



LACATech Meeting Minutes – October 11, 2006

Roll Call

The LACATech meeting was called to order at 8:30am on October 11, 2006. The following members were present: Denny Souder (Granville), Michele Berry (Heath), Mike Carter (Johnstown), Keith DeVore (LCESC), Chris Cashdollar (Licking Heights), Sally Sperry (Mount Vernon), Sondra Wilson (NewarkCity), Larry Smith (North Fork), Jim Hall (Northridge), Mark Goodall (Tri-Valley), Beth Speith (Lakewood), Kevin Snyder (West Muskingum), Sandy Mercer (LACA). Jess Lyon (C-TEC) arrived at 8:37. Others attending were Tom Jacob (Excel Academy), Paul Kamenan (Fairfield Christian), Tess Wigginton (Newark Catholic), Jill Merry (St Francis) Dave Stenson (St. Francis), Chip Zolman (Mount Vernon), Dave Calloway (LCESC), Megan Robinette(Newark City), Tony Smith (C-TEC), Jon Bowers (LACA) and Chad Carson (LACA). Representatives from Maysville and Southwest Licking were unable to attend.

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

07-04 It was moved by Larry Smith and seconded by Beth Spieth to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2006 LACATech meeting. A vote of approval was taken.

eTech Update

An eTech update was given by Amy Estep. Please direct any questions about the ETech update to amy.estep@etech.ohio.gov.

ITSCO Update

An ITSCO update was given by Susannah Azzaro. Please direct any questions about the ITSCO update to susannah@itsco.org. Larry Smith stated that North Fork will be holding an ITSCO Summer Academy next June (specific dates were not yet available). Contact ITSCO with any specific training needs your teachers may have.

Ohio K-12 Network Updates

K-12 Network funding for FY07 – Districts have until October 31, 2006 to apply for the \$3000 per building. Visit www.etech.ohio.gov/go/ohiok12networkfy07 to submit your application. As of the meeting, Granville, Licking Heights, Northridge, Tri-Valley, and Par Excellence had not yet submitted applications. LACA has already applied for all non-public schools.

Video Services – Etech is now handling all call bridging. LACA is converting all V-TEL systems connected to LACA via fiber over to IP only.

TFN Update – LACA has hardware installed, and Time Warner could give us the OK to switch over anytime in the next two weeks. We would like to make the switch as soon as possible, therefore we will be giving only a 24 hour notice before we make the change. We will schedule it for after-hours to minimize disruption to service. The change itself should take only a few minutes. LACA has increased our internet bandwidth from 20mb to 30mb. We are allowed to burst up to twice this amount (40mb increase to 60mb). LACA's FY07 budget allows for increases up to 60mb (120mb burst) if the need is there.

WAN Updates

LACA is discussing the possibility to renegotiate Time Warner's fiber contracts to a lower monthly cost for four more years (resign a new contract for four more years from the signing date, NOT an

addition four years on top of the existing four year contract). This would happen if more buildings upgrade to fiber and if districts are interested in signing new contracts. Jon Bowers distributed a spreadsheet of all buildings that could potentially be put on fiber (current and future buildings) to be reviewed. LACATech members were asked to make additions if any were known. The list will also be e-mailed to the LACATech members for more review.

Technical Services Update

Anti-Virus – Districts reported that 100% of them had Symantec Anti-Virus installed or had worked with Joey and were in the process. Everyone was reminded that the Sophos Anti-Virus site license expires November 1, 2006. Tri-Valley has developed a removal script for Sophos that they will share. It will be posted to LACA's website.

USASWeb – LACATech members were advised that the new financial web applications that are replacing Reflection text-based access to Accounting and Payroll have some features that are reported to work better in Mozilla Firefox than they do in Internet Explorer. Some administrative staff may be approaching technology coordinators asking for Mozilla to be installed. This information was shared with the treasurer's office staff prior to the LACATech meeting. LACA was asked that information such as this flow to the LACATech group first (or at the same time) as it is announced to other groups, so they are not out of the loop. Many districts were not happy that they may have to support an additional browser that they currently do not, and asked if these issues going to be fixed in Internet Explorer or simply ignored because Mozilla works? These concerns will be passed along to SSdT.

Internet Filtering – The Portals category was moved from the CIPA filtering level to the LACATech filtering level. This was done by a Governing Board electronic vote after repeated problems were found having this category so tightly restricted. The procedure for requesting a change to the content filtering for CIPA categories is going to be revised. The changes will go to LACATech for approval BEFORE going to the Governing Board. The procedure document on LACA's website will be updated to reflect this.

