

Technology Department Report

This last month has been my first experience with the beginning of a school year as an administrator. There have been a lot of new challenges that I am very new to, and I would like to thank the administration team and instructional staff for their continued support and encouragement.

Much of the last few weeks were invested communicating with SchoolDesx support and working with the application. The transition into a new school year with the application presented many new challenges. Collectively with Aldo Jackson, John Hansen, Patty Palo, Pam Lasher, the rest of the Administrative, High school office, and Instructional staff I believe we accomplished a tremendous amount of success in ensuring data integrity and usability. As a result many of us learned a lot more about the application. More importantly reports generated directly from the SchoolDesx application satisfied our CATS upload to PDE, and many other requests. Training was held during in service to communicate strategies on the use of the program, and the instructors have done a fantastic job utilizing and implementing the suggestions. I look forward to the continued success of this student information system.

New Servers have been ordered and received to replace existing systems that have reached their support lifecycle with their manufacture, and have become antiquated for today's growing technology and processing needs. The servers being replaced are at least 5 years old.

System support services and software packages such as email, remote access, and other infrastructure dependencies can be upgraded with the implementation of the new servers, which will introduce enhanced and new system and application features.

We are looking for a solution to enhance the flexibility and availability of our current MS Access helpdesk application. The use of a web-based system can broaden the availability of a request system. The ability to define automated workflow and approval processes with email server integration can help ensure more effective communication of a work request.

These mentioned upgrades present expanded access opportunities to system information with wireless devices such as PDA's. Along with an existing increase in demand for wireless access at ECTS analysis of an effective implementation strategy for a campus wide wireless solution is being drafted. A wireless network with secured access to internal systems, and open access to the internet would service the majority of the demand and presents opportunity for efficiency.