

Technology Leaders Meeting
Friday, December 5, 2008
10:00 am

Present at Region VI: Barbara Solow, Sandra McLeroy, Susan Mullis, Kip Robins, Robert Wyatt, Jeff Herriman, Kent Bowman, Tracy Gleghorn, John Rice

Present via DL: Dan Arnold, Jesus Lujan, Ann DeBolt, Pan Evans, Kyle Deal, Ginger Jenke, Kirk Spruill, David Fant, John Rice, Lena Kelsey, Jana Lowe, Sandra Bailey, Rob Miller, Kevin Terry, Emily Bowell Holliday, Dennis Kirkland, Ronnie Gonzalez, Carol Woehler, Rhonda Scholwinski, Rosa Ojeda, Selwyn Smith, Brian Furbee, Allen Foster, Chris Carouthers, Thomas Ponders

Barbara Solow introduced herself and did roll call.

Sandra McLeroy-

- There is \$15,000 worth of free databases out there for tech. people. There are all kinds of information out there including professional journals. This can also be done at home by accessing these databases.
- Please log in and use a password when viewing these databases. They are still a subscription they are just paid for by the legislatures.
- Please put this into district web pages put it in libraries. These databases are good tools for students to use.
- Blue Arrow-own stats, county district numbers, customizing
- Green arrow- all different resources available
- Red arrow- password/login
- Call or email Sandra if there are any questions. 936-435-8268, smcleroy@esc6.net

Susan Mullis-

- Asked if there were any NCLB questions.
- North Zulch asked where the assessments went that were submitted on November 30th. Consensus was that they go to TEA but she will find out more specifically and let everyone know. Several people voiced concerns about the assessment and the results. The following links came in and were mailed out after the meeting.
<http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pd0bbrpJzSPdA47LJcDORMg&gid=1>
<http://www.mguhlin.org/2008/12/transparency-in-texas-tech-literacy-for.html>
- STaR Charts: Teachers are required to enter new data annually. It is recommended to have them done at the same time every year. It is best practice to schedule teachers to do theirs before the principal completes the Campus STaR Chart. That way the data is available to use. It was reported that at least one district has been required to submit teacher data before TEA would approve a Technology Plan in the eplan system.
- ePlanning: A request was extended to be a Peer reviewer. Information was sent to the instructional technology mailing list. (If you did not get it and want to be on the Instructional mailing list, email Susan to be added.) The process needs reviewers. TEA bases the system on volunteers provided by each district. Once trained online, sign the completion and the confidentiality forms and submit to Susan Mullis via fax or email (smullis@esc6.net, 936-435-8465).

- Fitness Gram: Districts are required to test kids annually. If you don't see update on Birthdate then it has not been updated. The update will be seamless and should not cause any issues. The next TETN meeting is 1/23/09, 1-3.
- Web Cat: Susan is the contact if you have issues. Training sessions are scheduled monthly at no cost to participating districts. Registration is required.
- Fine Arts Conference: Please consider having your teachers submit to present their uses of technology in the Fine Arts. The Conference is Feb 12 for those not going to TCEA.

Pam Evans (TCEA Update)-

- Annual convention-Accelerate Technology, going to be in Austin and be the largest exhibit ever. Registration is \$145.00 for the full conference before January 9th, after that it will be \$185.00, the charge for exhibit only is \$50.00
- Lego Robotics- if anyone is interested in this please notify Pam. Pam would like to have a Lego Robotics Contest in May or June.
- Please join TCEA if you are not a member.
- There are TCEA trainings and they do go onsite for these trainings.

Barbara Solow (on behalf of Nancy Oliver)-

- Nancy emailed a timeline out for WADA; if you didn't receive the email please contact Nancy Oliver at 936-435-8285 or noliver@esc6.net.
- There have been a lot of good ideas for items to be purchased with WADA funds. A spreadsheet has been started.
- A letter has been sent to all superintendents. If you have not received information on it please let Nancy know and she will get the letter to you.
- Please keep sending in request.

Barbara Solow (on behalf of Lori Aden)-

- Thank you to everyone who helped with National Distance Learning week. There was a great turnout. Over 2,200 students viewed various free videoconferences.
- Lori has an email list that she used specifically for sending out content ideas. During the semester Lori has been adding teachers and curriculum leaders to the list. It would probably be a good idea to go over Distance Learning procedures with your staff and teachers in your district so that they know who to contact when they see a videoconference they want to connect to. Good communication is key to making out DL department successful. If you have not been receiving these emails please contact Lori Aden.
- Texas Distance Learning Association's annual conference is April 6-9, 2009 in Corpus Christie.

Barbara Solow-

- Asked that if anyone has any issues with DL to please let Barbara know.
- Barbara discussed her meeting with Representative Lois Kolkhorst. She stated that she was down to earth, very easy to talk. Rep. Kolkhorst was very interested in Technology and wanted a better perspective of what Technology needed.
- Rep. Kolkhorst wants to know what the tech. allotment should be. If everyone could let Barbara know their thoughts by the first of the week she will report this to Rep. Kolkhorst.

- Dan Arnold mentioned that they received \$27 per child and that that does not cut it for small districts.
- Several people mentioned bringing TFI back.
- Will be hard for everyone to go online if they don't have all the resources to do so.
- One mentioned that what "tech's" want is different than what "educators" want.

Robert Wyatt-

- Sat. December 13th there will be an upgrade to the phone system. Email will come down also. If anyone has issues with this please contact Robert (936-435-8276).
- Public IP Changes- Robert will notify everyone with their new IP and then give the districts a month to get the new IP out. If anyone needs more than a month contact Robert to let him know why.

Bremont is without a Technology person. If anyone is interested please contact Maxie Morgan.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am

Next Meeting January 30, 2009, 10am-12pm

Session ID# 79901