

## Technology Meeting minutes 1-4-2011

### Members:

Stephen Boettcher	Not Present	
Jon Hauser	Not Present	(Ex officio – Chairperson-Finance committee)
Jim Hessling		(Ex officio – Director of Parish services)
Dan Hubler		Chairperson
Fr. Ken Knippel	Not Present	(Ex officio – Pastor)
Jim Luther		
Mike Post		
Pam Pyzyk		(Ex officio – School principal)
Joanie Rueth		Secretary
Andy Stemper	Not Present	(Ex officio – School technology instructor)
Chris Switalski		
Kathy Uy	Not Present	(Ex officio – Parish website administrator)

### Prayer

Let us ask for God's blessing on this committee, for the vision to see the purpose of God in our work, and for wisdom, strength, and courage to carry it out.

### Approval of Technology Minutes

### Technology Chairperson's Report

#### Website Activities

Nothing new to report today.

Kathy and Andy have found ChurchSites to not be the most user friendly. Teachers seem to be using the features of TeacherWeb even more. Literature blogging is now being done through TeacherWeb in the middle school grades. Also, ChurchSites does not have the same formatting options and audio options. The initial thought was to have more than Kathy doing the web pages. Jim is not seeing the other departments in the parish taking over control of their sites. Jim Luther recommended that we should drop the idea of using ChurchSites for teachers. We should wait to drop the idea until Andy and Kathy share their opinions.

Agenda item for next meeting: Discuss ways to get more people involved in updating the web site so it does not always fall on Kathy.

#### Archdiocesan technology plan

This is documentation that is used for accreditation.

The committee members received a copy and will review it before next meeting. They should look for things that need to be updated. It does not need to be done in February but some progress needs to be made.

#### Concerns with ISP/Upgrades to the Infrastructure

ITEC believes there does seem to be some degradation with the filter. One of the recommended companies would be WebSense where it would be web-filtering software. We can try it for free for 30 days. They can segment the computers to see what it takes to load web pages. This may be a necessary upgrade if we increase bandwidth. WebSense may have appliances that will do the same thing. Jim has been in contact with CDW-G to get licensing information. Andy has contacted TDS (our ISP) and they have filtering software. Jim will follow up with Andy about the TDS.

The other upgrade would be the switches in the main office area. Mike Post looked for gigabit switches. The Cisco 2960 Gigabit switch is about \$600. (Model number G42933).

Andy and Jim discovered there were more than 30 profiles on computers in the lab. Andy and Jim re-ghosted all the computers. They think the number of profiles on each computer may cause performance issues so they are investigating this as a solution.

The additional item would be upgrading the bandwidth, which would also require an updated router. Andy and Jim believe that the update to the switches and the filtering will improve the performance of Destiny in the Library.

Destiny is a web-based program but the data resides on our server. The other application Type to Learn has some performance issues but that is all web based.

Mike was wondering if there were any diagrams for the network. He believes that it is in the plan that was done a couple of years ago. Dan asked Jim to get a copy for everyone.

### **Smartboards**

There have been a couple of issues with some replacement parts.

### **Bids for Kids Computer Project**

We will really need to scope out this project well. Initial quote on a single computer was \$600. Dan has contacted HP Small Business Sales. He would like to have other people look into additional vendor options for purchasing computers. Vendor Shopping: Dan is already in the process of contacting HP; Jim will contact CDW-G; Chris will contact Dell and Best Buy; Mike will contact Compucom. They will use the specs in the previous notes. They should get a price on 32 bit and 64 bit.

The cost of a machine with Windows XP is \$725 and the Windows 7 is under \$500 according to CDW-G.

### **Windows 7/Software Issues**

Jim Hessling stated that our Accounting program (Great Plains) has a problem with Windows 7 and Excel 2010. Windows 7 is growing in the market...about 20% of the market share. Printer and copy drivers needed to be updated to work with computers with 64 bit. The accounting program needs to be updated so it will be compatible with Windows 7. Jim would prefer 32 bit because it would mean less work. If the payback will be there, he is willing to do 64 bit. We need to inventory the applications and find out if it works on 64 bit. We could work on this now without the information about the number of PCs. Jim H will bring the inventory of the software that is in the lab. Most of the software is over 10 yrs. old. Teachers need to be aware that some software may not be compatible with the new software. Pam will take the inventory from Jim and survey the teachers to see if they use the software and how often.

Teachers have heard about the improvements from the Bids for Kids letters.

COWs—teachers would like to increase the number of laptops to 28 since some classes are that large. We currently have 23 in the set.

We need to start a project plan with project tasks. Dan will start the creation of it and bring it to the next meeting.

### **Timeline for Bids for Kids**

#### **Feb 19: Bids for Kids auction**

March

**April: Proxy vote to Home and School members to approve the purchase of computers (2<sup>nd</sup> week in April)**

June 8: Last Day of School

July

August 1<sup>st</sup>: all computers are set up since teachers are back in the building. (38 computers—lab and lmc)

Sept 1: Start of School Year

### **Schedule next meeting**

**February 15 7PM**