

Technology Department Report

Software

The IT Department is currently in the middle of building images for the campus computer labs. Numerous labs are upgrading software or adding new software to their curriculum. We have finished the test builds for both the graphics and computer programming labs. Once the instructors have given their approval of the software functionality, we will replace both labs with the newly purchased Dell GX280s.

We are still in the process of our conversion with SchoolDESX. They have presented us with a trial conversion data sample. The next step is for us to schedule an orientation meeting so we can discuss the data mapping and plan the remaining steps of our conversion.

Microsoft has issued more patches for both Internet Explorer and Windows operating systems. All the patches have been approved and are ready for deployment to our clients using the Software Update Service.

Network

Over the last year we have been tracking Internet access through the use of a proxy server. To this point the data has been in a raw format and very difficult to analyze. With help from Jesse Redfield, our summer help/co-op student, we have been able to put this data into a readable format that can be analyzed in real time. This will allow us to better track internet usage by individual student and lab. Using this solution, we will also be able to analyze email and SonicWall logs more efficiently.

All ECTS staff files have been moved from the old file and print server over to our new server. This will allow for faster file access, better security, and more storage space provided to our users. At this point there are only printer queues stored on the old server. These print queues will be moved before the beginning of the school year. Our goal is to completely remove that server from production by November 2005.

Computer Hardware

We have been in contact with Dell Corporation about damaged components in our GX260s. We have approximately 30 computers that will need a component replaced. The GX 260 computers are under warranty through the end of August.

All instructional staff computers have been replaced with Dell GX280s. Their old computers will be cleaned, imaged and deployed to Tier IV labs.