

Technology Board Report

Student Information

Starting this school year, for a multitude of influential reasons, Infinite Campus, our student information system, will now have its software updated to the latest available version every month. For the last five years this has been limited to annually unless there was an exceptional reason.

Developed new SQL Server reports for the Nurse/Health processes. Modified and created attendance reports to support new student attendance expectations to aid the High School Office overview of attendance risks.

Imported the freshman contact lists collected by the admissions coordinator into the Admissions database; and created a cleaned and parsed address list for the marketing consultant. Rolled the admissions database over for the upcoming admissions season.

Imported student photos into Infinite Campus.

Modified our data interconnect with Navigate Prepared; which is sourced from Infinite Campus, through Clever.com to account for changes made in our period schedule.

ECTS Website

The ECTS Website was launched on August 18, 2019. Since then, several pages, features, and integrations continue to be completed or improved. One of the greatest outcomes second to a clearer branding of the school this new website is affording us, is integration with external information. We are pulling information from Facebook, Infinite Campus, Mail Public Calendars, and internal files to improve communication while automating and therefore reducing process labor hours.

Digital Classroom

The Teacher Tablet and TV, the physical hardware elements for the digital classroom plan, have been installed in every classroom. 25 instructional spaces (20 program theory rooms, one computer lab, three cafeteria spaces, and one laboratory space) now have 4K televisions with screen mirroring hardware to wirelessly duplicate our Windows 10 tablet computers to the classroom wall display.

The other pillar in the digital classroom is the software. We continue to build out both our Microsoft Office365 and Google G-Suite Classroom tenants, with a focus currently on enabling Microsoft Whiteboard for digital white boarding in the classroom on the tablet, duplicated on the classroom TV. There are several other spokes in these cloud Classroom tenants that we will continue to explore and implement as the year progresses.

Purchased additional power adapters, and travel bags for all of the new Teacher Tablets.

Systems

On September 11, 2019 our production server rack suffered a catastrophic failure on a portion of the system that was a single point of risk for the entire data center. ECTS has never had explicit redundancy due to the exurbanite expense to do so. This server system is due for replacement at the end of the 19-20 school year in the capital expense plan; so we

will just move the replacement up slightly. To minimize single points of failure; we are investigating moving as much to cloud services as possible, and getting out of the data-center hardware responsibility. This will not necessarily be operationally less expensive, it will however ideally relieve some IT labor burden that has become overwhelmed in other areas with the growth of technology on the campus.

The Door Access Control database system corrupted in mid-september during a power outage. This server is having to manually be rebuilt; which I am working. I have it prioritized in the list; but other items keep pushing this issue lower; as it is not effecting the door access itself currently. As long as the door locks maintain our access cards and schedule; it is not yet having a felt impact; other than new employees that are unable to be issued a badge until it is restored.

Implemented an account management automation so that student enrollments in the student information system result in automatic creation, modification, or deletion of computer access accounts. This helps reduce technology support labor.

Support

At this point over 150 helpdesk requests have been reported and resolved so far this school year.

Network

Investigating a solution for an open wireless network for the general public that traverses our campus regularly; without creating an opportunity for our students to gain an internet connection from the school without identified user content control and logging.

Recently the school held a drill and for a multitude of influences all faculty and students were assembled in the Skills Center. The wireless network was not built in that location for this user capacity. We will investigate and implement an appropriate solution to accommodate this need.

State Reporting

Completed all 1819 Report Corrections.

Worked with the Business Office to incorporate all necessary Staff data into Infinite Campus so that PIMS Staff reports can be sourced directly from Infinite Campus from now on. As of the 12/20 Oct 1 Staff Snapshot, all data element and process concerns were overcome, and the Business Office is now documenting the process necessary for all future staff employment changes to ensure future PIMS Staff reports are effective from Infinite Campus extracts.

Communicated with the districts to obtain all Economically Disadvantaged and Free or Reduced Lunch Eligibility data for our Oct 1 Student Snapshot report. While we no longer have a cafeteria operation, and therefore do not need this data for a National School Lunch program ourselves; this information is critical in funding formulas at PDE for both CTE Subsidy, State and Federal Grants, as well as other PDE PIMS analysis; and therefore we are required to collect it and report it. We are working on incorporating this into the enrollment process which will push this timeline into July and/or August for your district personnel.

Other

Supported the Admin Staff with the ISO external audit while the auditors were here.

Working with the Business Office on a Board Documents solution.

Supported the Director in several grant application conversations.

*** My sincere apologies to the JOC for the absence of my report in August and September. ***