

Technology Mission Statement

The technology mission of Good Shepherd Catholic Parish is to inform, engage, and promote life-long learning and faith formation while fostering community among all members of the parish.

Tech Meeting August 17, 2016

Present: Mark Schuler, Brian Lankford, Joe Mayer, Laurie Sammet, Jason Smith, Maria Watson, Vallee Gries, and Kristen Girten

Meeting opened with prayer and the Mission Statement.

The meeting began with a review of summer projects that took place.

- The new server project was completed in June.
- Mark completed a factory reset, re-enrollment into Meraki, and pushed/ installed apps to all student iPads.
- Two new access points were purchased and installed in rooms 112 & 113. Every iPad one-to-one classroom, except the Art room, has its own access point.
- The Meraki program for managing apps was upgraded. This upgrade will allow for more efficiency in pushing apps out to the students and teachers. The cost was \$4,000. This was a line item in the budget under "Projects."

Joe asked about the readiness for student use of the Surface Pro cart and Mobile Lab 1. Now that the iPads are all up and running, Mark will work to get those to ready for checking out.

Discussion occurred on security readiness of the iPads to go home with the students. There is concern with security and the Safari browser. Mark is checking on the security on the web browser and looking into our Barracuda subscription.

Kristen is currently planning the first teacher professional development day on Friday, September 2. There was some discussion of a Google Classroom refresher for the teachers and training on the Digital Citizenship program, Nearpod. Kristen will follow up with teachers for other possible topics of interest.

Teachers shared what the first few days of school were like regarding technology.

- iPads were ready for student use the first day of school.
- Maria shared that the first two periods on the first day of school for Grades 6 & 7 were spent reviewing the iPad Handbook and procedures. The iPads were being used in class 3rd Period. Students have also had homework on iPads. All going well.
- Laurie shared the 5th Graders had their iPad Boot Camp Thursday, August 11.
- Joe shared that the students are loving the learning games that they are playing on the iPads.
- Internet is working great!
- There is some concern about the 5th Grade teacher iPads being outdated for what the student iPads are doing. PTO has agreed to help in funding replacements. Mark will follow up.

- Laurie shared a concern about getting apps for teacher iPads and the freedom to purchase apps. Mark will look into adding the teacher iPads to the Meraki management system.

In an effort to track technology funding and expenses, ideas were discussed for better communication with the Finance Council.

- Mark recommended teachers and students creating videos of the great things going on in the classroom with technology.
- Mark also suggested that the invitation be extended for Council members to visit the classroom to see first-hand the technology in use.
- Brian recommended the creation of pie charts to visually demonstrate where funds are utilized.
- Brian also suggested that Mark attend a Finance Council meeting twice a year to give a brief overview.

There is a need for an iPad Recycle Plan as the current 7th Graders move to 8th Grade and eventually graduate. Mark will be working on a proposal.

There is also a need for a technology vision statement. Discussion will continue at our next meeting where we can share ideas.

The school has an opportunity to have our building re-wired through a Scout Project. The wires are 10 years old and are restricting the ability to increase bandwidth. Jared Martin will soon be completing an Eagle Scout project. He would like to rewire the school for his project. Jason shared that all wire needs to be replaced with CAT 6 cable, except the computer lab. During the project, network cable will be brought to the center of every classroom and to each telephone. This will allow for ease with connectivity with any future technology. If the rewiring is done as Jared's Eagle Scout project, the cost to the school would be \$0.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

The next meeting will be September 14, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.