Licking Area Computer Association

Minutes of the meeting of the Licking Area Computer Association Fiscal Advisory Committee held February 21, 2019, convening at 9:07 a.m.

The following members answered present to the roll call: Ben Streby, Rob Ogg, Mike Sobul, Karl Zarins, Zach Niblick, Trent Montgomery for Julio Valladares, Glenna Plaisted, Todd Griffith, Kellie Breehl, Britt Lewis, Kim Downs, Mindy Sturm for Rick Jones, Julie Taylor, and Chad Carson.

Ryan Smith arrived at 9:18 a.m.

Lottie Fisher, Jo Lynn Torbert, Lew Sidwell, Dave Chambers, and Judy Forney could not attend.

Mary Myers and Kari Snyder were also in attendance.

19-008 It was moved by Glenna Plaisted and seconded by Karl Zarins to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2018 meeting.

LACA Housekeeping

Kari mentioned that all calendar year end W2 and 1099 submissions that are completed by LACA were successfully submitted by the applicable deadlines. We hope that all other submissions were completed by your district staff. If your district needs to make any corrections to data, that will need to be done by the district per applicable instructions.

Hot Topics

Proposed School Funding Model

Mike Sobul discussed the currently proposed school funding model that is being supported by Representatives Cupp and Patterson. For more details, you can listen to the recording of the meeting.

OASBO EMIS and School Funding Seminar

Mary mentioned the OASBO EMIS and School Funding Seminar geared for Treasurers and EMIS Coordinators that will be held June 7, 2019. This is the third of these seminars that OASBO has held.

School Foundation Payment Report Reconciliation

Mary sent out a document that gave step by step instructions how to create pivot tables for Treasurers to use to reconcile their CCP, Tuition and Scholarship deductions on their SFPR. If there are questions, please contact Mary for assistance.

State Software

Logged in Users

Kari explained that users can see all users that are logged into USAS and USPS using the command "SHOWJOB" in Reflection. This will only show users logged into Reflection, whereas users can see current USASWeb users by clicking "Show Current Users" on the USASWeb menu.

Treasurers can also restrict web access during month end closing using the CLOSEWEB and OPENWEB options on the USAS_LCL menu in Reflection. By default, CLOSEWEB will prevent log in access for two hours. Treasurers can reopen web access sooner by running OPENWEB when finished. Based on a request during the meeting, LACA will research if the 2 hour default can be modified in situations when more time is needed.

USPS Release: CRTSCN Endorsements

Kari discussed the features of the 2/13/19 USPS release. The CRTSCN on the USPS_INQ menu is updated nightly based on information from ODE, and it will now include staff endorsements in addition to current licenses and subject codes that staff are qualified to teach.

Current Fiscal Projects

Requisition Approval Manager (RAM)

Kari reminded Treasurers of the bug that exists when a requisition line item is deleted. She also mentioned that districts who are live on the State Software Redesign are successfully using RAM to review and approve requisitions. The automated process to extract data from USAS-R is complete and working successfully.

Kiosk

Kari mentioned that LACA still intends to work with any district interested in configuring the Timesheet Module that was made available this fall, but we are waiting on district interest and availability. Please email fiscal@laca.org if your district is interested.

Kari also provided an update on the security risk assessment that was recently completed to analyze the vulnerabilities of the current version of Oracle used for the Kiosk. Based on the findings, the Advisory Committee recommended to ITC directors and the MCOECN that the software be upgraded to a supported version. The MCOECN is working with programmers to

arrange that now. Enhancement requests are on hold until the upgrade is complete due to budgetary constraints. As a result of the upgrade, the Kiosk interface will be modified to a unified theme and will become more mobile friendly. We hope to see the work completed by summer, but we will update you as more details are shared.

Kari also asked if any districts are considering the AESOP/Kiosk Integration. If so, please email fiscal@laca.org. Currently about one third of Kiosk State Support's support hours are consumed with district AESOP/Kiosk Integration so there may end up being an additional cost for that at some point in the future.

