

Ad Hoc Technology Committee
February 4, 2015

Present: Jennifer Neumeyer, Kimberly Martin, Kim Silsby, Lori Smail, Jeff DeJongh, Jim Anastasio

Absent: Kathy Casparius, Fred Kahl

The committee reviewed the inventory provided by Mr. Fred Kahl, Director of IT, regarding the age of computers in the school district. At the end of the current school year, 75% (1142) of the 1,539 district owned student computers will be at least 5 years old. 720 will be 7 or more years old. The IT Department has done an excellent job of maximizing the life and usefulness of the legacy computers the district owns, but a crisis is eminent. It is not realistic to expect computers that were purchased five or more years ago to meet the needs of today's students and/or continue to function.

The committee decided to survey K-12 teachers to determine how computers are being utilized in their classroom, what type of computing device would best meet the needs of their students, whether computing devices are necessary, and how those devices are/would enhance curriculum and instruction. The information gathered through the survey will be helpful as the committee makes short and long term suggestions for computing devices in the proposed and future budgets.

Considerations:

- Replacing over 1500 computing devices could cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$800,000 to \$1,000,000.
- Can the school district continue to provide computing devices for all students?
- Is education/instruction enhanced at all levels of the school district by computing devices?
- Given the funding issues in public education is a significant/ongoing investment in computing devices for students at all levels a wise investment?

Next meeting: February 25th at 5:30 in Conference Room A at City Center. The committee will review survey results.

