

Network Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, August 13, 2007

Committee Members Present:

Lisa Smith, ACCESS
Dale Santangelo, ACCESS
Rich Denamen, ACCESS Board/MCESC
Kevin Stoklosa, Struthers
Joe Warchol, Columbiana ESC
John Hopkinson, Youngstown City
Phil James, Columbiana CCTC
Nate Aldrich, East Liverpool

Review of Last Meeting Minutes – no corrections.

Webwasher – Filter Categories

The committee spent a considerable amount of time reviewing each filter category in Webwasher assigning either a Block, Allow or Authorized Override. *Block* completely blocks pages from being displayed. *Allow* permits access to pages. *Authorized Override* grants the opportunity to input a username and password to view the page otherwise blocked. No longer will a user Filter Bypass account override all filter categories (including pornography, gross content, etc.) as in the past filter appliance. A copy of the recommended filtering category scheme is included with these minutes.

The committee recommends that *Authorized Override* accounts still require superintendent's approval prior to creation by ACCESS. The committee also recommends that any site deemed as Blocked, but requested to be opened by a district staff member require superintendent's approval (or whomever the superintendent designates) prior to ACCESS honoring the request.

The Webwasher filter is much more robust than our previous filter product and provides a more extensive scan of web pages and images on the Internet. As a result, there will most likely continue to be a need to make some adjustments to the filter when all schools are back in session. The features and details of the product will be shared with districts and discussed in the next Tech Coordinators' meeting.

SSL Web VPN

The SSL Web VPN site – <https://webvpn.access-k12.org> – has been released for use. So far the feedback has been positive. One issue still exists relating to the Vista operating system (applications within ACCESS can be reached, but the Internet is not simultaneously accessible). ACCESS is working with Cisco to see if this issue can be resolved. The SSL Web VPN supports Macintosh 10.4 OS and Windows XP and greater.

The SSL Web VPN allows users to connect to resources/applications within the ACCESS network (within our private IP address space 10.x.x.x). Internet access, however, will be provided by the user's ISP service (Armstrong, Time Warner, AOL, etc.) through which they are reaching the ACCESS network. Therefore, the assumption is that the Internet will be "unfiltered."

Dial-Up Issues (East Palestine Internet)

ACCESS presently provides dial-up access through EPI for a cost of \$10.00 per month. Upon initiating the dial-up connection, users then VPN into the ACCESS network. Since there are approximately 80 users a year who take on this service, the group discussed whether or not the cost to maintain this service was justified. Some investigating will take place so that information can be shared with John LaPlante for consideration.

Email Client

Dale Santangelo shared with the group that there is a web-based client that can interface with our existing email system offered by Process Software (who supports our current email system). This client will provide many features presently not available, such as address books, etc. More information will be shared with the group in coming months.

IP Video

eTech is moving from ATM video to IP video. Lisa Smith will be attending a professional development session on IP video on August 22nd to gather information on the new IP Video procedure for ITC's and school districts. More information will be shared as received.

Tech Meeting Schedule

The committee recommended that Tech Coordinator meetings be held every six weeks. The first meeting for this new school year will be held on Wednesday, August 29th at 1:00 p.m. Location tbd.

Network Advisory Committee – next meeting – Monday, September 10, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. at ACCESS