

Keith Zamudio
Director of Technology Board Report
October 17, 2018

2017-2018 GOALS FOR THE TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- Continue to investigate CSD's data link services between Mt. Eccles Elementary School and Cordova Jr./Sr. High School as allowed by E-Rate's Second Modernization Order.
- Continue to investigate CSD's bandwidth needs to accommodate our digital learning environment.
- Continue to expand the Cordova City Consortium for E-Rate subsidies.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

ICT Literacy Skills

I have asked our ICT Literacy Skills instructor, Emily Moody, to provide the board with a brief overview of the ICT Literacy Skills class. The main goal for this class is to help students understand their rights and responsibilities when operating laptops that belong to the school district. We are endeavoring to help our students learn about their digital presence, be aware of their digital footprint, and be in a position to make informed decisions to maintain their digital security.

October Teacher In-service

CSD will be providing two days of in-service on Thursday and Friday, October 25 & 26, 2018. We have dubbed the training, CSD 2018 Mini ASTE. This will be our second Mini ASTE. We held our first Mini ASTE in May of 2015.

These two days of in-service will focus on Instructional Technology integration and Cybersafety training. We will have Frederick Lane in town, and he will provide a large group presentation with follow-up workshops regarding online issues of Cybersafety, online privacy, educator ethics, and emerging trends in digital technology.

We polled CSD staff to identify areas of interest for training. On October 9, 2018 we published a form for staff to select sessions that are of interest. We compiled 17 different sessions for CSD staff selection. See attached list. Most sessions are being facilitated by our staff. We know that many of our staff are doing creative and innovative learning activities with students. We encouraged staff to pick one or two of their favorite classroom activities to share with colleagues.

Additionally, we have made arrangements with PWSCC to provide professional development credits. Staff will have the choice to select a one or two credit course offering.

Use of Technology in District Operations

Not only are the tools of technology an essential K-12 resource for CSD student learning, but school staff at all levels have become dependent upon the use of information technologies to administrate their duties. The use of Internet resources has become integrated in our day to day work flow. Can you imagine a day without the Internet at your disposal?

Currently, CSD leverages numerous network and Internet resources that are an integral part of a day's workflow for staff and students. Aside from our staff and student email resources, all students and staff have a Google Suites account, and often staff and students use these accounts and the Internet to gather, organize and share information. It is not until the Internet is down that we realize how dependent we have become.

Some of the resources that are Internet based include our student information system, PowerSchool, Eduphoria that is used for staff evaluation and provides a tool to survey students, staff and the community, Employee Service Portal that provides our staff the ability to submit leave requests and access to their payroll records, and Follett hosts our library catalog. We share the Follett license with the Cordova City Library. Alio hosts the school's financial records. Teachers subscribe to a variety of online resources to facilitate and support classroom learning in most curricular areas. Many CSD classroom teachers use Google Classroom an online course management system that allows staff to put their curriculum online so that students have 24/7 access. We subscribe to a media content delivery system, Discovery Education, with a caching server that helps us utilize our Internet's bandwidth.

To support CSD's 1 to 1 laptop learning environments, the IT Department maintains safe and secure network environments including integration services to build and deploy an upgraded/updated OS image for staff and student laptops. CSD's network manages computers, network accounts, and network resources such as MAP testing, learning software and Internet resources. All CSD staff, classified and certified, has a laptop to administrate their duties.

CSD's IT Department established a computer image deployment system that has been in production since the 2013 - 14 school year. This software management installation system allows students and staff to update their assigned laptops quickly and easily, and allows for custom installations of software that meet individual student, staff and classroom learning needs.

Each staff and student are issued a Google Suites account for collaboration. Google Drive is a file storage and synchronization service created and managed by Google. Google Drive allows staff and students to store documents in the cloud, share files, and edit documents with collaborators. Google Drive includes the productivity suite of Apps - Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, Google Draw, and Forms that permits collaborative editing of documents, spreadsheets, presentations, drawings, forms, and more. Each year CSD staff and students increase their use of these resources. These accounts are not computer specific.

Information technology has transformed how we conduct our day to day business, communicate with one another and expanded our options to learn, work and play. Additionally, information technology



has impacted our global perspective. It is not unusual for CSD staff and students to interact with people and support systems that cross physical and political boundaries.

Enough cannot be said for the need of ongoing, sustainable professional development. In the past CSD has hosted week long summer tech trainings. These trainings have diminished due to funding constraints, but we continue to train at every opportunity. CSD has been fortunate to send staff to the Alaska Society for Technology in Education's annual conference (ASTE), Alaska's premier educational technology conference. ASTE has been influential in enabling our staff and students to expand their tech integration, vision and capacity. But, we need to provide our staff with more training opportunities. Often our staff train themselves. This year's Mini ASTE is part of our professional development strategy.