PowerSchool eFinancePLUS

Kari provided an update on the status of the MCOECN's eFinancePLUS project. A statewide map was displayed showing districts currently live and implementing. Districts in Round 6 are currently working to convert their data and go live by July 2019. The deadline to sign up for Round 7 is April 26th.

PowerSchool will be hosting a free session on April 23rd prior to the OASBO Annual Conference. You can register on the OASBO website. Ohio eFinancePLUS users are also currently organizing their next User Group Meeting for May 29th and May 30th. The MCOECN has been hosting office hours for districts and has been working with districts on plans to upgrade to Cognos 11 this fall.

Based on group discussion, LACA will arrange for an eFinancePLUS district to share their experiences at a future meeting.

State Software Redesign

Kari shared the information that Pat learned at a recent meeting of the State Software Advisory Committee. Pat is excited to be a member of this committee, helping to drive the progress of the project forward. The committee has three working groups, one focused on prioritizing issues and future enhancements, the second focused on satisfying user reporting needs, and the third focused on support, documentation, and training.

As of February 7th, 24 sites are live and an additional 38 sites are currently implementing in wave 3. Districts have successfully completed fiscal year end and calendar year end in the Redesign software. Kari also presented the facts that Pat prepared to detail the districts that are participating in each wave. If you are interested in future waves, please mail fiscal@laca.org.

Similar to eFinancePLUS, the Redesign will also have a free session on April 23rd prior to the OASBO Annual Conference. You can register on the OASBO website.

Based on group discussion, LACA will arrange for a Redesign district to share their experiences at a future meeting.

LACA Director Update

Chad discussed changes that LACA is making to Hitman idle time due to a recommendation made with the SOC-1 audit. When idle, a user will be warned at 20 minutes, warned at 25 minutes, and logged out at 30 minutes. This will not affect those users who are excluded from Hitman.

Chad reminded districts that a possible Classic/Redesign fee may be phased in in the future. It will apply to both Classic and Redesign, but we have not been informed of a start date for the possible fee.

Hewlett Packard is ending support for OpenVMS in December 2020, but there is a company in Boston that purchased the rights and plans to support OpenVMS after that. It will be more expensive to license at that time, but LACA will work with the new company while districts are still using Reflection. This is a challenge facing all ITCs using Classic USAS/USPS, not just LACA. We will keep you informed of any other details regarding the transition.

This year is the last year of a five year cycle for Erate Category 2 funding, and as of this meeting the FCC has not announced that this will be continued. A recommendation to continue this program has been made to the FCC by a company hired to do a study, so that is a step in the right direction. LACA will let you know when/if that funding is confirmed for future years.

LACA purchased a membership for Fred Pryor Seminars for LACA Staff at the MCOECN negotiated pricing. The group pricing is available to LACA districts if you renew through LACA. The cost is $55 per person for unlimited online seminars and $115 per person for unlimited in-person seminars.

Chad also explained that 13 of Ohio's ITCs are organized as COGs or Council of Governments and 5 ITCs are organized as Consortia, of which LACA is one. Based on questions from AOS during our audit and the difficulty in distinguishing between the ITC and the fiscal agent, Chad is researching what it would mean to be a COG. He will present his findings at the May governing board meeting.

Unfinished Business

Treasurer's Retreat

Input on the location of the next retreat was requested. If you have a suggestion, please email Julie Taylor. Discussions will continue at future meetings.

New Business

Upcoming Meetings

We intend to have a Kiosk Timesheet Work Session; but the date is yet to be determined based on district availability and interest.

We will also be posting future USAS Roundtables and USPS Roundtables on the website soon.

Next Fiscal Advisory Meeting

Upcoming fiscal advisory meetings are scheduled as follows: April 18th and June 13th.

Other Discussions

There was a short discussion among attendees regarding the possibility of sharing services with another district, for example for a part time EMIS or accounts payable position. If interested, please contact Chad and LACA could assist with the coordination between districts.

19-009   It was moved by Britt Lewis and seconded by Mike Sobul to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

Reported by,

Kari Snyder
Fiscal Support Coordinator