

Technology Board Report

March 2024 - Sam Rigby

- Spring technology site visits included Perryville, Chignik Lake, Levelock, Kokhanok, Newhalen, Nondalton, and Port Alsworth.
- The internet and our student devices performed well for state testing.
- We are working with Microcom to schedule internet installs for locations they will be servicing. We anticipate all installations to be completed by the end of June.
- We have repaired several computers from our broken/damaged device inventory and have returned them to service. We anticipate being able to repair more as time allows.
- We are working with BBRCTE to design IT training programs and potential internship hours.

Questions from the Board

What is the difference between OneWeb, Microcom, and Starlink? - OneWeb and Starlink are both Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite internet providers. OneWeb sells wholesale internet to ISPs like SES (DRS) and Microcom, who resell it to customers. Starlink primarily sells internet access directly to the customer. Microcom provides a value-added internet package that uses Starlink as the backhaul and includes installation, monitoring, management, and load balancing.

What will happen to the OneWeb terminals at the schools where we did not renew service with SES? - These terminals are owned by SES. They will be removing them.

What about SALMONet? - I have found very little publicly available information about the SALMONet project. I have reached out to a few people to learn more.