



LACATech Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2015

Roll Call

The LACATech meeting took place starting at 8:40am on September 9, 2015. The following members were in attendance : Rocky Ringhiser (C-TEC), Randy McFerren (Tri-Valley), Glenn Welker (Granville), Kevin Adams (Johnstown), Jack Kruse (Northridge), Chris Irvin (Tri-Valley), Ted Harrison (West Muskingum), Larry Smith (North Fork), Randy Miller (Lakewood), and Jon Bowers (LACA). Amy Norman (Newark City) arrived at 8:45am.

Others attending the meeting were David Dewese (Fairfield Christian Academy), David Deibel (Granville Christian Academy), Timothy Ballard (Newark Digital Academy), Justin Post (LACA), Joey Alexander (LACA), Charles Gillogly (LACA) and Chad Carson (LACA).

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

16-01 It was moved by Randy McFerren and seconded by Larry Smith to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2015 LACATech meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

Ohio K-12 Network Updates

K-12 Network Subsidy – Funding and process will be the same as last year (\$1,800 per instructional building). Note that there is only a four week deadline (month of October) to submit the requests this year.

WAN Updates

ISP Contracts - Be thinking about your 470s and get those submitted as soon as possible to allow time for bids. Forward any questions you may get regarding the type of connection you have to LACA and we can help answer those. They are trying to build a database of connections to all eRate recipients to help build a nationwide network of fiber, which is why that data is being collected.

Chad Carson discussed the new changes to the LACA network that took place over the summer. LACA installed a new border router, and are working on getting a 1GB alternate path to the Internet through Time Warner, independent of the Oarnet connection. We are starting out the school year with 2GB of Internet connectivity, and this 2nd connection will add 1 more GB. This is not a failover link, but will be an active/active setup. LACA was also provided an Arbor Network Pravail device, which is meant to help prevent DDOS attacks like we saw last school year. We currently have this in monitoring mode only until we are trained on how to set this up properly. We are waiting until the 2nd Internet link is in place before setting this up, since that 2nd link will play into how the Arbor device is configured.

Video Services

LACA's Polycom video bridge was set up back in May. We have migrated many of bridged calls from BEMC to our own bridge but are still working through initial bugs. LACA's bridge can handle 6 full HD calls simultaneously with current licensing. This bridge includes "Real Presence" which allows video software on laptops to join the bridge as well. A teacher could teach from a laptop if necessary, without a hardware-based video endpoint. A student who is at home could join the bridged call via Real Presence on a device. The Video Lead Kickoff meeting will be

October 5 at LACA. Information will be sent to video team leaders regarding this meeting. LACA is a member of the Ohio DLA. The Ohio DLA gives discounts from many distance learning providers. Cost to be a member of the DLA is \$100 per year for the entire district which is quickly recovered by the discounts. Contact Dave Stein at LACA for more information.

INFOhio Updates

Information was distributed about EasyTech Online Safety Curriculum for K-12 which is available free to Ohio schools. EasyTech, provided by the Ohio Department of Education and INFOhio, includes the assessments and reporting necessary to meet the national E-Rate requirements for student Internet safety training. This information was emailed separately to LACATech on September 9, 2015.

Student Services Update

Jeff Davis provided an overview of the direction of the Progress Book Suite. This included an overview of Virtual Classroom (LMS in the Progress Book Suite) and how it integrates seamlessly into Progress Book. Also discussed was the new Data Map product, which can retain up to 7 years of historical testing data and have it readily available, integrated with Progress Book Suite. If your district is looking for any new classroom or LMS software, it is better to let LACA know what you are looking for so we can offer insight into how it will integrate with the Progress Book Suite. Better to know up-front if it will work rather than after a purchase is made. Jeff also discussed Vendorlink, which allows real time data transfer between 3rd party vendors and Progress Book suite, as well as Registration Gateway, another service LACA has recently added. This is registration software for tracking all the paperwork for new students registering in your district, as well as electronic paperwork distribution and collection for existing students. The last product discussed was Schedule Smart, which is master schedule building software.

Lorrie Germann Update

Lorrie Germann gave the attendees an update on eRate changes.

