

Goal: Provide broadened curricular offerings to Warren County School District students seeking curricular experiences not offered within their physical school building.

Status

☐ Commit to Begin Project

Action Plan: Implement four IP based distance learning rooms in high schools.

RECOMMENDED MOTION (11/03): That the Board of School Directors approves the development of a \$2 million bond issue to be closed in January 2004, in support of the completion of the ACCESS PLUS project as outlined in scenario Plan C as presented.

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Order distance learning equipment | Frank Galeazzo | No later than July 1, 2006 |
| Schedule installation of equipment | Frank Galeazzo | No later than July 1, 2006 |
| Identify courses to be taught via distance learning for 06-07 | Instructional Management Team | May be as late as start of school |
| Schedule teacher training | Amy Stewart | August 2006 |
| Monitor readiness of WestPA.net | Amy Stewart / Frank Galeazzo | On-Going |

Budget

| | | |
|---|-----------|----------------------|
| A. Order distance learning equipment | \$198,900 | Status - Not ordered |
| B. Schedule installation of the equipment | \$55,000 | Status – Not ordered |
| D. Schedule teacher training | \$1,000 | Status – Not ordered |
| F. Maintenance and Support | \$19,060 | Status – Not ordered |
| Total for 4 rooms | \$273,960 | |

Answers to Questions at Committee / Board

- When will we hear about the RUS grant? Hopefully September. It depends on the number of applications, so more than likely October.
- Who is certified to supervise the receiving end of distance learning? Mark is researching the answer for 06-07.
- Is there money available to fund this project? Yes. In the Technology Bond and Capital if the Board wants to designate it for this purpose.
- What courses would we deliver via distance learning for the start of 06-07? If asked to make my best prediction, I would go with history and say foreign language. We have delivered foreign language via our old distance learning equipment for the past four years due to a lack of the ability to hire the appropriately certified staff. The teacher recruiting season is in full swing and we will not feel the full effects of who we are able to keep and recruit until later in the summer.

Answers to Questions at Committee / Board

How will this be used in 06-07?

To enhance classroom instruction through the integration of technology by providing opportunities to utilize IP-based audio/video distance learning rooms as part of regular instruction.

- Examples: Teachers will use distance learning solutions to schedule virtual field trips, have a discussion with an author, meet an astronaut, visit a museum, etc. .
- Examples: Teachers will use the distance learning solutions to share resources and experiences within the WCSD – yearbook committees from all 4 high schools could meet and share ideas, a guest speaker for one history class could be heard at the 3 other high schools, academic teams could practice against one another without travel, model lessons could be shared across buildings, endless possibilities....

How will this benefit students?

- Students will be exposed to a variety of new experiences and see distance learning as an optional means of course offerings for 07-08.

Answers to Questions at Committee / Board

How will this be used in 07-08?

To provide increased distance learning opportunities to Warren County School District students by utilizing IP-based audio/video distance learning rooms.

- The overall number of courses offered in WCSD schools will increase as the district uses distance learning equipment to avoid canceling a course due to enrollment under 10
- The district will enter into relationships with other school districts and education entities to provide courses to the students of Warren County via distance learning

How will this benefit students?

- Students will have more choices for courses within their home building

Answers to Questions at Committee / Board

How will this be used in 07-08 continued...

To enhance professional development of Warren County School District staff, as well as members of the community, by maximizing utilization of district distance learning facilities.

- The district will provide time for district staff to pursue professional development opportunities via distance learning equipment.
- The district will realize a savings on mileage and substitute time spent to send staff to training in other locations, which will be passed on as savings to district taxpayers.
- Community businesses and agencies can access training and professional development opportunities.

How will this benefit students?

- Better classroom instruction
- More time with regular teacher / less time with substitute teacher