As I have indicated in the past, the evaluation of instructional technology is difficult at best. Aside from its relative newness in education, instructional technology is a moving target. From desktops to laptops to tablets and smart phones, educators and educational institutions find themselves on a steep learning curve. Regardless, I am confident that CSD offers their students and staff a rare, valuable, and empowering gift. CSD stakeholders will continue to reap the benefits of their use of computer-based technologies as learning tools for the rest of their lives. The iPads that are checked out to the board is an example of self-training, but enabling your information communications literacy skills.

CSD endeavors to ensure that all students and staff have the capacity to utilize information and communication technologies. All of the identified services listed above are not without their management issues. The number one job that CSD's IT Department performs on a day to day basis is Help Desk. Our staff have become adept at managing their instructional technologies, but appreciate the ability to reach out and get help to solve problems.

Thank you for your consideration,
Keith Zamudio – Technology Director

CURRENT PROJECTS/CONSIDERATIONS

- Continue to manage CSD's website
- Update student photos in PowerSchool
- Configuring upgraded web filter
- Upgrade and updating CSD's Managed Software Center
- Upgrade and updating CSD's modular system deployment
- Deploying Mobile Device Management server

UPCOMING PROJECTS/CONSIDERATIONS

- Continue work on E-Rate application for 2017, 2018 and 2019.
- Migrating student email accounts to student Google Suites accounts.

2018 October Technology Workshop Initial Interest Survey

Below is the list that we compiled to determine CSD staff training needs. Staff were asked to indicate their training preferences. Most sessions will be divided into 1.5 hour sessions to allow for flexible participant scheduling and to accommodate participant interests.

Google Classroom 101

Google Classroom streamlines assignments, boosts collaboration, and fosters seamless communication to make teaching more productive and meaningful. Educators can set up Classroom in minutes. With Classroom, teachers can manage assignments and communicate with students and their guardians in one convenient place. With Google Classroom, educators can create classes, distribute assignments, send feedback, and see everything in one place. Instant. Paperless. Easy. Workshop facilitated by Sara Hottinger.

Activities using Google Slides & Google Drawings

Google Slides & Google Drawing can be used in many ways to enhance collaboration, creativity, communication and critical thinking, no matter what subject or grade you teach! Activities presented in this workshop include: Infographics, Choose Your Own Adventure Stories, Crowdsourcing, Collaborative Projects/Activities, Making Memes, and Math Activities. Online Feedback using Icebreakers could also be reviewed, if there is interest. Teachers will have time to try out activities and create some of their own. Workshop will be facilitated by Gretchen Carpenter.

Digital Book Units using Google Slides (2nd grade and up)

Learn one way of incorporating multiple digital reading comprehension activities into one place - a Google Slides presentation! Students can have choice about which assignments to work on each day, and all their work eventually ends up in an individual slideshow, which makes grading much easier. Workshop will be facilitated by Gretchen Carpenter.

BookSnaps (for any grade level)

Learn how students can share their thinking about text in a digital, visual way using Google Slides (or SeeSaw). But, BookSnaps aren't limited to just books! Students can make MathSnaps, ScienceSnaps - any activity where they can share their learning and thinking. Teachers will have a chance to make some of their own BookSnaps. Workshop will be facilitated by Gretchen Carpenter.

Google Drawings

This session will be devoted becoming familiar with Google Draw. Google Drawings is a free, web-based diagramming software developed by Google. Google Drawings is hosted within Google Suites and all files created with the application are by default saved to Google Suites. Users can insert images from the local hard drive or from the Web, as well as shapes, arrows, scribbles and text with the editing tools. Google Drawings has set of flow-chart symbols and other shapes that can be dragged and dropped into place. Users can move, resize and rotate objects, and use polylines and line connectors. It also allows for the editing of images, including cropping, applying masks and adding borders. Other features include laying out drawings precisely with alignment guides, snapping to grid, and auto-distribution. Drawings can be inserted into other Google documents, spreadsheets, or presentations. They can also be published online as images or downloaded in standard formats such as JPEG, SVG, PNG, or PDF. Workshop will be facilitated by Keith Zamudio.

Technology Tips That Transformed My Teaching

In this workshop, I'll discuss Google Doc project directions, Google Slide templates, Screencastify "How to" videos, Google Doc "How to" directions, and a few other technology tips. Teachers will have time to try out some of these ideas. Workshop will be facilitated by Gretchen Carpenter.

