



LACATech Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2004

Roll Call

The LACATech meeting was called to order at 8:30am on April 7, 2004. The following members were present: Jesse Lyon (LCJVS), Beth Speith (Lakewood), Lesa McGarity (Licking Heights), Sondra Wilson (Newark), Larry Smith (North Fork), Lisa Smith (Northridge), Jeff Cameron (Southwest Licking), Mark Goodall (Tri-Valley), Kevin Snyder (West Muskingum) Dave Calloway (Licking County ESC), Michelle Berry (Heath) and Sandra Mercer (LACA). Others attending included Chad Carson (LACA), Jon Bowers(LACA), Joey Alexander (LACA), Dave Stein (LACA), Carol VanDeest (SchoolNet), Rachael Granatir (SchoolNet), Karen Dickman (Blessed Sacrement), and Amy Palermo (ITSCO),

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

04-015 It was moved by Beth Speith and seconded by Dave Calloway to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2004 meeting. A vote of approval was taken.

SchoolNet Update

A Schoolnet Update document was handed out and presented by Carol Vandeest and Rachael Granatir. Please contact Carol at vandeest@osn.state.oh.us or Rachael at Rachael.Granatir@osn.state.oh.us with any questions about the Schoolnet Update.

E-Rate Update

By June 2005, budget projections show the Network Pool will have a \$100,000 deficit. This has been relayed to the LACA Governing Board and the general agreement was made for LACA begin steps to migrate to ISP filing in order for districts to receive more federal funding from the E-Rate program.

LACA reminded the districts about the need to complete the OSN BETA survey by April 30, 2004, in order to receive the FY05 building connectivity subsidy of \$3000. An e-mail with specific BETA instructions will be forwarded to the LACATech listserv.

WAN Updates

LACA is in the process of creating a webpage on the LACA website to keep the districts updated on the progress of the Fiber Feasibility Study, being conducted by Innovate, Inc. The link is currently at www.laca.org/fiber. A status report was presented. LACA is waiting on OSN for the Third Frontier Network bids for DASite last mile connectivity. The fiber steering committee will be meeting before the end of the school year to receive initial proposals and there are plans to present the final proposal to the LACA Governing Board in August 2004.

All OpenVMS disk storage is now on the SAN, as of February 19, 2004. The new Windows servers are being tested before being put into operation. LACA has a new Linux-based primary DNS server available at 156.63.145.3. There will be a future server at 156.63.145.4 as well. These will replace 156.63.145.6 as the primary DNS server, allowing Internet traffic to still flow even when the VMS system is down for maintenance. Chad Carson also presented a plan to redirect e-mail traffic flow to the MailMarshal server as the primary SMTP server. This eliminates a step in the e-mail process and should make e-mail processing much more efficient. All users

04-016 should reconfigure their mail clients to use SMTP.LACA.ORG as their outgoing SMTP server, all district e-mail servers should use SMTP.LACA.ORG as the outbound relay for e-mail, and all workstations and servers should use 156.63.145.3 as their primary DNS server. It was moved by Jesse Lyon and seconded by Kevin Snyder to cut off direct SMTP and DNS access to LACA's OpenVMS Alphaserver (156.63.145.6) effective August 31, 2004. A unanimous vote of approval was taken. When reconfiguring workstations, 156.63.145.4 should be put in as a secondary DNS server, or 156.63.145.6 can still be used until August 31, 2004 if DNS servers are being given out by DHCP, since it will be easy to change to 156.63.145.4 after August 31, 2004.

04-017 Issues in not being able to access necessary Internet resources have been reported by several districts due to the "keyword search" included in the CIPA category. Discussion took place on moving categories into the LACATech group, instead of the CIPA group, which would allow districts with local control to override the sites. After some discussion, it was moved by Sondra Wilson and seconded by Jesse Lyon to move the "Tasteless" category from the CIPA global group to the LACATech group in the R3000. A unanimous vote of approval was taken. LACA has also received reports directly from teachers and students about the inability to access necessary Internet sites due to the filtering. LACA will carbon the tech coordinator in e-mail replies to requests about the filter and will also change the website for 8e6 changes to go directly to the vendor. A copy of the revised Internet Filtering Policy that includes the logging of Internet use was presented for input. This policy will be presented to the LACA Governing Board in May for final adoption.

The next steps for IP phone research were discussed. It was agreed by all for LACA to contact other DASites for possible presentations at the June LACATech meeting. The presentations should include ability to trunk local district IP phone systems together, cost efficiency, and any input, expertise and/or experience in selection, implementation, etc they have to share.

Technical Services Update

The State Help Desk is still being configured. They are coming up with SLA numbers to use in the application.

At the last meeting, LACA was asked to check into the process for crediting districts who purchased Sophos beyond Sept 2004. This only applies to a few districts and LACA will credit the difference on the LACA SLA under the WAN Connectivity section.

LACA is in the process of creating a technical requirements document for each of LACA's services. These documents will be presented to LACATech for approval so each district is aware of the workstation and network requirements users will need in order to properly access the application. A draft of the Library Automation requirements was distributed for review and will be presented for approval at the next LACATech meeting. An update on the Library transition onsite visits was also shared. Each Technology Coordinator will receive a complete report of these visits including necessary upgrades/changes that will need to be made by the start of the 2004-2005 school year.

A notice was passed out regarding a Microsoft Windows XP update to be released this summer. This release will turn on security features automatically, such as the XP firewall, and may be disruptive to some services. Please be aware that this will take place.

Other Discussion

LACA will be paying the \$1,200 maintenance fee on VTEL systems received through the grants. Maintenance won't start until we get the upgrades from TSI. LSTA grant would put one video conferencing system in on elementary per district (total of 10). LACA will be calling the principals to get a teacher who will oversee the video unit. The unit will be a Polycom (IP only). The grant is due May 19, 2004. North Fork, Johnstown, Northridge, and Newark will be piloting AP classes over video, starting this fall. These classes will be point-to-point classes only.

The Progressbook Parent website is in process at North Fork. Newark is also in beginning stages of implementation. Andy is also meeting with additional buildings for fall implementations. The Special Education module has been expanded to include more special education teachers and tutors. We are still working out the details for the preschool and ESC setups.

At the last meeting, LACA was asked to review the status of the Security Committee. Documents outlining the timeline of the committee, LACA responsibilities and District responsibilities was shared at the LACATech meeting. LACA will create a draft Security Policy based upon these documents and include more on wireless, local router settings, and workstations with viruses. The policy will be presented at the next meeting for review.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

RateMyTeacher.com was brought up as a site to be aware of.

There was no interest in having KMN Technologies present to the LACATech committee.

Additional facility space for LACA was approved by the Governing Board. This will add 4 offices and a new training lab.

The next LACATech meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2004 at 8:30am.

04-018 It was moved by Beth Spieth and seconded by Lisa Smith to adjourn the meeting at 10:30am.

Cisco System presented the Cisco Secure Agent (CSA) product to the group immediately following the meeting. This product is installed on Windows 2000/XP workstations and servers, and prevents virus activity by defining policies on the computers of what behavior to allow or disallow.