

## **Board Report - Technology Department Update**

*Focus on Instructional Applications, Communication, Devices, Security, Professional Development, and Infrastructure Upgrades*

### **Khanmigo Integration**

**Overview:** Khanmigo, an AI-powered tutor from Khan Academy, is being implemented district-wide to support personalized learning and streamline instructional tasks. Unlike traditional AI tools, Khanmigo guides students through problem-solving, fostering critical thinking and independence.

#### **Update Training Schedule:**

- **K-5 Training:** January 10th
- **6-12 Training:** January 17th
- **Learning Paths Training:** January 21st or 24th

### **Rooms Communication Tool**

**Overview:** The Rooms platform provides a unified, secure space for teacher, student, and family communication. Early adopters will pilot the platform; full implementation is planned for all staff next school year.

#### **Features:**

- Two-way messaging
- Class announcements
- Behavior tracking
- Automatic translation

#### **Update:**

- **Customization:** The admin team is working to customize settings to fit the district's needs.
- **Data Integration:** PowerSchool data will be integrated, with office staff ensuring contacts and demographic accuracy.
- **Training:** Staff training is scheduled for **January 7th**.

### **Hardware Inventory Assessment**

**Overview:** The department is conducting a complete inventory of Chromebooks, MacBooks, and iPads to ensure devices meet educational demands.

#### **Focus Areas:**

- **K-3 iPads:** Prioritizing refresh cycles to support instructional applications and assessments.
- **Grades 3-9 Devices:** Reviewing devices for curriculum alignment, assessment needs, and device longevity.

#### **Update:**

- **Refresh Priority:** Updates for classrooms with devices that only meet minimum testing requirements (e.g., NWEA) will be prioritized.

### **Cybersecurity Initiative**

**Overview:** This initiative enhances district-wide cybersecurity and is funded by the **State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP)**.

#### **Solutionz Partnership:**

- Identify vulnerabilities
- Assess defenses
- Provide tailored security recommendations
- Conduct cyber safety training

#### **Update:**

- **Vulnerability Scan:** Conducted in early December to analyze devices for potential vulnerabilities.

### **Reflective Teaching Practices**

**Overview:** Teachers from all three schools have requested tech support for recording audio and video of lessons.

**Purpose of Video/Audio Capture:**

- **Review Practices:** Ensure lessons align with learning goals.
- **Assess Engagement:** Analyze student participation.
- **Enhance Student Learning:** Reflect on student behaviors and adjust instruction accordingly.

### **Professional Development Technology Conference**

**Overview:** Eight staff members registered for the February **Alaska Society for Technology in Education (ASTE)** conference, taking advantage of early bird pricing.

**Attendees:**

Jakyle Williams, Noelle Bell, Alice Cumps, Beau Ward, Dustin Crump, Mary Midkiff, Tim Shumway, and Erin Hofacre

**About ASTE:** ASTE promotes access, connectivity, and technology integration in education. Staff will gain access to best practices, advanced technology strategies, and peer connections that support district goals.

### **Bell System Installation**

**Overview:** Over winter break, the tech and maintenance departments will install a **network-based bell system** in the Middle and High Schools to replace the outdated analog system from 1998.

**Purpose:** The new system allows for **multiple bell schedules** and **web-based programming**.