

## Technology Department Report October 2025

Since the last Board Report, the Technology Department has been active in assisting projects such as:

- Stacy Fisher has continued working on trouble tickets, emails and phone calls placed by staff. She assisted in placing a new switch in the data closet at one of the Jr/Sr High School data closets. New ID badges for staff were designed and deployed.
- Liane Kamp has been working on automating GSRP tasks for all of the ICISD districts, clearing unnecessary/outdated reports in Skyward to prepare for the migration to PowerSchool, and copying existing Skyward templates as reference materials for the new system.
- Patrick Tucker played Disc Jockey for the Freedom Acres 5K day! He also assisted at the Rural Schools on a couple of smartboard issues, worked on resolving some faxing issues with the conversion from copper lines to cellular and digital solutions, in addition to helping Ben in the creation of the ICCC Computer Programming content filter request.
- Ben Fox began and finished inventory of ICCC computers and video connections in preparation for the replacement computers this fall, and what options we have with new computers and aging displays (monitors and projectors). ICCC Computer Programming class required some adjustments to our Internet Content Filter to accommodate second year student project needs.
- Robert Silvernail oversaw the 1:1 Chromebook deployment at Saranac Jr/Sr High School, one of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes delayed their own new Chromebooks until after this 1:1 was completed. Interesting enough, a comment from one of the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers was *"THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! The kids are so excited about the new chrome books! They kept talking about how nice they are and how they feel different than the old ones. I heard someone say that 'they are heavier so they must be way nicer.'"*
- John diagnosed part of the Freedom Acres fax line issues with Patrick and came up with a relatively simple solution for the cellular device, while also informing/instructing staff on the ability to fax from the desktop computer or mobile phone with the RingCentral application. This could make staff far more agile in using faxing since most medical offices still require fax as it is seen as secure point-to-point method of communication.

### The Student Information System Change

The contract migrating our Ionia County Skyward Consortium to PowerSchool was signed on September 25, 2025. Last minute developments included that The Rural Schools opted IN on the new consortium. Currently, we are scheduling the necessary planning meetings to get rolling on this migration in October for ICISD and an additional district as the first two from our group. We are all eager to get rolling on this as the longer it takes to start the process, the shorter the timeline for deployment of the project becomes. This year of the migration, only implementation costs are part of the contract (no licensing), and the ICISD will be fronting the migration costs and then billing the individual district back on their per-district costs.

## Saranac Student Tech Exploration

The technology staff at the Saranac Campus launched a new opportunity for 7th-12th grade students at Saranac Jr/Sr High to explore Technology and Auditorium operations, including Chromebook repair, networking, and A/V tech, we started the first rotation with 2 students!

### The Server/Technology Room

The Server/Technology Room facelift ran into a bit of a delay when some black glue was discovered in the process of removing tiles in preparation for new carpeting to be laid. Samples were sent for testing and determined to contain asbestos, and requiring remediation. Another delay occurred when the remediation company took longer than expected to reach out to Ron Klumpp to schedule the task. So, the plan is to have the remediation taken care of in early October, and getting the remaining tasks done (painting, dry walling, and carpeting) soon after, to have furniture installation a week after that putting the Technology Staff back in the workspace approximately at the end of October.

