

Technology Department Report FEBRUARY 2025

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

- Stacy Fisher led the effort for a thorough cleaning of the server room, after an exhaustive purging of server racks no longer used by the district, she has continued to address the day-to-day calls for help from staff in addition to putting together another Chromebook cabinet for the High School (this time specifically for a Special Education classroom).
- Liane Kamp has continued work on the Civil Rights Data Collection submission for the ISD, in addition to working with Kathy Olmstead to draft up some documentation for users of Skyward and IlluminateEd Special Education to interpret the error reports generated by both systems.
- Patrick Tucker provided no report.
- Ben Fox has continued with the annual replacement of laptops for about a quarter of the ISD staff that have them assigned, he has also been assisting in the change out of projectors for large screen displays in four Freedom Acres classrooms.
- Robert Silvernail assisted Stacy in the purge and cleaning of the server room, in between re-cabling the racks, working the auditorium for the high school "Mock Rock" talent show. He also completed his MSBO Chief Technology Officer Certification.
- John has been ordering the new Rural Schools' technology items, working with Ron Klumpp installing a new card access reader at the Autism Education Center entrance, coordinating the new network port installations at the Administration Building with the changes in General & Special Education office spaces. He has done work to further the migration to the MI Statewide Education Network (MISEN) for Internet Access.

One Ringy-Dingy

With the approval in December of the new RingCentral phone system, work began in January preparing data on our lines, extensions and users. This proved incredibly helpful in the second planning meeting where the request for the information was made of the ISD. Having it ready to go impressed our project manager and stated that she'd not been able to end a second meeting saying that 85% of the work discussed in the meeting was ready to be processed. Hopefully this helps us keep on with the project timeline of being able to go-live after Spring Break. One potential hold-up could be our existing phone service carrier, who has the ISD under contract until July. There are early termination fees. So, John is evaluating those costs in combination with the known cost savings we will see when we do the switch in providers.

The Rurals' Technology

With the use of existing and carryover funds, all three Rural Schools have made use of the funds for some technology purchases. North LeValley has acquired 13 new iPads, 10 new Chromebooks, new charging stations for the devices, and two staff laptops. Haynor has opted for two staff laptops, 15 new Chromebooks, the charging cart for the Chromebooks, and investigating a 65" CleverTouch interactive large screen display. Coon was still evaluating its purchase options.