

Dan Bentson, Technology Director
Board Report - Technology
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Looking Back

Maintaining Stock

At Mark's suggestion, we have been aggressively culling our stock of older systems which were either donated or removed from service. We scavenge the systems for usable parts and then mark the items ready for surplus. Once that process is completed, we move them to a new storage area created by Rob Williamson where items are either issued to a recycling program or sold if the device has any remaining value.

What's Current

Start of the Year

The beginning of the academic year is a time when the tech department lays down all of its side projects and maintains a focus on getting systems up and running for new staff as well as staff that have relocated to new rooms or made other changes. This time of year is extremely busy as the myriad of issues that arise with these changes are addressed. In the past, this "start up" time has run easily into November or December. Over time, the stabilizing work that we do in preparation for the new school year allows the tech department to complete this process sooner each year.

Looking Forward

Network Infrastructure

Mark and I have developed a plan to increase our network's capacity and efficiency. To that end, we purchased a new core switch to serve as the foundation for the next generation of networking gear that we will need. This new switch arrived late enough in the summer that its configuration has not yet been completed. Once the new switch is in place, we will be adding an additional five core systems over the next few years. The "edge" systems (items that are not in the central core of our networking) are considerably less expensive and will be upgraded on a similar time frame.