

Board of Education Sub-Committee Meeting – February 29, 2016

Curriculum/Instruction/Technology

Subcommittee Members in attendance: K. Browe, J. Cap, M. Saccente, K. Ziman, W. Kraut

Other attendees: V. Scarpetti, M. Bruder, E. Russo, J. Kozniowski

Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM

M. Bruder sent all BOE members a technology inventory plan through 2017-18. Old desktops that are seven to eight years old will be retired. The inventory also details which computers will be replaced in 2016-17. M. Bruder pointed out that there are currently 1200 devices in operation in the district, up from the original 388 when the IT department was established. To extend the life of machines, memory is added where possible.

M. Bruder said that the 1:1 computer model for grades 3 - 6 was driven by staff. IT has been meeting with other IT members in the BOWA district. Bethany and Woodbridge are already at a one to one ratio. Amity is also using Google programs so this will be a smooth transition for Orange students as they move on to Amity.

Lab scheduler has been put in place for teachers to schedule machines in the computer labs. The question was raised as to whether computer labs will still be necessary, and the answer for the foreseeable future is yes. Teachers still want a computer lab in addition to access to the computers in the classroom. First and second grade testing would still utilize the lab. Fourth grade uses the lab for Publisher. Art teachers also use the computer lab as well as 21st Century.

The committee asked if there will be more demand in staff time as a result of this new 1:1 program. M. Bruder said no and explained that because they will be retiring older devices that need more care and attention there should not be more need for staff attention. Chrome books have more automation so there should not be a need for an increase in staff. He added that it is much easier to install technology on large groups of machines. The number of machines in the district will increase from 1200 to 1500 machines.

Motion to adjourn J. Cap and second K. Ziman at 6:54 PM.