

### **Middle School Network**

All the old network cable was pulled as part of the construction project. Much of the new cable has been pulled into the existing middle school building and they are waiting on the go ahead to start cabling the new areas. As of Wednesday 8/19 network racks are installed, the patch panels are in and are now waiting to terminate all the cable ends. Our network installers are estimating late Friday 8/21 for some network cabling to be usable to start getting phones and access points up and running. By board meeting time we should have active network and some wireless availability in the building.

### **Internet For Staff-**

We have made available to staff Verizon Jet Packs reimbursing the district our cost. A month of service for the Jet Pack is \$40.01 and we have asked teachers to bring in a payment of either \$120 for 3 months of service or \$240 for 6 months of service. Of course availability depends on how well Verizon cell service reaches them and is doing well for those that have paid and taken a Jet Pack home with them.

Staff will also have the option of being in building/classroom to utilize the district WiFi for the internet needs.

### **Internet For Students -**

The cost of service remains the same as for the staff at \$40.01 per month per Jet Pack. We will be issuing Jet Packs through the schools and tracking so that we limit the devices to one per family/household. 3 Rivers has offered their DSL service with the school paying a 50% discounted rate. After taxes and fees 3 Rivers and Verizon are only a few pennies different. To save the administrative issues of running everything through 3 Rivers and scheduling service in peoples houses we will be sticking with the Jet Packs from Verizon.

### **Phone System for COVID readiness-**

You will be seeing a new phone system around the district and happy to say it will be COVID ready (not a term phone companies would use but several features that allow us to keep making and receiving phone calls). Administrators and building secretaries are now able to install a smartphone app, login in and take and receive phone calls whether they are in the office or working from home. It will also assist our counselors with contacts where their caller ID will show as a school phone number and when students call back it will go straight to their direct number instead of through building offices. The situation was prompted by us outgrowing our old Avaya 500 phone system which would have cost \$85000 to upgrade to handle the extra phones at the middle school expansion, sports field complex, etc. versus \$35000 for new phones for the new phone system. If you have called in starting Friday 8/14 you have been talking on the new phone system. Phase 1 is complete with phones for administrators,

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building/admin secretaries and Phase 2 will be installation of “teacher/classroom” phones which will be happening as soon as the reading of this for the board meeting or shortly thereafter.

And it’s back to school time -

Welcome back to all the teachers and hopefully sooner than later our students into the buildings. It’s crunch time and we are working help desk tickets as fast as possible to get everyone up and ready for remote learning.

Staff Professional Development

Our KW-Vina and BES teach