

**Oak Park and River Forest High School
201 N. Scoville Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60302**

**Technology Committee
Tuesday, January 15, 2013
Board Room**

A Technology Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 in the Board Room. Dr. Millard opened the meeting at 8:21 p.m. A roll call included the following members: Terry Finnegan, Valerie J. Fisher, Terry Finnegan, Amy McCormack, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, Sharon Patchak-Layman, and John Phelan. Also present were Dr. Steven T. Isoye, Superintendent; Mike Carioscio, Chief Information Officer; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Amy Hill, Director of Assessment and Research; Nathaniel L. Rouse, Principal (arrived at 8:47 p.m.); Cheryl L. Witham, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board, Karin Sullivan, Community Relations and Communications Director.

Visitors included Visitors included James Paul Hunter, FSEC Chair; Jeff Weissglass, Julie McCarthy, community members.

Data Information Systems

Mr. Carioscio stated that the District is striving towards a more data-based, decision-making process. The current student information system is transaction-based and has complex reporting capabilities which are not suited to a self-service model, a model which would allow more time to be spent on analytics. Tools for doing such are being evaluated. In three to five years, enhanced data reporting tools will become more prevalent and more cost-effective. Self-service will become the norm rather than the exception.

Professional development of users will increase dramatically in a self-service model. The District will work on its procedures for gathering data, keeping in mind what data to capture, cleanse the data to insure its integrity, and evaluate and augment our tool set to improve our ability to produce actionable reports.

Providing a self-service option would not limit personal contact between the families and the school. The District is attempting to eliminate or streamline non-value-added tasks. The state receives batch files of student and employee information.

The existing technology for databases is student information system database (Progress), Comma Separated Values (CSV) files, multiple excel spreadsheets, and multiple access databases. The reporting tools are student information systems, Skyward, Naviance a career/college tracking system, and SPSS, and statistical analysis tool.

The plans for technology include retaining existing databases and purchasing more sophisticated database capabilities, using business intelligence tools for data warehousing/data marts and to support data-based decision-making, and integrating multiple data sources such as data mapping (what and where information should be stored and software for more sophisticated data analysis).

The District will choose a tool to take present data and map it to a business intelligence system. The status of project will be determined by the vendors. The plan is to send out an RFQ in February, choose a vendor and finalize the implementation plan in April with Board of Education approval in April. The implementation would begin in July. That process will take five to six months to complete. The self-service will allow families the ability to provide their own demographic information on line rather than submitting paper forms to the District and the District then enters the information.

Mr. Carioscio said that allowing the community to drill down on the School Improvement Plan or the District Improvement Plan with the purchase of new tools might overload the system. However, it will support administrators the opportunity to look at different things. Mr. Finnegan added that the community has a great interest in academics and he would like to see if that information could be provided. Skyward keeps track of all students with downloads weekly and when state has additional requirement, updates occur.

Mr. Carioscio stated that this form of purchase was more economical than buying a basic program and hiring a programmer. The District is buying packages and paying for the expertise to train staff on how to integrate the databases with these tools. It is similar to consultant work. The program will sit above all other systems, i.e., Plastco, test scores, etc. Its purpose is to relate the data to each other. The administration is visiting other sites to see what other districts are doing, attending webinars, etc.

Adjournment

At 8:40 p.m., Dr. Millard adjourned the meeting.

Amy McCormack
Secretary

Gail Kalmerton
Clerk of the Board