September 2020 Board Report

Middle School Network

We are awaiting word from the low voltage installers that we have network punched down and ready to relocate staff to the new office area. Also dependent on this work being completed are printer(s) as they currently print and retrieve at the admin office. Also dependent on this work being completed are wireless access points, telephones, door access control systems and other items to be networked.

Internet For Students -

The cost of service remains the same as for the staff at \$40.01 per month per Jet Pack. Several JetPacks have been issued to students through the schools. Our first 'full' effect Verizon bill has arrived and you will see it's upcoming payment on claims for \$35,600 which includes \$1600 for the Soopinaki grant workers, \$1900 for both our regular cell phone bill and JetPacks being reimbursed to the district by staff with the remaining \$32,028 for service and purchase of the JetPack devices for students. Next month's Verizon billing should be less as Verizon bills a month ahead so almost all the student Jetpacks reflect the \$40 for the Sep-Oct service as well as service for the partial Aug-Sep month of service when we activated the service. However, we have not distributed JetPacks to students in our K-3 grades yet so that will be factored into next months billing.

Wireless Network

The access points at long last arrived this past Monday. The next part of the project is their installation to provide the latest generation of wireless service to our students anxiously awaiting their return to in building instruction.

iPads -

Most of the iPads are in house at this time as well as Apple has located the missing shipment of 250 iPads which should be delivered by the reading of this at the board meeting. We've had TA Jacky Makes Cold Weather from the Big Sky Colony assisting with their prep. The final stage is waiting on the cases to arrive, place iPads into the cases and finally distribute to the students. I'm told cases are to arrive any day - fingers crossed.

Phone System for COVID readiness-

We had anticipated all the new phones to be installed by now but I just learned there is a delay due to the phone vendor quarantining due to a COVID situation. Good news they will be coming off quarantine next week with all of their staff testing negative. But the delay was necessary to protect everyone.

Staff Professional Development

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Our KW-Vina and BES teachers has professional development on the SeeSaw application which is a learning management system for the younger students. A *big shout out to MontanaPBS* who delivered and paid for the cost of the trainers as part of their support for rural Montana educators.

My Accounting Hat

I've started looking over this year's TFS report and it's balances to see where things are not balancing that need to be corrected before final submission. I'll continue to help Crystal with balancing the report along with balancing with the findings of the auditors working on the cash balances this and next week.