

Texas K-12 CTO Conference Call
Sept. 18, 2008
Minutes

In Attendance

Alice Owen, Liz Wysocki, Patricia Viramontes, Kyle Davie, Dianne Borreson, John Selgren, Allen McDaniel, Randy Wilbanks, John Alawneh, Ed Zaiontz

We are wishing our colleagues in South Texas a speedy recovery after hurricane Ike. Several districts are still cleaning up and are still without power to some of their schools.

Treasurer's Report (Gray)

COSN is finishing up their audit and should get report out by next week. Mary will provide a report for the past year. Sponsors for meeting - COGNOS \$5000, Follett (Tetradata) \$5000, Paranet \$2000. This covers all of our expenses for the meeting. A few people still owe for the meeting. Gray is getting a new membership list to make sure who are current members.

COSN Update (Ed)

- Strategic Planning Process – Board goes to 2-day retreat in October to make plans for the organization; please provide some input to COSN
- COSN Conference coming to Austin March 11-12; site visits are planned to school districts' high tech high schools
- Luke Fox was appointed to COSN Board; will be on the ballot for the Board this spring
- 9 board seats are up for election; if interested, send Ed your information
- ISTE / COSN are hosting a joint policy meeting – Jon Bernstein is leading on Dec. 15; please provide input for advocacy direction
- CTO Clinic to be held in Georgia next week
- Florida has joined as a state for the next state chapter
- Legislative session at COSN Conference March 12, 2009 morning of the second day – we will invite legislators to come to our breakfast meeting – get the same legislators and maybe a few more to continue our conversation about school funding for technology

Topics for Future Clinics:

- Second Life – Peggy Sheehy; via distance learning
- Online training and courses
- Texas Virtual School
- Email retention – case studies
- Best practices – Frankie and Mardee
- Inventory Control – how tracked, monitored, checked in summer time

Old Business

- Awards committee – you should begin nominating people for these awards; use the COSN website to submit the application - <http://www.cosn.org/about/awards/index.cfm>
 - Texas Team Award – school district
 - Grace Hopper Award – individual
 - Friend of Education – local legislature
- Spring Meeting before TCEA – Feb. 3, Hilton Hotel; what topics would you like discussed:
 - Anita Givens update – funding, new initiatives
 - Tools that districts are using to help manage services

New Business:

- CTO Website – need to transfer to a hosting service; School Wires has offered to host our site free for three years; group was in agreement to pursue this

- Podcasting or recording of CTO / COSN meetings – what should be our policy? We should get written permission from presenter to record, publish or podcast session; we will copy whatever statement COSN creates
- COSN Survey for Strategic planning:
- How can CoSN add more value to state chapters in the near future (3-5 years)
 - *More webinars to the state group from the Washington office e- (COSN already provides some for general purposes; Oct 15 will be first one this year; Nov. 19)*
 - *Help chapters with organizational papers – 501c3*
- What new activities or priorities would the group recommend that CoSN undertake over the next 3-5 years to have a major impact on our field?
 - *Provide online K-8 assessments and teacher assessments for benchmarking*
 - *Advocacy for technology in education*
 - *A few less unfunded mandates; Online testing is a huge issue – need more funding to cover costs or reduce costs*

Next Face to Face Meetings:

- Oct. 2 – Hilton Austin Airport – Del Valle Room (reception night before starting at 7:00pm)
- Feb. 3 – before TCEA Convention

Next Conference Calls

Phone: 800-416-8128
Passcode: 239743#

Thurs., Nov. 6	1:00 Central time	
Thurs., Jan. 8	1:00 Central time	(I need to change this to Jan 15)
Fri., March 27	1:00 Central time	
Tues., May 5	1:00 Central time	(I need to change this to May 6)

Respectfully Submitted,
Alice Owen, Chair

Emailed later:

- 1) Internet filtering
 - how tight are your filters
 - what do you use to filter, software, hardware appliances, etc.
 - are staff and students getting to what they need
 - do you get a lot of complaints
 - do you filter much at all
 - are students/staff finding ways to get around your filters
- 2) Wireless devices and security
 - how secure is your wireless network
 - do outsiders get access
 - do students bring their own devices and access or try to access, i. e. iPhones, etc.
 - what is the picture 2 to 5 years out with wireless, will polices change or be tighter