Board Report

February 2021

Jim Seward, District Technology Coordinator

Erate Funding

The 2021 federal Erate filing window is now open and will remain open through February. This is the time for school districts to submit funding requests for the 21-22 school year. I will be working to secure funding for the internet service on the fiber that runs from the high school to the Ben Flora gymnasium. I am also researching improved wireless access services in our buildings.

TV/Interactive Displays

All TV's have been installed at BMHS. We were able to install 17 TV's. Great feedback from students and staff on the new technology. We are expecting our Interactive Display, demo unit, next week. We are planning to test at GES and if all goes well, we will be ordering the remaining devices for teachers.

Security Camera

I am working with Dr. Smith to take all of our security cameras from analog to a digital camera system. We are working to wrap this project up at the end of this school year. We have purchased a new host server. We will be purchasing software and replacement cameras shortly.

Telephone Systems

With new regulations in place at a Federal level, there are some requirements that need to be met. Kari's law requires facilities to allow systems to dial 911 without any additional numbers needed to be dialed. We are in compliance with this law.

The other requirement is Baum Act. This requires a precise location of where a 911 call was placed (room level). Our current system does not have this capability. This will be a big part of the phone system upgrades that I am researching.

Virtual Learning

The Technology Department continues to support our students/families and staff during this time. We continue to see an uptick in accidental student damage to devices. We continue to replace devices to keep students working. Devices are being repaired, as parts are available. There is a long backorder list for replacement parts.