



LACATech Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2009

Roll Call

The LACATech meeting was called to order at 8:30am on May 6, 2009. The following members were present for the roll call: Gerry Cannon (C-TEC), Tim Owen (Lakewood), Verne Benson (Licking Heights), Sondra Wilson (Newark), Larry Smith (North Fork), Beth Rowley (Northridge), Jeff Cameron (Southwest Licking), Kevin Snyder (West Muskingum), Sally Sperry (Mount Vernon), Denny Souder (Granville), and Jon Bowers (LACA). Representatives from Heath City, LCESC, Maysville, and Tri-Valley were unable to attend.

Others attending were Chip Zolman (Mount Vernon), Shawn Wilkoski (Northridge), Tom Jacob (Excel Academy), Brian Gottfried (Excel Academy), David Diebel (Granville Christian), Mike Carter (Johnstown), Jill Merry (St. Francis), Dave Stenson (St. Francis), Paul Kamenen (Fairfield Christian), Tess Wigginton (Newark Catholic), Joe Alexander (LACA), Dave Stein (LACA) and Chad Carson (LACA).

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

09-24 It was moved by Beth Rowley and seconded by Kevin Snyder to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2009 LACATech meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

ITSCO Update

A representative from ITSCO was unable to attend this meeting.

eTech Ohio Update

Amy Estep attended via videoconference, and provided an eTech Ohio update. Please direct any questions about the eTech Ohio update to Amy at amy.estep@etech.ohio.gov, or visit the eTech Ohio website at <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/>.

Ohio K-12 Network Updates

K-12 Network Update – The \$3000 per building connectivity funding will be broken into two payments for FY10. Districts will receive \$1500 per building in October, and the other \$1500 in the spring if budgets allow it. This information is also being shared with the Treasurer's group. Please plan your budget accordingly. The Ohio K-12 Network is *potentially* switching Internet providers from Qwest to a yet-to-be-determined replacement on July 1, unless a new contract agreement is reached with Qwest before July 1. If this happens, the switch should have no direct impact on LACA or our districts.

Video Services

FLAP Grant - Mandarin Chinese over Video – There will be a meeting May 7 to orient schools to the class. LACA has so far received one letter of commitment to the project, and two more districts are interested. LACA is looking for someone to have an afternoon session of this class.
21st Century Learning Grant – This is a new grant we just learned of recently. LACA will be investigating and letting you know more as we learn more.

Polycom HD Pricing – LACA has secured drastically reduced pricing from SKC Communications for Polycom HDX 7002XL high-definition videoconferencing systems. Price sheets were distributed to the group. Please contact Terry Sowers (614-336-9025) of SKC if you are interested in purchasing one of these systems.

WAN Updates

ISP Contract Update – Still one district without 471 confirmations yet. Districts are encouraged to begin considering any building in next 18 months as they prepare for next year's application in October, 2009.

Technical Services Update

Email Archiving – Pricing for hosted Mimosa e-mail archiving was distributed to the group (\$7.50 per mailbox per year). The hosting would take place at the MC-TSG Disaster Recovery site. This pricing was based on a 3-year commitment and the current number of accounts each district has with LACA. This pricing is considered a worst-case scenario. LACA is investigating the possibility of hosting Mimosa locally in the LACA data center, and we believe this can be done cheaper than \$7.50 per mailbox. Districts were quickly surveyed who would be interested at these prices. Granville, Excel Academy, North Fork, Southwest Licking, Licking Heights, C-TEC, West Muskingum, Newark, Lakewood, and Johnstown all expressed interest. For the hosted scenario, LACA was asked if there would be one payment up front for all three years, or a payment each year for three years. Chad Carson will find out and report back.

Internet Filtering – The 8e6 R3000 content filter is in need of an operating system upgrade. LACA surveyed the districts to find out if the morning of Saturday, May 16, 2009 would be acceptable. No districts are having Saturday school on that date, so it was agreed the work would be done that day. Notice will be sent to the masses regarding this downtime.

Hosted Moodle Services – LACA has been asked about hosting servers other than Moodle. The group was asked if there was interest in other services. C-TEC was interested in a hosted Sharepoint server, and Granville in a hosted file server. LACA will work with districts on an individual basis to see what needs can be met.

Other Discussion

DASL Update – LACA has hired a new DASL support person (Barbara Wesley) who will be joining us June 1, 2009. LACA is still moving forward with testing for an SQL 2008 migration. DASL source code is not being sold to Global Scholar. The deal did not go through.

