

Technology Department Report

Desktop Systems:

With the help of Dell and the Business Office we completed a complete manual verification of our computer systems inventory and analyzed it against purchase records that Dell was able to provide for the last 10 years. We cleared up any discrepancies with the Business Office.

Integrated Communication Systems:

Treese Communications remains confident we will be cut over to our new Integrated Communications System by June 4th. We have plans to do the cut over June 1st and June 2nd.

Server and Network Systems:

The last of the network infrastructure core was deployed this month. Over the last 6 months we have deployed current technology with a fully manageable and scalable VLAN network architecture. The core speed was upgraded from 100MB to 2GB (2000MB). All access ports were upgraded from 100MB to 1GB, and an additional 120 PoE (Power over Ethernet) ports were added to support the VOIP integrated communication system. This architecture enables faster recovery, and deployment timelines, and stages us with the flexibility to connect seamlessly to the Regional WAN consortium initiative. Additionally, this provides simplicity in implementing a campus-wide secured wireless network with open public access.

The hardware cost savings through our Dell Premier relationship was considerable. The cost was approximately 50% of Dell's retail cost, and implemented in-house. Comparatively this was approximately 25% of the retail cost of comparable equipment from other small business vendors (Linksys, DLink, 3Com), and less than 20% of the cost of a local solutions provider's estimate, which did not include the PoE additions.

We upgraded our Active Directory to Windows 2003. This further enhances our network access controls with the latest feature offerings from Microsoft. During migration there were a few disruptions in service, which were all promptly resolved. These features will enable us to implement an upgrade to our e-mail server, which will provide new additional access to Portable Devices such as PDA Phones. Combined with our new network infrastructure and our wireless network all of this will enable the freedom of mobility of our data and telephony around the school, and position us to easily consider staff and faculty mobile computers in the future.