



SALT CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF ELMHURST • OAK BROOK • OAKBROOK TERRACE • VILLA PARK

www.saltcreek48.org

AMY M. ZAHER, ED.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Board of Education Memorandum Information Item

To: Board of Education
Amy M. Zaher, ED.D., Superintendent of Schools

From: Julie Jilek, Director of Operations and Business Services
Matt Ryan, Technology Director

Date: May 21, 2026

Subject: Salt Creek School District 48 Technology Update

Matt Ryan, the new Salt Creek School District 48 Technology Director, will be providing an update on ongoing and future technology upgrades designed to improve operational efficiency, reliability, cybersecurity, and long-term cost management across Salt Creek School District 48.

As you are aware, Matt will officially join Salt Creek School District 48 as the District's Technology Director beginning in FY27. Over the past school year, the district has had the opportunity to work closely with Matt through Client First and has greatly benefited from his leadership, responsiveness, and technical expertise.

Bringing Matt on staff full-time provides the district with a significant opportunity to strengthen and stabilize our technology operations while also realizing substantial financial savings. Having an in-house Technology Director will allow the district to benefit from more immediate support, increased day-to-day availability, stronger collaboration with staff and administration, and greater consistency in long-term technology planning and implementation. In addition, a dedicated internal leader will have a deeper understanding of district needs, priorities, and systems than can typically be achieved through contracted services alone.

Currently, the district purchases technology services from Client First at an annual cost of approximately \$343,251. Under the proposed structure, the district will continue to partner with Client First for specialized support services, including but not limited to infrastructure and network support, at an estimated annual cost of approximately \$40,000.

“Teaching Tomorrow’s Leaders”



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This revised technology model is projected to save the district more than \$150,000 annually while simultaneously improving the level of service, dependability, responsiveness, and continuity provided to students, staff, and the district as a whole. The administration believes this transition represents both a fiscally responsible decision and a long-term investment in the district's operational efficiency and technological future.

This evening, Matt's presentation will outline initiatives implemented in FY26 and future FY27 initiatives that support student learning, staff productivity, and district infrastructure modernization.

Topics to be covered include:

- District cell phone modernization and cost reduction efforts
- Copier fleet replacement and standardized leasing program
- Chromebook leasing cycle and device sustainability plan
- Infrastructure upgrades to improve network speed, reliability, and scalability
- Cybersecurity initiatives including incident response and disaster recovery planning
- Inventory management improvements and enhanced device tracking
- Multi-factor authentication and expanded endpoint security measures
- Development of a student help desk program providing hands-on technology experience
- Future technology initiatives supporting operational excellence and instructional continuity

The presentation reflects the district's continued commitment to investing in reliable, secure, and modern technology systems that support students, staff, and the broader school community.

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