

**LAMOILLE NORTH MODIFIED UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING  
JULY 24, 2017**

Brian Pena distributed a tentative IT Five Year Plan to the Committee members to review. He explained that staffing and technology were the major areas being addressed in the plan. The numbers reflected in the document for equipment and staffing were based on today's dollars and did not include inflation or cost of living increases.

Pena informed the Board that his idea was to move away from using projectors in the classrooms. Projectors had become expensive to purchase and maintain. The plan was to move toward interactive touch panels. This combined monitors, white boards, a presentation system, and an iPad display platform. There would be a five-year warranty and he believed money would be better spent going that route. Miller asked if he planned to phase out the smart boards and projectors. Pena said he wouldn't phase them out, but as the current equipment began to fail it would be replaced with the new equipment.

Pena explained that the white boards he would purchase were from InFocus. They were 65-inches and had an anti-glare screen and the educational price was \$2,000. The non-education price for this piece of equipment was \$4,500. Better pricing could result from bulk ordering. Clark asked what the cost would be if they had to replace only the smart board. Pena said it was approximately \$1,000. Barry noted that the life expectancy of a smart board was quite long and she wondered if there was the potential for a much shorter life cycle for the interactive touch panels. She was concerned there was only a five-year warranty. Miller asked if there was a replacement schedule for the equipment. Pena said there wasn't a life cycle schedule.

Clark suggested reviewing the plan and sending Pena feedback and questions. Committee members expressed appreciation to Pena for the document.

Pena then explained that there hadn't been an increase in technology staffing at the high school, despite more devices and users being added. The ability to respond quickly was harder to accomplish. Clark asked if the sophistication of technology was difficult to keep up with, with the current staffing level. Pena replied that there was not enough time to provide training. His proposal addressed this issue. Currently there was one FTE to provide tech integration at the high school. There was a .2 position at Cambridge. If the Board agreed to implement this plan and increase the use of technology, there needed to be teacher training put in place. Committee members agreed with this.

Pena said that IT was being asked to provide training now, but that technically wasn't their job. Barry stated that a certified technology integration position needed to be established. She thought it was imperative that this individual be trained as a classroom teacher and certified in tech integration. She also noted that splitting someone between four schools was not the answer. Pena said his plan was to bring in four additional staff members over the next

five years. Committee members agreed individuals should be hired soon as it wasn't worth putting more money into the system until teachers knew how to integrate the material.

Pena noted that inventory control was also an issue. There wasn't a record of where the equipment was. This made it difficult to determine the life cycle and develop replacement timelines. A Committee member recommended having students at the GMTCC take this project on. Pena said he was working on developing a Student IT Support Initiative in conjunction with GMTCC. He envisioned developing this as a coop program and bring students on to work with the IT staff.

The Committee recommended that the report be distributed to all Board members.