

SCR 22 Task Force on State Educational Technology
February 24, 2016
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

***Delaware Department of Education, Townsend Building,
Cabinet Room, 401 Federal St, Dover, DE 19901***

MINUTES

ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Michael Watson. Roll call was taken. The following task force members were in attendance: Patricia Dallas (arrived after roll call), Colleen Gause, Matthew Korobkin, Michael League, Elizabeth Lewis, Patrick Liberato, Randy Reynolds, and Michael Watson. Ex-Officio member Wayne Hartschuh was also in attendance.

Absent were: Ted Ammann, D. Dusty Blakey, Michele Brewer, Tim Dukes, Kevin Fitzgerald, Bob Fulton, Steven Mancini, Beth Mineo, Kimberly Reinagel-Nietubicz, Megan Szabo, and Bryan Townsend. Ex-Officio member Pat Bush resigned from the Department of Education and will no longer participate with the task force.

The following people also attended from the general public: Geri Donahue, Pam Reed, Kim Rodriguez, and Lloyd Schmitz. Geoff Fletcher participated via telephone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Since we did not have a quorum, minutes from the January 11, 2016 meeting will need to be voted on during the March meeting. One correction is found in the last paragraph on page two. “Michael League believes it needs to focus more **and** Delaware and also be delivered in an approachable package” should be changed to “Michael League believes it needs to focus more **on** Delaware and also be delivered in an approachable package.”

I. Welcome

Chairman Michael Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He was excited to see so much of the task force’s early thinking ideas found their way into a pretty detailed draft document. The goals for this meeting was to dig into our specific sections. All have agreed on the goals and strategies. At this point we need to see if there are any shifts or adjustments that need to be made. This is the next to last meeting. Based on recommendations made at this meeting, Geoff Fletcher and Wayne Hartschuh will be able to finalize the document and have it ready in the next ten days. It will be sent electronically to the task force for one final read and approval for the March meeting. Michael Watson said after the March meeting, the committee’s work would be finished and we will have a lot to celebrate.

II. Public Comment

No one from the general public signed up to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting.

III. Review of Draft Plan

Michael Watson turned the meeting over to Wayne Hartschuh to explain tonight’s process. Copies of the second draft of the SCR22 State Educational Technology Task Force report was provided to the task force in paper format. Wayne pointed out that based on the recent conference calls with the sub-committees, the format of the draft has been reorganized. The revised document is arranged by sub-committee and each area details the national perspective, Delaware perspective, the goals and strategies, rationales and recommendations all together. Budget information has also been added at the end of the document. This includes current funding as well as budget recommendations. Members need to make sure they review it closely tonight to make sure there are no inaccuracies and make sure

everything is correct. Make all comments in the Google doc available to the Task Force. When we reconvene after the sub-committees meet, be prepared to report back any tweaks or changes when we come back together at 6 pm. During the sub-committee break-out time, note takers were asked when making additions to the document to highlight or change text color to red so they will be able to tell a change has been made in the document.

Michael Watson asked if there were any other general comments from the task force. Michael League thanked Wayne Hartschuh for his work on this project.

The meeting was suspended at 4:45 pm for the sub-committees to meet. Meeting reconvened and was called back to order at 6 pm.

IV. Sub-Committee Reports & Updates

Assistive Technology – Matthew Korobkin said the sub-committee met on the phone three times prior to today. They are comfortable with current Assistive Technology section in the document.

Teaching & Learning –Patrick Liberato said they had good conversation and started with the executive summary. They are going to look at Goal 5 to make sure that is exactly what they are trying to capture. Goal 3 strategy 1 they plan to add a few words about cost savings. Add statement about the Learning Management System that we are currently using is Schoology. In the national perspective section – The two Common Core standards paragraphs about Common Core need to be rewritten. It wasn't going in the direction that the sub-committee wanted it to be going. It focused on the political environment around Common Core verses the opportunity of having 45 states work together to create the most accessible type of summative assessment that is online and how Delaware is leading the way. Michael will work on rewording that paragraph. Timelines were inconsistent. Some areas mention school year 2019-2020 while other areas mention school year 2020-2021. Wayne said they were looking five years out. It should actually be changed to 2019-2020. There was also concern about the accuracy of the data on page 28, Table 4 Percentage of Students in LEA having Home Access to Broadband Services. They feel the data might not be an accurate depiction of what is actually going on because the data provided were estimates. The table also appears in the other two sub-committee sections of the document. Michael League said the point that the table is trying to make is a point that we want in the report, we must have better data.

Colleen Gause said Delaware has good census block data where broadband is available. However, there is no data about adoption or usage in the home. There is no good way to determine who accesses the access. Colleen said DTI could pull together data which shows the percentages where broadband is not available in the state. It would be more accurate data. She will provide Wayne with this data. We need to point out the need for the access. Data needs to show that substantial parts of the communities don't have access. According to Colleen, the worse served areas are western Kent County. Liz Lewis pointed out that we need to get a better handle on the homework gap in Delaware. Michael League believes at least 50% of his district doesn't have broadband access.

Infrastructure & Leadership –Wayne Hartschuh reported out. Title changed from Infrastructure & Governance to Infrastructure & Leadership. There was much discussion of the difference between governance and leadership. Technical support was also discussed. Since the IT Support FTE table was misleading because of the way data was grouped, it will be deleted. They added information about possibly consolidating technical support. Discussed adding a one page synopsis, but this is what the executive summary section will contain. Comments from full task force included Michael League agreeing that the device table was more important than the FTE table. Wayne said it is more important to see how many devices per technician. Colleen Gause believes that previous conference calls with the sub-committee was helpful.

Copies of the minutes will be posted on the task force webpage: <http://www.doe.k12.de.us/page/2316>.

V. Next Steps

Michael Watson asked Wayne to tell everyone what should be the committee's next steps to get to a reasonable conclusion. Wayne Hartschuh strongly encouraged the task force members read the full document. The Google doc link is available for any last minute recommendations. Submit comments or recommendations between seven and ten days to allow Wayne and Geoff to make any final changes. Wayne believes the sub-committee conference calls were extremely helpful. Wayne will plan one more conference call for the Teaching & Learning sub-committee in the next seven days.

The next task force meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 4:30 pm. We need to make sure everyone will be in attendance, as this will be our final meeting.

VI. Meeting Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Pat Liberato and seconded by Randy Reynolds. Voice vote taken. With a unanimous vote in favor, meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Reed, DCET Administrative Secretary
Task Force Support Staff