Network Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 23, 2007
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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 Aldridge, East Liverpool

Guests: Glenn Howell, SentrySafe (i-TRAP)
Becky Sabino, ACCESS

Review of Last Meeting Minutes – no corrections.

Intrusion Detection (i-TRAP) Findings
Glenn Howell from SentrySafe presented to the committee. SentrySafe provides 24/7 monitoring of networks for several ITCs and school districts throughout Ohio. Mr. Howell's presentation began by providing updated information on current security risks, i.e., stolen student identity, hacker attempts through a variety of new techniques, means for students to breach district security, etc. educating members on their impacts on school districts. Mr. Howell was able to show actual issues on the ACCESS network, originating from a variety of districts in real-time, using the i-TRAP appliance that ACCESS has had in place for the past year. Presently, ACCESS has two i-TRAP sensors in place. One sensor watches all outbound traffic to the Internet. The second sensor watches all inbound traffic from the Internet.

Mr. Howell presented some articles pertaining to various schools around the country (including Ohio) that have experienced confidential data compromise. The committee discussed the need to secure the ACCESS data from potential penetration from within a district. By adding an additional i-TRAP sensor to the flow of traffic destined for the application servers, ACCESS would be able to see any attempts being made on these appliances. The current sensors in place do not see this traffic.

After some discussion, Rich Denamen suggested that we gather information to meet the following three needs protecting schools from potential liability issues.

1. Protection of ESIS and FISCAL data (and all other application servers at ACCESS) – Placement of a sensor watching and reporting on real-time traffic destined for the application server(s) housing sensitive data.

2. Protection of District(s) – Placement of a sensor at the district so that the district can monitor the internal network traffic destined for the ACCESS global network and other districts. This information will allow district personnel to find issues and begin immediate resolution that may also be impacting local resources.

3. Combination of #1 and #2 – Placement of sensors in all critical locations – district(s) and in the path of critical data to application appliances.

All services provided by SentrySafe are monitor 24/7. Therefore, any sensor placed will be monitored by the company as well.

SentrySafe also has a new tool available that can provide real-time analysis to districts and ACCESS staff through a new web interface. This offering is called *NetAlert Intrusion Analysis*. This product provides:

- Review and analysis of daily i-TRAP alerts
- Notification of suspicious activity and recommended action
- Resolution Monitoring
- Monthly on-site review

Since a tremendous amount of data is gathered daily, this service compiles information in a format that can be easily presented to the customer for awareness and action. It is a supplement to existing services being provided and, therefore, has a cost associated with it. A quote obtained for ACCESS indicates a cost of $3,588.00 per year or $299.00 per month.

Student Accounts – Becky Sabino
Becky Sabino met with members to gather feedback on a possible migration of student email accounts from the current convention of BEAV1234AB to ACC1234AB. This migration will allow students to easily move between districts without district personnel having to do a considerable amount of work within the ESIS application. Becky's intent is to convert all student accounts to this new format this summer 2008 for availability in fall 2008. The committee members expressed no objection to this change. Phil James from CCCTC expressed that this change would make student recording much easier for Career and Technical Centers since they house students from a variety of districts. This concept will be presented at the next Technology Coordinator meeting for additional feedback. Overall, the Advisory Committee membership supported the conversion plan.

General Discussion
Instant Messaging – Lisa Smith shared a request made to her for the committee to consider ACCESS hosting an internal Instant Messenger service. The committee discussed the pros and cons of such a service. The majority of the

committee membership felt there was no need for this service. A member, however, expressed that such a service could be beneficial for easy communication between teachers and districts. This idea will be presented at the next Technology Committee meeting for additional feedback.

MSI - An MSI is a package in which installation software has been included for easily deployment to computers on a network. Kevin Stoklosa asked about development of an MSI for new Java updates for ESIS. Becky Sabino checked with Oracle and they do not offer an MSI with Java updates already prepared for distribution. Members of the committee expressed that having an MSI creator would be helpful in the deployment of software updates. This topic will be investigated further – costs, feasibility, etc. and shared with the membership next month.

Webwasher – All agreed that the Webwasher appliance issues have subsided considerably thus providing feedback that the present configuration of the appliance now meets our needs.

Network Advisory Committee – next meeting – Thursday, November 29, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. in the ACCESS conference room.