D3A2 Update – Granville will be trained on D3A2 on May 6, 2009. All other districts with the exception of LCESC and C-Tec have had their data loaded and verified. LACA did receive an unexpected subsidy payment, but no funding is expected for FY10.

Group Purchasing Committee Update – No group purchases are in the works at the moment. Jon Bowers spoke to the group about Safari Montage, a competitor to United Streaming. After review of the product, we believe it has a better user interface, better content, better quality videos, and is cheaper than United Streaming. If you are about to renew United Streaming you may wish to see this first. There was much interest in seeing this product, so LACA will arrange a meeting with the vendor to happen ASAP (in May). LACA had previously distributed via e-mail new procedures for dealing with sales calls, and Chad Carson asked if there were any issues or questions about the new procedures. Everyone was OK with the procedures as presented.

Unfinished Business

Public Records Policy and Document Management – DASL Team Leaders are meeting to determine mutually agreed upon timelines for LACA to keep electronic and microfiche documents. When their work is complete, it will be presented to a group consisting of district public records officers (mostly treasurers) and their DASL leads.

Disaster Recovery Plan – The OECN DR site kick-off meeting was held April 29, 2009. Chad Carson has been working with the project coordinator to replicate backup data from LACA's Storserver appliance to the DR site. As a participant in the DR site, LACA is required to conduct 5 days of testing per year. This testing will begin over the next few months and results from the testing will be used to develop LACA's DR plan further.

New Business

LAN Switch Maintenance – Dave Stein handed out copies of current-year pricing to participating districts. All existing covered equipment will be renewable FY10 through DataServ. Contract renewal is 10/1/09. Anyone interested in changing/adding new coverage should contact Dave, and he will be in contact with all districts as renewal time approaches.

LACATech Topic Based Meetings – The next LACATech Topic-Based meeting will be June 3, 2009 at 8:30am. The topic will be SQUID, presented by Jeff Cameron, Southwest Licking Schools. Other dates and topics of interest were discussed. Topics included VMWare, Windows 2008 Server Virtualization, Cisco LAN Switch configuration, Cisco Wireless Access Point configuration, and Sharepoint. It was decided that the following schedule would be followed for the next three topic-based meetings:

- July 1 – VMWare/Microsoft Virtualization
- August 5 – Sharepoint
- October 7 – Cisco LAN/Wireless

More details/agendas will be distributed as the dates draw closer.

Server Patch Window – It was proposed to the group that LACA create a perpetual server patch/reboot window of Sunday Night/Monday morning from midnight to 4:00am. Questions about Progress Book windows closing during those times was brought up. Chad Carson will verify with LACA staff if they see any issues with this proposed time. The LACATech group will be notified of the decided upon window via e-mail after this happens.

Blue Technologies – Blue Technologies approached LACA with an offer to put a global printer monitoring server in place at LACA to provide detailed reports on printer usage/status for the consortium. Many districts already have such capabilities in place with their current printers/copies. There was no interest from the group in putting such a system in at LACA. Chad Carson will share contact information for Blue Technologies with the group so they can pursue individual district setups if interested.

ISafe Presentation – LACA, in cooperation with C-TEC, will be hosting a presentation from the Attorney General's office on electronic safety within the schools. This presentation will be held in C-TEC's auditorium around the first of next school year. Dates will be firmed up and sent out to the group. We are planning on allowing around three participants per district to this initial presentation to keep the total audience size around 100 people.

Microsoft Product Training – Joe Alexander from LACA recently attended a session with Microsoft, and was given links to free supplemental training materials for Microsoft Products that can be used for free. Joe will be sending these to the group after reviewing the information. Microsoft has offered to come out and conduct presentations for the group on topics of our choosing. LACA will try to secure them for the proposed Sharepoint training day on August 5.

Upcoming Meeting Dates for LACATech Advisory Committee – Regular LACATech meeting dates for the upcoming FY10 school year will be as follows:

- September 9, 2009
- November 4, 2009
- January 6, 2010
- March 3, 2010
- May 5, 2010

Topic-based meetings will be held on the months in-between, based on interest.

09-25 It was moved by Verne Benson and seconded by Kevin Snyder to adjourn the meeting at 10:15am. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

The next LACATech meeting date is September 9, 2009 at 8:30am.

Reported by,

Chad Carson
Director of Technology, LACA