E-rate

No news is good news during this time in the e-rate filing windows. Our Form 471's for internet and hardware switches have been submitted and we patiently wait for the e-rate guru's to approve our submissions.

Cyber Security

One of the areas of emphasis repeated over and over is preventing threats to the district from outside influences. The mantra we unfortunately live by is not if but when. Our districts across the state share information of what's happening with current threats across the state and country and we take measures to prevent cyber attacks. Some of those measures in BPS are updates to our firewall system, updates via Google capturing spam and phishing emails so our users do not see them and in many cases are not even aware they've received these types of emails. We have also implemented firewall rules that prevent users from even accessing known malware sites and in some cases whole countries that are known to host bad actors in the malware world. We additionally have users update the operating system(s) on their devices as these updates typically include at least a few security updates.

An item we will be bringing to the board this summer is a security response incident plan. This plan gives the district clear guidance on how to proceed in the event of a security incident. In most cases the plan will be to call our insurance carrier first, secure affected systems for forensic analysis and potential to contact law enforcement depending on the guidance from our insurance carrier.

We have business partner relationships for our two most vulnerable systems that would be subject to possible incidents and implement security changes when needed. One of the most visible changes to security is when we changed the requirements to login to Infinite Campus with a username/password to the users G Suite (i.e. gmail account) login for all staff and students.

Summer work

We are planning for our typical summer work, preparing devices for the next school year. Additionally depending on when they may ship (which could be next week or could be October) we will be updating many of the switches that carry data traffic around the district. They are on order, we are just patiently waiting on supply chains for the manufacture and shipping of the equipment.