

Technology Committee Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2013

The meeting started at 5:23pm with 13 present.

First item on the agenda was the discussion of the vision workshop (to be given by Connected Consulting): A date of March 23rd, 2013 was set. Representatives from Abilene Christian University will be here on that date from 9:00am—3:30pm at the Newman Cafeteria. Members of the technology committee meeting will be in attendance. School Board Members will also be invited as well as some High School students, middle school students, and some community members.

Dr. Seals also discussed the bond issue with committee members present. He explained how the school board plans on paying for the iPad's.

The committee discussed the number of grades that will be given iPads. The committee decided that at the Pre-K and Kinder level approx. 5 iPad's will be given to each teacher to be used in centers. At the first grade through 12th grades EACH student will have their own iPad. At the elementary level each teacher will have a cart of iPad's in their classrooms. Students will NOT be allowed to take their iPad's home. At the middle school and high school level's ALL students will be able to take their iPad's home with them each day and will be required to bring them back to school each morning.

An issue by some of the elementary teachers present was in regards to electrical plugs. They stated that their plugs are not in very good working order and often short-out. BEFORE carts are put into the elementary classrooms maintenance will have to check ALL plugs.

The committee also talked about how to roll out the iPad's. Dr. Seals suggested that the teachers who show the most interest receive the iPad's first. Training for teachers will be during the summer for THREE days. Three cohorts will be created (a group of teachers) and will probably be used in phase 1, phase 2, and phase 3. Abilene Christian University will work with each cohort. The committee also discussed the issue of teachers that are hired late and are unable to be trained by ACU. They could possibly have a mentor teacher that would train them in the use of the iPad in the classroom.

A discussion was also started in regards to individual itunes accounts once students received their iPad's. At the elementary level & middle school level students' itunes accounts would have to be set up by parents—using their email address. At the high school level each student will be allowed to set up their own itunes account.

February 27, 2013 @ 5:15pm was the date and time set for the next meeting. Tonight's meeting ended at 6:58pm.