

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative

March 6, 2018

From the Director's Desk

Almost one year (March 25) in our new location and only three small glitches from the remodel. All in all, we are very pleased with the building. Space for staff is greatly improved and our training and board rooms are wonderful.

We have experienced a few district staff traveling to the old location. In our training notices, we are reminding attendees.

Network Services

Internet Access. At a recent meeting with OARnet they informed us they are seeing a 15 to 20% increase in Internet usage over the last two years for K-12. That is slightly down from the 25% average increase for the two years prior. Regardless, at that rate (which will probably stabilize at 15%), we are looking at doubling our required Internet Access every 5 to 6 years. To meet and prepare for this demand we are investing in required Network hardware/software here at NOACSC and purchasing adequate Internet Access.

Content Filtering. Kevin and his team have been doing a tremendous amount of research and discussion. The general consensus is to keep iBoss for one more year as-is. This will allow Kevin and his team more time to adequately develop a solution that will meet the needs of the districts and provide a cost effective solution for at least three years.

3CX Phone service. Several districts have expressed interest in our managed phone service for next school year. If you are one of those interested, please let us know your commitment at your earliest convenience for our planning purposes.

Student & EMIS Services

Many of you may be aware that Bowling Green City Schools has committed to Powerschool Student Information software to replace ProgressBook (DASL). We are excited to work with Bowling Green on this conversion. Their go-live is June, 2018.

The Student Services team has been conducting many trainings related to HB 410 – Attendance Reports. Please don't hesitate to contact any of them for follow-up or individual Open lab time.



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Much of their upcoming time will be spent supporting next year Scheduling, Roster Verification uploads, Grad Points training, and the usual year-end items.

Carolyn Winhover is almost engaged with EMIS but much of her time is still spent training her Fiscal replacement.

Sheila Rowe has been holding the fort for EMIS services and is looking forward to Carolyn becoming 100% in the near future.

Sheila has conducted several EMIS Alliance trainings, please be sure and check emails and/or our web site for upcoming trainings.

Sheila tells me that there are approximately 14 open collections at this time. The beat goes on.

Fiscal Services

Amy Rau-Lawhorn started with us in January. Amy is catching on quickly. Of course, as with anyone hired without State Software experience, she has a learning curve that includes 80's style software, function keys, and command line.

State Software Redesign. We have been keeping the Treasurers up-to-date with separate emails, so I'll keep this short. NOACSC would like to go-live with the Redesign with our second payroll in March. Elida is next up with a planned go-live in April.

Sherry Shaffer will be supplementing for the next six months two or three days per week depending on Redesign and staff leaves.

As always, thank you for your continued support of NOACSC.

Let's hope for an early spring.

Ray