

Technology Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Present were John Chovanec, Joyce Sauer, Chris Hugi, Jodi Howard, Patty Ott, Christine Hoeffler, Cindy Blanchet, Steve Schuh, and Meg Picciolo.

October minutes were approved with one change to the reported cost of a SPAM filter.

Patty reported she received five responses from teachers to a survey distributed twice regarding upgrades to our Orchard software. We currently have 28 skill trees. The software need to be upgraded to work with our workstations. For \$1975 we could receive the upgrade for our existing skill trees and receive 5 additional skills trees. This pricing is good through the end of December. Earth Science for grades 4-9, Math/Word Problems Grades 1-3, and Time/Math for younger grades were requested. It was determined that web-based programs would not be considered due to the limited control of content. Funding for educational software was discussed. Historically H&S would budget funds each year to cover the cost of new or upgrades to educational software. The ETCEP program funds were designated in the past. With this fundraiser no longer in place alternative methods to support educational software expenses should be pursued. It was recommended that the school/education work group develop a 3-5 year educational software plan that could be reviewed for funding options. John requested funding from H&S, however at this time they declined. They recently purchase an additional SMARTboard.

Classroom computer strategic plan was moved to the December meeting. An audio splitter requested by Beth Platz was discussed. With the continued addition of SMARTboards in the classrooms, this item should be considered for all classrooms. Teachers should be surveyed. If this item is added as a necessary accessory, the expense should be included in the total cost of a SMARTboard and funding for existing boards will need to be placed in the school budget for 2009-2010. One student computer from Beth Platz' classroom has been removed. This PC can be reassigned to Extended Care. Kris Seifert does not need her second student computer replaced. The PC removed from her classroom will not be repaired. Room layouts and any needed re-wiring for the 2009-2010 school year should be made available to Technology and ETA by mid-April in order to schedule summer maintenance. As there is continued misunderstanding of technology expenses and funding, a detailed breakdown report should be considered and communicated to all staff and parish members.

SPAM filter: Finance members requested additional research on other options. They also voiced concern about the necessity of spending funds for an upgrade. The committee and parish staff consider the upgrade imperative to the operation of the parish. Additional options will be researched and presented to Finance for a decision. Our current costs are about \$150 per year.

Church Database: Currently awaiting response from Parish Administration on the Considerations document.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, December 17 in the school library.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Picciolo