

# TECHNOLOGY P.I.E. MEETING

[Problems, Issues, & Events]

April 16, 2025

## Present

*Ryan Alruwaily*  
*Timothy Brooks*  
*Victoria Brooks*  
*Brett Brown*  
*John Conner*  
*Bob Cundiff*  
*Cami Draper*  
*Samuel Harmless*  
*John Hart*  
*Annette Hummel*  
*Bradley Kile*  
*Ken Koerber*  
*Gail Lewis*  
*Padraic Lowery*  
*Mark Lyman*  
*Tamara Medina*  
*William Niles*  
*Christina Orr*  
*Michael Orr*  
*Karen Petersen*  
*Brian Pollitt*  
*Alan Rivers*  
*Jarren Saucedo*  
*Caleb Seripinas*  
*Christine Sloger Lowery*  
*Mandy Stimac*  
*Cynthia Stanford*  
*Cheryl Swafford*  
*Justin Thorlton*  
*Michelle Troxel*  
*Megan Tucker*  
*Todd Turner*  
*Andrea VanLeer*  
*Kristi Wagle*

### Summer Refresh 2025 Update

Our Summer Refresh proposal went to the Board of Education a little late due to dealing with new tariffs. We were going to switch PreK & KG from the chromebook tablet to the iPad, but the decision was made to hold off since other changes are taking place soon. A couple of the PreK/KG teachers are testing iPads to see how the young students do with them. A committee is reviewing what device seems best for the PreK, KG, Gr 1 & 2 students.

### Year End Procedures

Karen Petersen sent out the End of Year Procedures for the committee to review with their building administration. Please look it over and let her know of any suggestions or changes you would like her to make. We will be sending this out District Wide soon. North Ridge students use clear backpacks, but not all students carry their chromebook in the backpack. We need a building decision as to whether they want the students to use the clear backpack for their chromebook, or if they want cases ordered.

Melinda McBride sent out an End of Year Bulletin that includes dates the students are required to return their chromebook for check-in. This information is on the last page of the bulletin, item #21.

Andrea VanLeer stated that DHS students use their chromebooks for final exams, and those are scheduled for the last three days of school. Andrea commented that she would check on this.

### Issue with Writing Tool on Smart Board

There seems to be an issue with the writing tool on the Smart Boards. Gail Lewis mentioned this before and Andrea had some possible solutions. Annette believes the smart board may have had an update that made changes to the writing tool.

Caleb Seripinas commented that Smart did update their last version, and it seems they may have done away with the writing tool. We may need to contact the company we purchased the smart boards from and ask about this issue.

Cheryl Swafford reported that some Liberty teachers thought the issue was fixed because it was working, but now it is not. She commented that normally she toggles between the slide and her document camera now.

Ken Koerber commented that it seems that when they run their updates the writing tool will work for a while, then it might quit so you have to run more updates.

Gail Lewis said if the program has the option of having the writing tool, it will work, but if she pulls up something that does not have the tool, for example, math slides don't have the writing option, then it will not be available. When she was researching this, she came across the extension annotate.com, a free google extension that put an overlay on the board, and the blogs she was reading showed that others were using this too. This requires the teacher to have a free account with TeacherCreate.

### Skyward Training for Teachers

Christy Orr & Bradly Kile are working together to prepare for Skyward training with teachers. They are working with teachers to determine what they need help with. If you

have recommendations, please send an email to Christy Orr and Bradley Kile. They are hoping to provide the teacher training at the beginning of the 25/26 school year.

### **Assessment Testing Recap**

Christy Orr worked with IAR Testing Engineers to get suggestions on what would help teachers with the problem they had selecting 'Complete the test session'. She was told that the company will shut down all 'open tests' at the end of testing time. Christy asked them to continue looking in to fixing the issue so there is no anxiety about whether the student finished, since the ability to shut it down on their own was not available.

IAR testing is over, and ISA testing ends next week.

Andrea said, as far as she knows, the ACT testing at DHS seemed to go well.

### **Building Needs & Concerns**

Andrea VanLeer said they had an issue with the finisher on one of their printers. Staff could not select to staple the documents sent to the printer. The high school Building Techs, Ryan & Todd, commented that there's an old stuck driver and when they reinstall the printer it is not using the new driver for some reason. They are waiting for an answer from Watts on this issue.

Cheryl Swafford commented that Liberty teacher computers are still getting updates and restarting multiple times a day. The issue seemed to go away but now it has started happening again. She wondered if there is an update that is stuck since this is happening again. Mike Orr stated he would have to look at the machine to determine if there is a problem or if updates were just slow or backed up. Updates used to all be done at night, but now, the machine has to be on to get updates. If you have a computer that seems to keep restarting, contact your Building Tech and they can look at the backlogs to try to determine what is happening. We are pushing out new security software to hopefully prevent ransomware & other malicious software attacks. Gail Lewis said her computer is coming up with a 'DMA protection' message. Mike commented that staff should let their Building Tech know if you see this message, they will know how to resolve it.

Gail Lewis asked about getting 1 or 2 extra computers for classrooms to check out when students don't bring their computer back from remote days. Annette replied that she understands the issue, but with device prices increasing, it's hard to budget for this. We know some students are forgetting to bring their device to school, but we are also dealing with a lot of student damage to the chromebooks, then having trouble getting the parts needed to repair or replace them. There are multiple problems that contribute to finding the right solution for this. Cheryl Swafford asked if it might be best to keep the chromebooks in the classroom. She realizes this creates another issue with homework. Mandy Stimac commented that teachers are just looking for solutions. If a student doesn't have the chromebook with them at school, it interrupts the educational learning process. Annette commented that it wouldn't benefit the students to have to keep their chromebook at school all the time. She is going to bring this topic up with the leadership team to see how to meet a common ground for everyone.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 am

Upcoming virtual meetings: [In-Person meeting May 7th](#)