Fredrick Lane - Cyber Security

Frederick Lane is a nationally-recognized expert on privacy and the impact of emerging technologies on society. He is an author, attorney, educational consultant, expert witness, and lecturer who has spoken to colleges, universities, and school districts around the country (including Alaska) on a variety of issues, including student safety, electronic misbehavior, and digital privacy. Fred will present to the CSD staff in a large group presentation with a workshop follow up.

Classroom Blogs

CSD maintains a blog environment, Edublogs, for student and staff use. Blogging can transform the students' learning experience by fostering ownership of learning, engaging students, and can become a source of pride in the classroom. Blogging provides opportunities for students to develop online learning skills including critical thinking, problem solving, effective communication, and the ability to collaborate. Blogging can develop responsible communication skills both between the instructor and students as well as between students. It extends student engagement beyond the classroom and school day. This workshop will provide participants the opportunity to build a class blog. Workshop will be facilitated by Debra Adams.

SMARTboard Technologies Facilitated by CSD Staff

Sessions on using a SMARTboard in the classroom. Participants can choose training sessions that include Introduction to SMARTboard, Advanced SMARTboard, Lesson Structures, SMART Response, along with two optional sessions covering Seasoned User Topics and Sound in SMARTboard. CSD Team will send a survey to interested participants to further clarify topics of interest for training. Facilitator to be determined.

Google Suites – Cloud Computing Facilitated by CSD Staff

We will review the features of our current Gmail based email system including Google Suites. CSD account holders can take advantage of Google Apps, a cloud-computing environment for collaborative projects with colleagues and students. An overview of a variety of cloud computing tools that are appropriate for classroom use will be shared. Google workshops can be set up to accommodate specific Google Apps including Google Classroom, Google Draw, etc. Please provide additional info below in Other. Facilitator to be determined.

Discovery Education – Facilitated by CSD Staff and vendor

Participants will explore Discovery Education's resources on how best to integrate and teach with digital media. Workshop will be customized based on current usage reports. Learn to take your use of Discovery Education's tools and resources to the next level. Increase your ability to access and manage your profile, My Builder Tools (Assignment Builder, Writing Prompt Builder and Quiz Builder), My Classrooms, My Content, the Teacher Center and professional development activities. Facilitator to be determined.

Book Reviews & Reading Responses

I will share a Google Sheets interactive database for student book reports/reviews. We will also explore www.whoosreading.org, a program that evaluates reading responses related to book reviews and open-ended quiz questions. Workshop facilitated by Krysta Williams.

Hour of Code

December 3-9 is national hour of code week where schools around the world will be doing an hour of code activities in their classrooms. If you want more information you can watch this video. With the blessing of administration and cooperation of Mrs. Carpenter on December 5th, my (Mr. Carroll) beginning coding class along with a number of adult volunteers from the community will be going to each Elementary school classroom to do an hour of code with the

elementary students. This sectional is for Elementary teachers to go through the specific hour of code activities that we will be introducing in your classrooms and for high school teachers it is an opportunity for me to help you plan an hour of code in your classroom that addresses your specific subject area. Note: The beginning coding class is researching and choosing age appropriate and engaging activities for the elementary school classes. If a high school teacher will attend this with the intent to do an hour of code with your class or classes, please let me know so we(I) can find an appropriate activity within your discipline. Facilitated by Doug Carroll.

Share a Favorite Tech Tool

Do you have a program, app, website, or extension that you think is amazing and want others to know about? This is your chance to share it with your colleagues! In this "casual" workshop, each person attending will be given about 10 minutes to share/discuss/present information about their favorite technology tool. Depending on time, attendees can explore some of the ideas presented. Workshop will be moderated by CSD Staff.

Adapting Learning Activities for EL Success

Spend an hour and a half of prep time geared toward EL success! Bring a lesson you plan to teach and focus on making it more EL friendly -- you might highlight and footnote a text, simplify a test, add pictures to a worksheet, or many, many, more options. Laura Bowman will be available to give you input and ideas as needed. Facilitated by Laura Bowman.

Intensive Needs - Working with Specialists

Working with specialists to best meet the needs of our students; workshop geared toward paras working with intensive needs students. Facilitated by SpEd staff.

Web Mastering 101

CSD currently maintains three web sites high school, elementary and district office. This session is geared to provide an introduction to basic management skills and strategies for our web sites. Facilitated by Keith Zamudio.

Other

Suggestions for other trainings not listed.