Secure Telnet Update – LACA now has Reflection on the Web working exactly as the stand-alone Reflection program on all financial and student applications. We will be sending a notice out to all Reflection users next week letting them know Reflection on the Web is available, and to begin testing it. We will announce that on December 31, 2006, telnet access to LACA0.LACA.ORG will be cut off, and Reflection on the Web will be the only method available to connect to Reflection-based applications from outside the LACA network. Reflection on the Web can be accessed at <http://www.laca.org/services/reflection/>

Helpdesk – The Helpdesk end-user interface was demonstrated to the group. Usernames and passwords will be distributed to everyone so they can log in and test. LACA is requesting that any issues of a technical nature be submitted through the helpdesk after we provide you with usernames and passwords (if the network is available, of course).

LAN Switch Maintenance – Districts have been provided with all information on pricing and are reporting their needs back to LACA. This topic is finished for the FY07 school year.

Other Discussion

SIRSI Java Client Updates – INFOhio Tech Support is working with Sirsi to determine if there is a way around having to grant administrative rights to the local workstation. At this point Sirsi is stating that administrative rights will still be required for initial software installation and also any updates that occur. They are working on a solution so that these rights do not need to be set for day to day operations. It will require that specific folders and files be granted full access by the end-user but will not require full admin rights to the workstation. Once the details are provided we will pass them along. SIRSI JAVA client installs will not begin until second semester at the earliest. The plan is to provide the tech coordinators with the install file and installation instructions. Once installs are completed by the tech's we will use VNC to set the necessary configuration settings and properties. Please ensure that the library staff workstations meet the minimum requirements by the beginning of next school year. Minimum requirements will be posted to the LACA website in the Technology Coordinators area. District training on the SIRSI JAVA Client will begin at the beginning of the 07/08 school year.

IVDL Updates – (See K-12 Network Update....Video Services).

DASL Update – LACA now has four districts live on DASL. – Tri-Valley, Lakewood, Lakewood Digital Academy, and the LCESC. There are 183 districts live across the state. Districts are currently working through the EMIS reporting period. Heath City Schools and Newark Catholic are the two remaining schools still to move to DASL in 2006. Development resources have been devoted to fixing performance issues, and this has delayed development of new features. This is causing LACA to reschedule all districts after Jan 2007 until a later date, because development of an Honor GPA system has been delayed. LACA will hold a meeting with the team leaders in November or December. There have been some issues with the Progress Book to DASL integration as well.

Unfinished Business

Microsoft Student Select Program – An e-mail will be sent to LACATech with the list of current districts signed up with the MCOECN for the Microsoft Select Program discounts.

United Streaming – There was interest in housing United Streaming content locally at LACA to conserve bandwidth and increase speed to the application. Jon Bowers will get pricing for discussion at a future meeting.

New Business

Chad Carson asked if there were any topics that the group would like to see presentations or training on following future LACATech meetings. Many topics were discussed, but none seemed to be of enough interest to the entire group to schedule a presentation or training. Topics brought up were :

- Deep Freeze (<http://www.faronics.com/>)
 - Preserves baseline computer configuration
- Synchroneyes (<http://www.smarttech.com/>)
 - Classroom management software, allows teachers to monitor student workstation screens.
- Public Schoolworks (<http://www.publicschoolworks.com/>)
 - OSHA compliance training software
 - Work-order system
- First To Know (<http://www.first2knowbroadcast.com>)
 - Emergency notification system
- Education Connection (<http://www.theeducationconnection.com/>)
 - Emergency notification system

There was interest in getting LACA Consortium pricing on SynchronEyes.

Time Warner has asked LACA for examples of things districts are doing or planning to do with their new 100mb/10mb fiber links. If you have examples you want to share, send them to network@laca.org. Time Warner is also willing to meet with districts for other fiber needs they may have.

Chad Carson asked if there were any recycling events planned? No one is putting these together anymore because two local companies will take items whenever you need. TDR (200 Mink St SW, Pataskala, OH 43062 Phone:(740) 964-0993) and Columbus Microsystems (<http://www.columbusmicro.com/>).

LACA has purchased software called IPCheck by Paessler, the same company that makes PRTG. We have IPCheck monitoring our servers and network equipment and sending us e-mail notices when things are down. Tri-valley has asked to be included in those e-mails if any of their links are down. We can do this for anyone else who would like to receive them. Please provide LACA with any e-mail addresses you would like to have notices sent to by sending e-mail to

network@laca.org. These can be non-LACA addresses, or even cell phones if they accept e-mail.

Bookmarks and posters advertising the Learning Express Library INFOhio resources were distributed to the LACATech group to be given to librarians at their districts.

Next meeting date will be December 6, 2006 at 8:30am.

07-05 It was moved by Denny Souder and seconded by Mike Carter to adjourn the meeting at 10:45am. A vote of approval was taken.