Technology Department Report
February 2026

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

- Stacy Fisher received shipment of replacement screens so she worked on replacing several Chromebook screens. Stacy also took down the network equipment in the old lab in elementary school. She continued to work on tickets, emails and phone calls.
- Liane Kamp has been working on creating, testing, and uploading templates to transfer data from Skyward to PowerSchool. There has also been PowerSchool training and configuration meetings with IPS and Belding.
- Patrick Tucker SUBMITTED NO REPORT
- Ben Fox has continued to work on and completed the bulk of terminating the cabling for security cameras over at Freedom Acres. He also helped prepare a new set of handhelds/walkie talkies for use across the district.
- Robert Silvernail spent the month of January preparing for upcoming construction, PowerSchool transition, processing report cards, and starting the new season of eSports.
- John has been working on recovering some information on the Youth Advisory Committee documentation within Deb Wagner's Google Drive for helping in re-establishing the groups in its originally intended format. Work with Chrouch Communications on new, licensed frequency-based handhelds to update our Emergency Operations along with Ron Klumpp.

The Student Information System (SIS) Change

The trainings with the local districts continue, with Ionia Public & Belding getting most of the January training sessions from Powerschool. Liane and John sat in on these sessions to maintain consistency of message on process and procedures with the training. February looks to be for Portland and Lakewood districts.

Calendar Viewing for Transitions

Technology Department staff have wrapped up a project for Transitions Supervisor Mark Sly to have his weekly calendar on a display at each of his locations to maintain communication and transparency. The devices used were retired Chromeboxes no longer used in classrooms, so a "second life" was granted to them for this purpose, and a low-cost large display was purchased for the locations.

Security Enhancements

John & Ron continue to pursue the goal of bringing our door security under a local system (instead of EPS Security), where there is no monthly recurring costs. Although there is some upfront conversion and equipment costs, the return on investment is estimated to happen within two years.

Additional surveillance cameras were purchased, and the network lines have been pulled to the necessary locations. Currently, the interior cameras should "go live" within the month, and exterior cameras will be installed once the bitter cold weather passes and staff may climb the ladders to drill into the exterior walls to mount the cameras.