

POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Educational Technology Advisory Committee (ETAC) Meeting
Thursday, June 4, 2015
6:00 p.m.
District Community Room

Minutes

I. Call to Order –Welcome

Present: Brian Senese, Frank Xu, Gabriela Dow, Jessica Xu, Noah Li, Stacey Campo and Scott Himmelstein.

Absent:

Boardmember Present: Kimberley Beatty.

II. Review and approval of minutes

Minutes were not prepared for the May meeting as no committee positions had been determined. Gabriela provided a list of the topics that were identified for the committee and provided these as May minutes.

III. Old Business

None.

Public Input – Unclear if this was ever presented as an option.

V. New Business

A. District Technology Initiatives

Richard Newman and Robert Gravina delivered a packet with the following material:

1. PUSD IT Dept Vision
2. PUSD Mission
3. PUSD Board Policy on Educational Program and Student Use of Technology
4. Common Core State Standards K-12 Technology Skills Scope & Sequence
5. Innovation U Staff Crowdsourcing Site Challenge Results
6. Parent Perception Survey Results 2014-2015 (two questions)
7. IT Service Quality Survey – 2014
8. 2013 Speakup Surveys
9. Open-Ended Response Analysis – Parent Survey (May 2015)

B. Updating the District Technology Plan

Richard Newman and Robert Gravina delivered presentations on current and future programs. As Newman described, “Technology is ubiquitous, just give kids’ technology and they know how to use it. They also know when to use it, or not... Look at kids’ faces and how happy and excited they are with the devices... We need to move beyond just engaging students, 83% of the time they are not engaged, we need to fascinate kids.”

Gravina explained the district is working on strategic planning for individualized learning. “We brought Google, Microsoft, and Apple together in Oct. 2014 to see what the future will look like.” Powerpoint presentation and videos demonstrated children with Oculus Rift / Virtual Reality helmets as the future of education.

The Vision needs to be connected to LCAP goals. We are aiming for one device for every four students from 3rd to 8th grade. We must build capacity for support and training. We currently have two full-time trainers: Tracy and Linda. We need to build systemic tech adoption, not site by site.

Design 39 operates on an adaptive learning platform. Tech plans are needed to apply for grants. Tech and social media concerns include cyberbullying.

Questions:

Committee-member Frank asked for evidence-based comparative studies to validate the data presented for the 2008 students that were featured in one of the videos.

Committee-member Jessica said there is a danger in offering too much technology in the classroom which can lead to physical and mental problems for the students.

Committee-member Brian asked how the district is measuring success? How do they quantify, for example, how “fascinated” the students are? Newman said teaching is an art and teachers each bring their personalities to it. Also D39 is not the only model, Academy at Los Pen is also a tech model.

Committee-member Gabriela asked what the process would be to create a new tech plan? Newman said they are currently working on developing a plan.

After the tech tour, the committee-members discussed the need to elect a committee chair, set a plan and organize topics identified at the May meeting into key areas of focus.

C. Future Meeting Dates

Next meeting date set as Aug. 5, 2015 at 6 pm.

VI. Closing Comments and Adjournment