

Agenda Item Details

Meeting Aug 17, 2020 - Revised - School Board Virtual Meeting Agenda

Category 4. Administrative Reports

Subject 4.2 IT Systems Administrator Report

Type Reports

I have been working with the Technology Re-opening Committee and getting things ready for the new school year. As part of the re-opening committee, we have purchased and are in the process of setting up the Canvas LMS. Implementation has been slow, because every business involved with educational technology and distance learning is dealing with a huge number of new customers. I have successfully integrated with Google for staff and students to use Google to log into Canvas, and I have been working with them to finalize the details on integrating with Infinite Campus as well, to synchronize courses and enrollments. I have been trying to schedule training for staff, but have not heard back yet from Canvas.

Another ongoing re-opening project is a new checkout system for food service. We have received some scanners for touchless checkout, and those will need to be set up, as well as working out a system for classroom checkouts.

Students from the 2019-2020 KG and 1st grade dropped off their devices last week, and I hope to begin checking those in soon. We also received iPads for the 4K program, which still need to be set up. I am working with teachers to get the list of apps that will be installed. We also received 40 new Chromebooks this year. All the new Chromebooks and the iPads still need to be distributed. I don't know the timeline yet, as they all need to be processed and tested before going back out to students. Most students kept their devices from last year, so distribution should be easier this year.

I have two other ongoing projects this summer: Moving to a cloud-hosted library checkout system, so we do not need to maintain a server and backup system for our library inventory and checkouts, and setting up Clever, a system that will allow students to log into a single portal to access many of the various online tools we use for education.

As if a global pandemic was not enough, the building also experienced a lightning strike while I was on vacation. Damage assessment is ongoing. Internet was out for a couple of days until I got back. I was able to get us back online, but one of our core network switches had significant damage and replacement parts are on order to fix that. I will also be investigating possible damage to the paging/bell system, the telephone system, and the electronic door access system. With such widespread damage, I expect other issues to pop up as I start to make repairs.

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.