

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018

1. Call to Order – 5:30 p.m.

2. Attendance

Admin: Mr. Edson, Mr. Goodwin

Committee: Ms. Bernard, Ms. DeMarco, Mr. Ecker, Ms. Mahar, Ms. O’Connell, Mr. Sanderson, Ms. Shepardson, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Virnelli, Ms. Wladarczyk, Student Connor Bradt

3. Introduction of Student Intern

Senior Connor Bradt has been part of the intern group overseen by Ms. Shepardson. He has been working with Mr. Goodwin, Ms. Young, and Mr. Poli on special technology projects. Connor has prepared a map of local businesses with free Wi-Fi access; the committee viewed the current map.

4. Approval of Minutes

The following resolution was offered by Ms. Snyder and seconded by Ms. Shepardson: Resolved, that the minutes of the last preceding meeting of the Technology Committee, held April 16, 2018 are hereby approved. The motion was carried unanimously.

5. Meeting Schedule for 2018-2019 School Year

Mr. Goodwin proposed the following meeting schedule for the Technology Committee on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.: September 11, October 9, November 13, December 4, January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 4. Meetings will be held in the Citizen Genet conference room.

6. Apps and Extensions Alignment with ISTE 2016 Standards

ISTE Standard 7A

Wizer.me - It was difficult to obtain information from the Company and is currently not supported
goformative.com (Allowed)
just use local news media
local or national news media

ISTE Standard 7B

G-Suite Training - very helpful tool for all of the G-Suite products (allowed and installed for student organizational unit); Peter to review that it is active on employee accounts.

ISTE Standard 7D

newsela - extension, allowed and added for student organizational unit
scholastic.com - website, allowed
google dictionary
<https://www.readworks.org> - allowed

ISTE Standard 6A

paperater.com - Ms. Snyder will be a sponsor and research
Easy Accents - this is an add on for Docs
Screencastify - allowed in the student organizational unit
G-Suite Slides - part of G-Suite, also a request made for the sites. Mr. Goodwin will check with Mr. McHugh. There may be a need for restrictions on what can be pulled from the sites. Ms. Shepardson said the sites may be part of a student portfolio that should be taken with them. It was agreed that elementary sites should be locked down. Mr. Ecker suggested a review of the new feature to select an audience.

ISTE Standard 6B

picmonkey - Ms. Shepardson will be a sponsor and research
Lucid Press - Ms. Shepardson will be a sponsor and research
Canva - extension, publishing capabilities, Ms. Snyder will be a sponsor and research
Pixlar - Mr. Goodwin will contact Mr. Adam for possible sponsorship
StoryBoard That - Presentation later in the meeting by Ms. Snyder

ISTE Standard 7C

Equatio - extension, allowed and installed in student organizational unit
duoLingo - allowed in student organizational unit, helpful for students looking to speak a second language
Wevideo - Ms. Shepardson will be a sponsor and research. This functions as a video editor. Another option is Adobe Sparks. Concern was reflected that videos in PowerPoint do not play automatically in Google slides.
edpuzzle.com - Ms. Snyder will be a sponsor and research. Ms. Mahar also agreed to be a sponsor

ISTE Standard 7D

Lucid Press - Ms. Shepardson will be a sponsor and research
Photoshop Lite - Mr. Goodwin will contact Mr. Adam for possible sponsorship
Microsoft Publisher - needs a sponsor; concern reflected that some do not have the Microsoft Publisher on their desktop and can't open files from others

7. Storyboard That Presentation by Kelyn Snyder

Ms. Snyder said that thirteen Goff Middle School science, social studies, and English teachers were requesting access to the paid version of Storyboard That. The cost is approximately \$95 per teacher per year. The software creates a comic strip, organizers, and visuals for a topic, unit or scene. In the paid version of the product, there is opportunity for rubric integration, specific classes and assignments, FERPA compliance, and Google rostering. The product is very user friendly.

Some concerns included difficulty with printing and no auto-save feature on the free version. The product is not collaborative and can only be used by one student at a time. There is difficulty with conversion to Google slides that may be lessened in the paid version. Lessons are available in math, but there is not interest at this time from Goff staff.

8. BYOD Segment Discussion

Infrastructure is providing training to Mr. Goodwin and Mr. Morrow on monitoring of wireless access points traffic. There is a need to reconstruct the BYOD segment that took down the network earlier in the year due to high bandwidth usage by students. Mr. Goodwin supported allocation of 500K per use to students, particularly for communication in the event of an emergency. The allocation is being evaluated in light of 4,000 potential users and the need to keep bandwidth clean.

9. NearPod Pilot Discussion

Mr. Goodwin presented a chart of NearPod use in the district. A number of teachers were selected for pilot; however, concern was reflected that over half have not yet accessed the program. Mr. Goodwin planned to follow-up with teachers since much state testing is now completed.

A series of advantages and disadvantages of NearPod were presented by Mr. Goodwin. Some advantages included higher student engagement in learning, opportunity for scaffolding, and ability to see what students were doing as they were working on it. Some disadvantages included the initial learning curve, need to integrate resources, time involved to start from scratch, and the product being more clunky than Google Slides or PowerPoint.

Mr. Ecker and Ms. Virnelli suggested use of the report option in the product. It was requested that Mr. Goodwin remind pilot teachers that they are part of the pilot.

10. Discussion Around The Table

- Ms. Mahar said she would be a sponsor for edpuzzle.
- Ms. Snyder reported that a student pricing option was available for Storybook That versus the teacher pricing.
- Ms. Virnelli requested that quill.org be added to the list and volunteered to be a sponsor. The site allows for diagnostic review of punctuation and grammar and can be imported into the Google Classroom. Lessons are short and great data is available.
- Mr. Ecker asked if the District was on track for purchasing earphones and mice next year. Mr. Goodwin replied yes.
- Ms. Bernard asked if extensions on websites are included automatically. Mr. Goodwin replied yes, although he said that some are subject to category blocks.
- Ms. Shepardson spoke about the benefits of the web page design process. Ms. DeMarco asked about the QR Codes. It was noted it was grades K-2 only.
- Requests for apps and extensions should be made through email to Mr. Goodwin.
- The process to request software at the elementary level is through grade level colleagues, then to the principal. At the secondary level, process is first at colleague level, then to the department chair, and then to the principal.

11. Adjournment – 6:55 p.m.