



LACATech Minutes – January 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 8:35am. The following members were present for roll call: Rocky Ringhiser (C-TEC), Randy McFerren (East Muskingum), Glenn Welker (Granville), Michele Berry (Heath), Kevin Adams (Johnstown), Linda Denny (Maysville), Amy Norman (Newark), Jack Kruse (Northridge), Larry Smith (North Fork), Jeff Cameron (Southwest Licking), Chris Irvin (Tri-Valley), Jasper Jordan (West Muskingum), and Jon Bowers (LACA). Others attending the meeting were Dave Dewese (Fairfield Christian), David Deibel (Granville Christian Academy), Timothy Ballard (Newark Digital), Kim Watson (North Fork), Eric Cunningham (Southwest Licking), Joey Alexander (LACA), Jon Stoehr (LACA), Dave Stein (LACA), Charles Gillogly (LACA), and Chad Carson (LACA).

- 17-06 It was moved by Randy McFerren and seconded by Rocky Ringhiser to approve the minutes of the November 2nd, 2016 LACATech meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

Introduction of New Employee

Annie Epperson was introduced to the group. Her title is EMIS Support Coordinator and she supports EMIS and Special Education services.

Welcome New LACA Member District

Licking Valley was welcomed as a new LACA member district. Licking Valley was a non-member previously, only partaking of a portion of LACA's services.

ITSCO Update

Amy Palermo provided an ITSCO update. Please visit the www.itsco.org website to register. If you have questions please contact her at amy@itsco.org.

Lorrie Germann Update

Lorrie provided an eRate update to the group. Please direct any questions about the update please contact her at lgermann@ohiocsc.org.

WAN Updates

K-12 Network – Funds for first half of the year have already flowed. The second half should flow in March.

ISP Contracts – You should post your 470s now. This is the time of the year to do that. Just a reminder that voice services funding is being reduced another 20% this year, bringing total reductions on that service to 60%. This service will eventually be 100% unfunded.

Technical Services Updates

Technical Training – LACA is working on a PRTG class to be held on February 1, 2017. PRTG monitors uptime and statistics of network devices. Please let LACA know if you have other suggestions for training topics.

iBoss Filtering – Google offers a way to force Safe-Search on both Google searches and Youtube through DNS settings. Bing search offers this as well. As an example, in DNS, we would CNAME



www.google.com to return forcesafesearch.google.com instead. If we do this at LACA in our main DNS servers, it would be an all-or-nothing proposition. Another option is for districts to add these CNAME statements to local DNS servers to control this more granularly. Information on setting this up is readily available on Google. After discussion, we decided that LACA should not do the DNS redirects at our level, but each individual school or district should do that if they want. Regarding safe search in the iBoss, we found that a "force safesearch" setting is enabled globally in the LACA iBoss, and we feel this should be removed and enabled instead on individual iBoss profiles. Doing so will enable local control of this feature. LACA will be turning this feature on for each profile, then disabling the "global" setting.

LACA is reviewing alternate filtering solutions. A potential replacement for iBoss, Securly, will be presenting following the meeting. Securly is a cloud-based solution, not an on-site appliance. iBoss is also offering a cloud-based solution now which we will be looking at.

Renaissance Learning Issues

We have learned from a higher tier technician at Renaissance Learning that there is an issue using Chromebooks with Renaissance Learning sites. This technician is working with Joey to troubleshoot the issue using one of LACA's Chromebooks as a test site. Chromebooks randomly disconnect from the site. Renaissance Learning is working on the issue, but we have no estimate from them on how long until resolution. Note that this issue only affects Chromebooks.

Avast Ending Free Program for K-12

Avast has ended their free program for K-12 education. This is supposed to end in February 2017, but we are trying to get them to extend this until summer. LACA has started the process of reviewing alternates to Avast in anticipation of this change. Kaspersky, Bitdefender, and Microsoft's new System Center Endpoint Protection were a few that we discussed.

Voice over IP

LACA purchased APME software from Akkadian Labs. This allows self-service moves, adds, and changes in the LACA Hosted Cisco VoIP services, for those who are interested in doing their own changes. Please contact Robert Rittenhouse at LACA for more info.

Copyright Infringement notices from Oarnet

About once per week, we receive notices from Oarnet giving us an IP that is illegally downloading information. We look up the IP the best we can and inform technology coordinators. We need something back in writing saying it has been taken care of so we can report back to Oarnet. Discussion took place about blocking torrents at the AMP appliance to prevent this. Granville had one legitimate use for torrents that might be an issue if we did so. There was concern that blocking torrents MIGHT block something legitimate for testing. Most everything we see running torrents are on BYOD devices. Joey will begin sending reports of attacks that the AMP sees to technology coordinators this week.

Student Provisioning Software

LACA will schedule a demo of the Student Provisioning Software for Active Directory that we saw last December after the March meeting.



New Business

There was discussion/interest in having a company do penetration testing and social engineering testing. We can do port scanning or patch scanning ourselves, with tools readily available on the Internet. The group agreed that paying a 3rd party company for an external scan would not be effective. This is something we can look into.

17-07 It was moved by Jack Kruse and seconded Jeff Cameron to adjourn the meeting at 10:15am.

NEXT MEETING

The next LACATech Meeting will be WEDNESDAY March 1, 2017.