Technoloy Board Report - April 2023
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E-Rate Internet - Immediately after signing our internet contract, SES(DRS) started traveling to our schools to survey for the installation of our new OneWeb LEO internet service. We anticipate an on-time service start date of 7/1/23.

Starlink Updates - Our Starlink connections continue to provide valuable, supplemental bandwidth. However, brief outages remain more frequent than we would like. Schools with Starlink still frequently rely on their SES connections to cover these outages or to access websites that do not perform well over Starlink.

E-Rate Category 2 - We submitted an additional Erate request for proposal to take advantage of the Erate Category 2 funds, which subsidize the cost of network hardware upgrades and purchases. This year, we will be using those funds to install new routers and firewalls at each site and to replace all of our Wi-Fi access points district-wide.

State Testing - We experienced a bit of a rocky start with online state testing this year, but after resolving a few district-wide technical issues, students were able to complete both the AK Star and Alaska Science Assessments.

End of Year - With state testing complete, we have shifted our focus to end-of-year wrap-up, summer technology maintenance work, and fall preparation. Laptops and iPads will be recovered from staff not returning in the fall to be reset and restored for their next users. We are also coordinating with SES during their OneWeb install site visits to combine travel. This will allow us to complete some or all of the network upgrades and maintenance before school starts this fall.