Technology Meeting
10/11/05
Focus –Monthly News

- Next meeting is on November 8, 2005
- Blogs are due on the 25[th.]
- Item one: Policy Update
    - A meeting was held in which Linda, Nicole, Debbie, Clint, Karen, Olivia, and Pat examined the proposal for the purpose of determining areas that would slow down or prohibit teachers and administrators from using technology (installing applications, blocking addresses, desktops etc). In addition, the policy was checked to reduce redundancy of words and issues of privacy as they pertain to grades and communication. Currently, the policy has been sent to the solicitor and Dr. Massaro.
- Item two: Blogs and Related Issues
    - PLE addressed concerns associated w/ having time to train teachers
        - After school meetings do not receive high attendance
        - Some time to train during grade level meetings is provided (on occasion)
            - Basically, there's not enough time to meet when teachers require assistance
        - It was understood that 3 hours a week are provided for ITLT learning and training of other staff-a question was raised about needing to meet with teachers two times a month
        - A suggestion - release time of two 40 minute segments per month
        - Pat suggested working on a solutions including enlisting Craig and Joyce, trading time w/other teachers, and asking the principal to support by covering classes
            - Feedback and suggestions from the above are expected before moving on (either at the next meeting or through Yahoo)
        - PLE is working on video conferencing (suggested that someone needs to take pictures to create a PP)-teachers have already been invited to attend, monitor, and become part of the process-spreading the word
            - Craig has created a video conference resource page on the school website
            - Suggestions were made to have video conference items be integrated w/library (ians)
            - Pat recommended that the librarians join the Silk Listserv in order to obtain the latest information related to video conferencing-all schools
    - AGIS has the same time and training issues as PLE
        - ITLTS are working on condensing material on server as well as making it easier for teachers to access
        - Currently working on using and pushing the Dell carts
            - Info explaining how to use the carts is located on school website under teacher resources
            - Craig stated that the middle school utilizes an intranet sign out page...the AGIS ITLTs liked the idea of this type of sign out and immediately

requested that the Dell sign out move in that direction-Craig stated he'd work on getting the idea up and going
- A suggestion - training time be provided for ITLTs to learn to use new software and equipment

o MS has same issues regarding training and time conflicts as PLE & AGIS
- Has a difficult schedule in which to include training and meeting
  - Trainings are conducted after school
- Cyber Cafes related to Integrated Pro have been conducted and more will be directed on interims and grades (as time nears)--the point is to train as the need arises

o HS can only meet after school b/c of schedule conflicts
- Provides training during "in service"
- Will be conducting a Cyber Cafe on DreamWeaver on 10/14/05
- A Linksyx system was placed in Marie's ceiling
- Power strips need to be reordered for carts-wrong ones
- An email related to Integrated Pro was sent to teachers to facilitate issues
  - Problems occur when the first sheet isn't set accurately-later sheets will not function properly
  - Grades that are updated frequently reduce parent calls

o Pat questioned whether or not there's too much stuff (ZPD) out there...so that it becomes a balancing act to get it all together. In turn, she suggested that a method needs to be developed in which information is readily available ("googleable" for all)
- A discussion was held in which the effort vs. time issue was addressed in terms of creating a calendar for teachers to utilize as a means to keep abreast of news as well as sign out items
- Various calendars were discussed...however, it was decided that the calendar in Outlook be utilized since it comes with the email, and it would encourage further use of the software

o Joyce discussed technology mentoring
- PL - spreadsheets and graphs
- AGIS - cross curriculum w/monarchs, news article, flash video, video about students watching the butterflies go free
  - Compass training
  - GPS units being used in classrooms - just the basics in which students mark and find items
- MS - keyboarding, Garage Band,
  - Co-teaching
- HS - Web pages, GPS units
  - Joyce has lesson plans and sites for GPS

o **To Do for Next Meeting**: Clarify the way hours are billed for ITLT (maybe a survey will be sent to help everyone decide)