

Technology Department Report

E-Rate

The Form 470's for Category 2 services is now in the question and answer phase for the next 28 days and should conclude March 20th. A reminder from last month that this includes new networking in all buildings except the high school (some new equipment will be in the high school with the existing cabling being at the current CAT6a specification). A walk through with possible vendors who will do the work was held this past Monday 2/18. We should see some good competitive bids for the project with 5 companies represented during the walk through. There will be more to update as we transition through the question and answer into the allowable contract phase of the e-rate cycle.

Terms of Service

Having just returned from the recent META conference board meeting, a major emphasis of META will be protecting PII (personally identifiable information) with outside organizations which we share student information. For the project the state has a template for a Terms of Service agreement for vendors to sign. So why would we ask a vendor such as McGraw Hill to work with us in signing a Terms of Service agreement with BPS. The short answer is to protect the district from any changes they may make without properly notifying and giving BPS time to respond to any changes they make. With a Terms of Service agreement signed with BPS, the vendor is free to change their terms and how they protect student information but since we have a separate signed agreement it would override any changes that vendor may choose to make and keep them legally bound to the terms in our signed agreement.

With math curriculum up for review and potentially a new company being adopted, we would ask that company to sign the agreement with us prior to asking the board to approve and adopt any new curriculum. Another review area for the district will be the many apps that are deployed to our mobile devices. We are aware some of those apps/appmakers ask for a login credential of varying types and we will need to go through a process for them to agree to our privacy statements if we will continue to use their apps.