

Technology Department Report SEPTEMBER 2026

Since the last Board Report, the Technology Department has been active in assisting projects such as:

- Stacy Courter provided no report.
- Liane Kamp provided no report.
- Patrick Tucker worked on account creation for students via an automated script connecting to Google, providing support to all staff as they return for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Ben Fox has been very busy setting up technology for new staff, aiding in the restoration of Freedom Acres' network switches to bring their network back online.
- Robert Silvernail led the Saranac PowerSchool launch to parents, students, and staff spending time on professional development, data conversion, and setting up various links to other systems. Additionally, Phase 1 of construction at the elementary and window replacement at the Jr/Sr High were completed, permitting access to classrooms allowing tech setup.
- John has been working with Ron Klumpp and vendors in the restoration of Freedom Acres' power, HVAC and network systems. This was also during the go-live time for PowerSchool across the districts. Device inventory and replacement orders for Chromebooks and laptops was started for the 2026-2027 school year.

The Student Information System (SIS) Change

Districts are live with PowerSchool, and working through some issues that have arisen from a couple of different reasons. There are some indications that imported files may have caused some incorrect data points. We are continuing to work on integrating our other systems that rely on the SIS as an authoritative source of data. Other challenges include new report creation for some essential needs like attendance.

Google Licensing Enhancements

As we are looking at the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the districts, we realize that additional resources are needed to better meet the needs of staff & students. This is best achieved by increasing our Google Workspace licensing that will bring greater access to AI and other features. The complication is that we have to license all of our users, which has prompted the Tech Dept to go through and really prune some of the user accounts that were still in the system pending deletion or simply still suspended.

Consulting with an outside Google specialist has provided us a path using a tool, and additional option of keeping user information without requiring a fee-based subscription license. With the licenses being approximately \$6/user/year, making the most accurate count is critical so that we are not overpaying for services not necessarily required. The project continues, with anticipated completion before the end of the month.