

TECHNOLOGY PLAN UPDATE

The following outlines the list of activities and expenses related to the technology plan for the month of April.

Several months ago I informed the board of an end-of-life issue with the firewall used by the district. The firewall will no longer be supported by the manufacturer that meant we would no longer be able to provide content filtering or adequately protect the district network from unscrupulous data communications. The firewall has been replaced and work was completed on the weekend to ensure district users were not inconvenienced during regular operating hours. The replacement unit was charged to the technology replacement budget as a life-cycle issue.

Several changes are being made to district telecommunications operations. A contract has been signed that will reduce the amount of long-distance charges by approximately \$3,000 per year. Local calls will now be charged under a new contract that will save roughly \$500 per year. Lastly, the new contracts and consolidation of our accounts into one package will allow the district easier and improved billing services. A new web interface will allow our bookkeeper to more efficiently report and charge back costs to each building.

This has been a demanding year for security issues. Service pack upgrades, hot-fix installs and increased virus activity on the district network have meant a greater degree of diligence and time commitment to keeping computers updated. This could present a problem when the teachers return from summer after not having hot fixes installed and being three-months behind on virus updates. Teachers can voluntarily leave their district provided laptop with me over the summer and I will ensure that those laptops are both physically secured as well as updated appropriately.

Research is continuing into a viable replacement package for the Student Information System. Several vendors have been contacted and further assessment should result in several candidate programs for demonstration by the appropriate district stakeholders.

The expenditures for the month of April are as follows:

Administrative Software	\$2,981.90
E-Mail Accounts	\$99.00
Repair/Replacement	\$7,096.96
Telecommunications Charges	
-WAN	\$1,617.00
-Internet (ISBE)	\$280.05
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$9,093.01