

**Ann Arbor Board of Education
PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

Approved Minutes

January 15, 2009 – 5:02 PM

Balas I, Superintendent's Conference Room

Attendance: Robert Allen, Todd Roberts, Deb Mexicotte, Glenn Nelson, John VanRiper, Joyce Hunter, Monique Uzelac, Norma McQuiston

Technology Replacement

Robert Allen brought forward a proposal to replace much of our existing technology over the next 3-5 years. This is predicated on the idea that most of our computer technology begin to need replacement after about 5 years. Our technology is entering this window this year; hence a replacement plan is needed.

This replacement would be done in two phases, beginning with all district laptops, administrative assistant workstations, building based laptop carts, central server upgrades and expansions, and professional training and instructional integration.

Phase Two would include all replacement in all computer lab sites, projectors and smart screen technologies, and comprehensive enhanced and secure Wi-Fi.

Phase 1 will be paid for by shifting some bond expenses to the 2002 sinking fund balance, freeing up monies that can be used for technology purchase. No planned projects will be delayed or cancelled due to this shift. Phase 2 will be funded wither through an additional sinking fund dollars that are eligible due to expected changes in the law governing such funds, or through other sources identified later.

Trustees asked about continuing with the partnership with Apple and it was affirmed that with their string association with educational software and the current level of comfort with the Apple operating systems, it was organizationally and financially responsible to continue this relationship. They also asked about how this replacement program dovetails with the Scarlett laptop program (a report to the Board is pending, but would not impact this program negatively). Finally, there was some discussion about re-purposing older computers (those not turned back to Apple for trade-in credit) for a loaner program for students across the district.

➤ *Trustees appreciated the proposal and endorsed moving it forward to the full Board.*

E2020 Purchase

Monique Uzelac presented on the proposed district purchase of online educational content for the purpose of credit recovery, additional support for struggling students and ACT preparation.

Ms. Uzelac talked about the months long process of selecting an online content provider, and, after committee review and reference checks, the district is set to purchase a year's renewable licensing from E2020 for \$208,300.

If the Board approves this purchase, teacher training would begin in early February, concurrent with starting use with students in the district. It is anticipated this software would also be used in the summer for credit recovery and content pre-teaching, and would be widely available in the 2009-

2010 school year. This tool would also be part of our tiered intervention program for students and would

Trustees asked if the software would be tailored to Michigan's high school graduation requirements (yes) and whether we had enough concurrent logins for anticipated times of heavy use (yes, and we could get more as needed).

- ***Trustees recommended this item go to the Board for expedited approval at the next Regular Meeting.***

Policy Review

Due to time constraints, Trustees received new policies on Middle School Attendance and Retention and Budget Adherence and Adjustment, but will review them at the next Performance Meeting.

Also, the 1000 series, 2000 series, and additional policies on student achievement are under consideration and being placed on the agenda after a joint meeting of the committee chairs.

Volunteer Efforts

Norma McQuiston presented the history of the Partners for Excellence program, up to an including the current status of the program. The program started as an opportunity to match older individuals from the district with schools needing volunteer support. The program now helps individual schools who would like to partner with area organizations to identify, develop and maintain volunteer relationships.

Organizations in partnership with individual schools will supply volunteers, financial support, or other in-kind support – depending on the needs of the school and the resources of the organization. As of this year we have approximately 37 partnership organizations working with 19 district schools, and the district as a whole.

- ***Trustees thanked Ms. McQuiston for a very informative presentation and will consider what next steps might be taken to in looking at our overall volunteer programs.***

Change 3/2 Meeting

- ***We will need to reschedule our March meeting at a future time.***

Agenda Planning

Topics for the next meeting were discussed.

- February 2
 - Social Climate Study Session Planning (Roberts)
 - Policy Review
 - 1000's, 2000's, Middle School Policies, Equity/Student Achievement, Field Trips
 - Marketing Review (Liz Margolis)
 - Preschool Updates (Dickinson-Kelly)
 - Teacher Performance Evaluation (Roberts)

*Meeting Adjourned 7:25pm
Submitted by Deb Mexicotte*