

Network Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 14, 2008
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Lisa Smith, ACCESS
Dale Santangelo, ACCESS
Kevin Stoklosa, Struthers
Joe Warchol, Columbiana ESC
John Hopkinson, Youngstown City
Phil James, Columbiana CCTC
Nate Aldridge, East Liverpool

Absent: Rich Denamen, ACCESS Board/MCESC

Email System – Email Advisory Group

Dale Santangelo shared with the committee information relating to what districts may want in a new web-based email system gathered at the January Technology Coordinator meeting. An ACCESS Email Wish List was compiled to share with the Network Advisory Committee (NAC) and to be used as a basis for formulating a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new system slated to be in place by fall, 2008.

An Email Advisory Group (EAG) will be formed to help formulate the RFP and review any responses received as a result of the RFP. The NAC members present all requested to be on the EAG. It was decided to include five or six additional individuals from districts to also serve on the committee. Dale will invite individuals recommended by the NAC to serve on the EAG. Once the committee is formed, the list will be shared with the ACCESS Board and Districts.

The committee agreed that an email system must be selected that is user-friendly and will offer teachers and students good reason to use it – ease of use, good collaboration between teachers, staff and students, web-based, accessible from home and school, etc. Members of the NAC will solicit information to share with the committee at the next meeting and Dale Santangelo will check with other ITC's to see what type of email system they currently provide to their districts.

The first meeting of the Email Advisory Group has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. at ACCESS.

Technology Coordinator Meeting – January

Some questions and concerns of technology coordinators were compiled and shared with the committee. Questions were responded to in writing by John LaPlante and Lisa Smith and sent back to Tech Coordinators.

General Discussion:

The meeting opened with general discussion on the following areas:

WebVPN – Lisa Smith reported that she is still working on making the WebVPN process easier for users. There still is an issue with split-tunneling for Vista users (ability to work in the ACCESS network and do Internet simultaneously).

Windows Update – Lisa Smith reported that she is still working with Secure Computing to see if anything can be done to help with the Windows Update download intermittent problems.

ACCESS Web Site – Dale Santangelo shared that tomorrow ACCESS will be releasing its new website through Schoolwires which will allow each area within ACCESS to maintain their own pages, calendar, etc.

Webwasher Filter – Lisa Smith will be conducting a Webwasher Delegated Administration demonstration on Thursday, January 21, 2008 for those wishing to see what is involved with assuming Delegated Administration in their districts.

Mail Marshall Spam Filter – Dale Santangelo will turn on notices on smaller spam folders which will generate a message to users to check their spam mailbox for issues. Hopefully this will help users get into the routine of checking for messages not expected by not received in their spam console.

<http://spam.access-k12.org>

Committee Goals – Review

The committee reviewed their original Short Term Goals. The following recaps the goals and progress to date.

1. Review the filter list and identify sites (video, radio, etc.) that students are abusing that should be blocked to help protect unnecessary consumption of bandwidth. **Policy in place – goal met**
2. Encourage more involvement in the Tech Coordinator meetings to provide greater benefit to the district technology representatives. **Ongoing**
3. Brainstorm video issues (IP) that will be forthcoming also consuming bandwidth. Streaming video services, such as United Streaming, need to be addressed so that they are functional within the districts that purchase these services. Perhaps ACCESS may need to entertain housing streaming video at the Data Center for easy access. **ACCESS evaluating - ongoing**
4. Assist districts with moving from Line Printers to Laser printers for fiscal needs.

A survey will be taken to see if districts still need assistance to do this. Results will be shared with the NAC at the next meeting.

5. Conduct a district survey of the number of student email accounts actually given to students to use.

The committee felt that accounts should be created for “all” students, as they are now. The hope is that with a new email system in place, account will then be ready for use.

6. Conduct a survey of what types of purchased streaming video services are used within districts.

Lisa Smith will survey all Technology Coordinators. Results will then be shared with the NAC. The committee still hopes that ACCESS will entertain providing United Streaming to the districts.

7. Prepare a Request for Proposal for a new email system at ACCESS.

An Email Advisory Group being formed to begin this process.

The committee reviewed their original Long Term Goals. The following recaps the goals and progress to date.

1. Effectively increase and conserve bandwidth (the committee unanimously agreed that as ACCESS increases bandwidth to the Internet, consumption will also increase). **Monitoring bandwidth usage - ongoing**

Network Advisory Committee – next meeting – Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in the ACCESS conference room.

ACCESS Email Wish List:

1. Easier method of sending an attachment - In Microsoft Word (and other programs) one can simply select the option of sending the document as an e-mail attachment.
2. Sent Items Folder
3. Deleted Items Folder
4. The automatic addition of contact e-mail addresses - they can be deleted at our choosing
5. Ease in seeing our spam folder, maybe view blocked email within email client.
6. Easier method to change passwords.
7. Feature added which will tell you when someone has received and read an email
8. Calendar option
9. Spam and anti-virus filtering
10. System to send an email to an administrator for student email violations. I.e. language or threat
11. Digital lockers for shared space between students and teachers.
12. PDA synchronization.
13. Limit email from students to district accounts only.
14. Email solution should work with legacy (Windows 98) computers.
15. ITC hosted Moodle system.
16. Fully functional web-based client.
17. Better archive features.
18. Better restore functionality.
19. Quota management.
20. LDAP functionality.