

Technology Board Report

Desktop Systems

We have been researching and testing different strategies around the campus to prevent students from changing Wireless Connections on both the Windows 7 and MAC systems. The risk involved is that students could connect school computers to their WiFi Hotspot phones without faculty or administration detection. The goal is to ultimately prohibit any changes to Wireless Connections on school computers. Two years ago, before wireless cell phone internet sharing became commonplace, this situation did not exist.

We have replaced a handful of Projector bulbs this year, and a few wireless access points; which are common points of failure in education. None the less, until identified and resolved, can be quite disruptive to the daily school operations. Projectors present the multimedia experience in the classroom in effort to engage the students, and the wireless network is the vehicle to deliver the content. Therefore, vital components to a rich media classroom and our attention to them is high priority.

Applications and Database

As the school tightens up our processes to comply with PIMS submission deadlines and data requirements, student data seems to change every day as each data item is reconciled with the districts. Pat Holland and Jan Kennerknecht have been looking at the identified population and have found ways to reconcile their data more efficiently through the use of the Excel interface for student data. With the adaptation of their Specific Disabilities matrix being connected to live data this year (through the Excel interface, and no longer a manual count) new opportunities for improvement have surfaced. We've been working together to define the strategies to more clearly document future reconciliation procedures.

Network and Server Systems

The backup Tape drive continues to be unreliable. Before looking for replacement options, we are going to consider more creative strategies.