

## **iPad refresh**

My apologies for the late technology report (was originally due for the June 28th board meeting) as my intention was to wait out some issues in shipping and delivery of our newest iPads. As of today, July 3rd, 2023, we are scheduled to receive our new iPads on July 6th 2023. Of note, I have learned and it is confirmed that the bulk of our iPad fleet, 7th gen iPads, will receive the much anticipated iPadOS 17 update in September. By this time next year, we will be faced with a difficult decision. By September or October 2023 Apple will discontinue the manufacturing of Gen 9 iPads. At that time they will exclusively sell/ship/quote gen 10 iPads and this is where the issues will arise. Gen 10 iPads have different charging ports and no longer will have headphone jacks. This means that when 7th gen iPads (just over 2200 in use for BPS) are phased out next summer, they will have to be replaced with 10th or 11th generation iPads, which then means we will need to upgrade our charging carts/cables and headphones (to wireless) This will be a huge cost to the district but one that we need to plan for. The other caveat is that we will still be stuck in this “loop” of needing to refresh iPads every 2-3 years due to the mix-n-match versions of iPads we are using. At this time we have, or will have, 7th, 8th and 9th generation iPads in use in the district. 7's will go away next year, 8's 2-3 years from now and 9's 5-6 years from now. As you can see, the cycle will continue to.... unless..... Next June we replace **ALL** iPads in the district (yes, even those we are receiving later this week) to either 10th or 11th gen iPads and basically reset the timer. If we do that, we will not have to refresh our fleet again until 2030-2031

## **Replacing fiber cable**

In July or August we will need to replace two fiber runs. One at Napi and one at BHS. I am unable to get exact costs for these two projects without accepting bids from contractors. This puts me in an awkward position. Because I don't know the costs, I am unable to determine if we need to put out an RFP for the work, or just get 3-4 quotes from certified contractors. I should have an answer for this by the time the board meets on the 11th of July.

## **Adding a fiber run**

Over the years we've sort of “limped along” with the radio connection between food services/maintenance/transportation and the administration building. During inclement weather the connection is slow and we may lose connection from time to time. Recently I replaced the patch cables for each end (one at admin and one at foods) and things are stable, for now. In the long run it makes more sense for us to have a new fiber line placed between foods and admin than for us to continue to have a substandard “wi-fi” connection between the two. My plan is to add this fiber run a.s.a.p so we're able to better serve those buildings and their internet needs.