



**Educational Technology Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2014**

Chair: Mr. Dakota Wilkins Chair-Elect: Mr. Brian Bostwick CIO: Mr. Mark Lindstone

LOCATION:

Newton Middle School

6:00 PM – Arrival

6:32 PM – Convene Meeting: Mr. Dakota Wilkins - Chair ETAC 2014-2015

Call to order: Pledge of Allegiance

6:33 PM – Celebrating Successes: Newton Middle School

Discussion:

Mr. Marc Finer, Technology Education teacher at Newton Middle School, welcomed the committee. and introduced the functions of the STEM center and Tech labs at Newton.

STEM Tech Lab highlights:

A meaningful STEM experience includes the application of math skills and technical concepts in the design phase of a design/build project. STEM projects are designed to replicate practical real world applications that encourage students to think critically and solve complex problems

Projects included the research, design and simulation of solar powered boats, and planes. These projects necessitate student skills in collaboration, measurements, tools and material design on the computer, then bringing the plane or boat to life with a real build.

- Ms. Mimi Leonard, Coordinator of Career and Tech Ed. said that LPS’s four middle schools are among the few operational metal and wood shop in the state. Originally thought as “too vocational”, other school districts are now recognizing the value they have for STEM training.
- Sometimes faced with failure in their design approach, students are encouraged to accept failure as part of the learning process, and re-engineer their product. A broad experience, rather than a deep experience with STEM is the goal; all students have an opportunity to participate.
- Some hopeful plans for the future include updated software, more tables for collaboration and small group work, and a more robust robotics program.

Ms. Beth Best stated that it takes \$200,000 per middle school to fully implement a STEM lab. So far, \$50,000 dollars per school has been funded, there is still a lot of fundraising to be done!

6:45 PM - LPS Foundation - Ms. Beth Best, Executive Director of LPS Foundation:

- The grants to teachers program has just been rolled out to the district. Teachers can find the information to apply at lpsfoundation.com and click on the grants tab.
- The Littleton Stride was very successful again this year. Ms. Best thanked all those who participated in and volunteered for the event.

7:00 PM – Board Report: Ms. Carrie Warren Gully, BOE Liaison to the ETAC committee

Ms. Warren-Gully reported:

- Littleton High School will implement new coursework for students in animation.
- An Instructional Technology report, and the yearly ETAC report were presented at the last BOE meeting.
- Superintendent Scott Murphy will be retiring at the end of this school year. The school board in conjunction with the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) will be doing a superintendent search. Community and staff input will be very important in the search.

7:10 PM –CIO Report: Mr. Mark Lindstone

Mr. Mark Lindstone reported:

- New web content management systems are being looked at by members of the ITS staff.
- The iPad rollout at East elementary was very well attended and well received by parents. East instructional staff is participating in professional development activities to implement these.
- The district is currently piloting 2 models of digital signage. The hope is to have reasonably cost effective digital signage at all schools in the district.
- CBOC Report: Runyon Elementary school is getting a new commercial type roof. Littleton High is getting a new boiler.

7:30 PM –Small Group Work: ETAC Social Media Policy Workshop

The committee highlighted excerpts of written social media policy from other districts that could be applicable in the Littleton district. The exercise gives the committee input on what factors and values they deem important as development of policy around social media is created.

7:45 PM – ETAC Small Group Discussion: Social Media Policy Input

Committee Input on Social Media:

- Have the tightest parameters when students are on the school property, within school hours, using school hardware.
- Define boundaries between personal and professional uses of social media.
- Social media should enhance education, learning, engagement and collaboration.
- The policy should not just be about conduct and consequences. List do's AND don't's.
- Know how to leverage social media to enhance learning in a positive way.
- Create guidelines on pitfalls that could protect teachers.
- Social media should be part of Student Code of Conduct book.
- Include rules for parental responsibility. Add an extra bullet on existing student/ parent document called Technology Agreement. This agreement is signed by students and parent each school year.
- Until everyone understands the “playing field” and gets comfortable with social media, make sure that the policies are on the stringent side.

A draft of a social media policy for Littleton Public Schools will be constructed. The committee will provide feedback once a policy is drafted.

**Next ETAC Meeting will be at
East Elementary School
5933 S. Fairfield Street
Littleton, 80120**

Wednesday, November 19th

8:30 PM –Adjournment