



CHELSEA SCHOOL DISTRICT

TECHNOLOGY

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To: Board of Education

From: Ryan Spencer

Re: Technology Board Report, October 2025

Date: 10/15/2025

Dear Board of Education,

Happy October! While this month usually brings a slower pace after the start of the school year, our department has remained consistently busy. One major focus has been our new internet filter. We have worked closely with our integration specialist and their engineering team to fine-tune the appliance with our network. A few additional adjustments are planned, but we are being intentional not to make too many changes at once.

I have also been working with Chris Simpson to order replacement desktops for our Food Service point-of-sale (POS) registers. The new systems arrived this week and will be deployed shortly. Our Food Service staff will appreciate having faster, more reliable computers that match their efficiency.

Our new visitor management system is scheduled to go live at Chelsea High School on Monday, October 27, and at North Creek on November 4. Doug and I have collaborated with building principals to send family communications about this new process. Beach Middle School's implementation has been delayed until Interstate Security installs an additional door station inside the vestibule. I am coordinating with them to schedule installation as soon as the part arrives.

Our new portable radios have been deployed at North Creek, South Meadows, and Pierce Lake, and the feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive, aside from noting that the new models are a bit heavier than the outgoing consumer-grade versions. Ross Posgiesser has been instrumental in helping Doug and me coordinate with our roofing vendor and Electrocomm to ensure roof penetrations for antennas are completed in a way that preserves our warranty. The process has taken extra time, but we want to ensure everything is installed properly. Once the high school and Beach antennas are in place, we will finish deploying radios at those buildings and transition our transportation department from the current analog system to the new digital signal.

Planning is already underway for the FY26 E-Rate cycle. As a reminder, the E-Rate program, administered through the Universal Service Fund (USF), provides discounts to schools and libraries to make internet access and telecommunications more affordable. It helps districts like ours offset costs for services such as internet connectivity and network infrastructure, with reimbursement rates based on student population and economic need. This cycle, we plan to replace wireless access points at WSEC, North Creek, and South Meadows; internal



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fiber at North Creek and South Meadows; and CAT 6 cabling at North Creek and Pierce Lake. All projects will go through the RFP process and be brought to the Board for approval in early 2026.

Respectfully,

Ryan Spencer, Director of Technology
Chelsea School District