on Microsoft Licensing, Student ID cards, and Novell's Brainshare Conference.

New business included the notice that the next LACATech meeting will be held June 5, 2002, at 8:30 a.m.

02-018 It was moved by Shawn Wharton and seconded by Larry Smith to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Reported by
Chad Carson
Technical Director, LACA