Technical Services Update

Cisco Maintenance Renewal - Renewal is coming up October 1st, if you are interested in grouping your renewal in with LACA, please contact Justin Post at LACA.

Avast Antivirus Update Discussion – Over the summer, everyone was converted to Avast (or has their own solution). No one is left on eSet Nod32.

iBoss Issues – We have migrated to a load balancer and multiple iBoss servers. An iBoss with the options we have enabled can handle about 1.5gb of traffic. With our 3 iBoss cluster, we can go up to 4.5gb of sustained Internet usage. The cluster also provides redundancy should a single iBoss appliance fail. We have one spare iBoss that is not part of the cluster that we can use for testing or as a replacement if one of the cluster appliances fails.

Hosted Domain Controllers – Since these are running Avast consoles as well, we are monitoring how well these are running, and added CPU and memory on an as-needed basis. The 1CPU/1GB of RAM is sometimes not sufficient for larger districts. There will be no charge for this additional CPU/RAM, but it is not guaranteed that everyone will get it...it is only added as we determine it is needed.

Email Future – Chad Carson asked, as districts migrate to Google Apps or Office 365, is there a need for LACA to become experts on these two platforms to continue to provide email assistance? After much discussion, everyone who switched appears to be getting adequate support from Google or Microsoft and does not feel the need for LACA to assist.

New Business

Single Sign-On - Some discussion took place about single sign-on products. LACA will do some research on available products. Products mentioned were Classlink and Launchpad.

Communications Strategy – LACA is looking for ways to have more timely and immediate information delivered to everyone. Newsletters are not timely enough. Jon Bowers discussed some options that we are looking into, mostly centered around using the LACA website to announce things in a timely fashion.

Annual AUP Reaccept – Chad Carson will turn on emails asking all LACA users to reaccept the LACA AUP. Please get Chad any updated local AUP you may want to update before this process happens. Timeline would be enable notices mid-September and have users reaccept before November 1, 2015. Anyone who has already accepted the LACA AUP after July 1, 2015, will not be asked to do it again.

Election of LACATech Officers – LACATech officers were elected as follows:

- 16-02 It was moved by Jack Kruse and seconded by Randy McFerren to open the floor for nominations for chairperson. Chris Irvin was nominated.
- 16-03 It was moved by Larry Smith and seconded by Jack Kruse to close the floor for nominations.
- 16-04 It was moved by Ted Harrison and seconded by Kevin Adams to elect Chris Irvin as LACATech Chairperson. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.
- 16-05 It was moved by Jack Kruse and seconded by Kevin Adams to open the floor for nominations for vice-chairperson. Michele Berry was nominated.
- 16-06 It was moved by Jack Kruse and seconded by Larry Smith to close the floor for nominations.
- 16-07 It was moved by Rocky Ringhiser and seconded by Glenn Welker to elect Michele Berry as LACATech Vice-Chairperson. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.
- 16-08 It was moved by Randy McFerren and seconded by Larry Smith to open the floor for nominations for LACATech Governing Board representative. Ted Harrison was nominated.
- 16-09 It was moved by Jack Kruse and seconded by Rocky Ringhiser to close the floor for nominations
- 16-10 It was moved by Chris Irvin and seconded by Larry Smith to elect Ted Harrison as LACATech Governing Board Representative. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

Future LACATech Meeting Schedule

The next meeting on November 11, 2015 will be a Curriculum-oriented meeting with assistance from the Licking County ESC.

FY16 LACATech Schedule - Below are the scheduled dates for the upcoming FY16 LACATech meetings.

Regular Meeting Dates

- November 11, 2015
- January 13, 2016
- March 2, 2016
- April 4, 2016

Topic-Based Meetings

- December 2, 2015
- February 3, 2016
- April 6, 2016
- June 1, 2016

- 16-11 The meeting ended at 10:16am. It was moved by Chris Irvin and seconded by Larry Smith to end the meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken. Next regular meeting is November 11, 2015.

Shane Spicer from ITSCO presented a Google Apps Add-On and Extensions presentation to the group immediately following the meeting.