

Technology Department Report

Desktop Systems:

This month we have investigated opportunities to streamline our desktop system repair and deployment system, Symantec Ghost. A custom CD has been created that is compatible with all of our desktop systems which eliminated the current need for system specific deployment disks. An option still being engineered is integrating the Ghost process with Windows Remote Installation Services (RIS). We hope to adopt this universal custom CD into a RIS image which could eliminate the need for media all together during system deployments. This greatly reduces deployment resources.

Telephone Systems:

Capital Telecommunications is in the process of working out the remainder of our telephone line configuration issues with our Hunt Group. Paul and I visited Titusville Area School District with John Frye, their technology manager, to see a product similar to what has been proposed to ECTS in action. Their system was recently installed this past summer by Treese Communications. We have requested Treese Communications setup another tour with another client of theirs to review some extended features in operation also, that were not implemented in Titusville.

Professional Development:

Our new Premier relationship with Dell, which has been established over the last few months, has recently been extended with an Educational Employee Purchase Program (EPP) for our Staff. This is a free service that we requested we be added to, where Dell leverages total purchases of both EPP purchases, and school related purchases to determine our savings brackets for both EPP and School purchases. I am pleased to see many of our staff taking advantage of this to help put better technology in their homes, and additionally utilizing the services being offered by IU13 and Journey Ed, where educators can purchase software at a greatly reduced price similarly.