MSBO Technology Committee Meeting

March 12, 2026

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm – Zoom

Chair: Kevin Hustek, Warren Woods Public Schools

Co-chair: Rick Webb, Kenowa Hills Public Schools

1. **Welcome & Introductions** – 54 people in attendance.

2. **Approved minutes from January 8, 2026** – Kim Estes motioned to accept the minutes; Mike Suitor - 2nd. M/C

3. **MiCloud – Michael Coats**

   - MiCloud will have a booth at the MSBO conference, sharing it with MiSecure and MiSEN, so hope to see you there!

   - Adoption has been very strong. We are over 340k students served as of March 1st and we've got a variety of projects in the queue for districts.

   - We're starting to do more migration projects, especially as server hardware prices have started big jumps (and doesn't appear to be slowing down any time soon), and DR plans are more accessible due to the cloud.

   - For migrations, we originally cover 100% of the infrastructure and hosting costs for the first year, 75% the second year, and 50% for the third year, but to encourage more adoption on the migration side, on Wednesday the MiCloud advisory approved extending the 100% coverage to the second year as well. Depending on our fund burn-down, we may extend the same 100% coverage into year 3 (FY 27-28). We will review the forecasts and have that determined by Dec 31st of this year, so we are well ahead of budget season for FY27-28.

   - This is timely because server hardware is going up very fast!

   - Starting July 1st, we will be adding Google Workspace and M365 backups to our eligible services list. We would provide CubeBackup licensing for districts who participate as well as help getting it set up... and cover 100% of the storage costs as well. This would be covered at 100% through June 30, 2028, like traditional virtual server backups we've been doing.

4. **REMC SAVE – Michael Richardson and Erik Drake**

- Computer contract - April 1- March 31, 2027

- New contract will include products from:

    i. Dell from PDT

    ii. Lenovo with Bluum, CDW, and Trafera resellers (vs just CDW in the recent past)

    iii. HP with Sehi and InaComp resellers

    iv. Acer from Xerox (new to SAVE and Vivacity (new on this contract)

    v. Catalog discounts from all by Xerox

    vi. ASUS chromebox from Sehi

- Summer Device Purchasing Promotional Pricing only offered by Lenovo this year. All other pricing will be consistent for the entire year.

- See the computer planning worksheet for details before the contract launches April 1. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DrMnCTRuFdgsn-ZfcyKcBKKeIbu-hE-CPKsl6QQ_Szk/edit?usp=sharing.

- Due to supply chain constraints, the new contract pricing includes significant increases on all devices, by 40-60% or more. Schools may want to purchase devices prior to the end of the current contract (March 31).

- Paper contract - April 1-Sept 30 - Awarded vendors include:

    i. CMP, longtime incumbent vendor

    ii. Liberty is back after a short hiatus

    iii. Veritive is back after a long hiatus, with only truckloads of NORPAC Natural Choice paper.

    iv. Staples contract will end March 31

    v. NORPAC Natural Choice paper is manufactured in a more environmentally friendly way than conventional methods. Because of the manufacturing process, the paper changes from bright white to a cream color over time. Customers new to the product are encouraged to test it over time to determine if the color change is acceptable. Individual cases may be available through Central Michigan Paper's catalog discount.

- For the first time ever, next year Michigan will have a statewide e-rate 470 for Category 2 services that districts statewide can use, without having to do their own 470. MiSEN will be filing 470 on everyone's behalf,

leveraging the expertise of E-rate Central and their nationwide experience. You will still need to do your own 471, but this could potentially save considerable time and effort.

- REMC will be exhibiting at both the MSBO and MACUL confs. Come see us!

2. **METL Operations Center – Eric Feldhousen, MAISA**

- CrowdStrike Identity, Software-as-a-Service security, and Privileged Accounts modules purchase at the end of January 2026

    i. Identity protection gives ISD's and Districts the ability to monitor and secure user accounts within their Windows Active Directory and Google Workspaces.

    ii. Falcon Shield is a Software-as-a-Service monitoring and configuration review and recommendation feature. It has features to review Google Workspace and O365 usage and configuration and recommend security improvements.

        1. 180+ SaaS services available to be monitored

    iii. Privileged Access is a module to give a user additional access for "administration" type requests for a limited time.

- CrowdStrike Identity [Training Session #1, 2/13/26](#)
- CrowdStrike Identity [Training Session #2, 2/27/26](#)
- February statistics

    i. [February statistics](#)

    ii. [February status update](#)

    iii. Approximately 44,000 devices

        1. 6,100 servers

        2. 37,900 ISD and District workstations

        3. 8 - MiSecure team responses for incidents in last 120 days

Cybersecurity Task Force Committee (CSTF) Update:

- MiSecure CSTF has been updating the CyberSecurity Quick Self-Audit, which is a tool to help school districts and organizations start and guide their cybersecurity efforts. We've recently learned of other organizations, like the Michigan State Police MC3 (Cybersecurity) group and CISA staff using the Quick Self-Audit to start with smaller organizations in the state.

    https://misecure.org/selfaudit

3. E-Rate - Joseph Polasek, MDE

- For those districts participating in the E-Rate Enhancement Matching Grant Program:

    i. If your project is complete, please get with me so I may receive the documentation I need to pay out your grant award.

    ii. If your project needs an extension, you will need to file for one before the close of the FY in which the funding was awarded.

    iii. If you aren't sure how to do that (Form 500 to change the delivery date/contract end date), feel free to contact me for help!

- For Funding Year 2025 (current E-Rate year):

    i. Approvals have been brutally slow, but only 41 FRNs remain undecided

    ii. Two are currently Wave Ready, so we'll see what Friday brings

- For Funding Year 2026 (currently in the Form 471 Application Window):

    i. Form 471 Window Closes April 1st (no foolin')

    ii. 14-Day Grace Period follows the closure of the window

    iii. Applications filed within those 14 days with an accompanying waiver, completed and submitted to the FCC, will be reviewed.

    iv. Waiver of FCC Application Deadline will be made available upon request

- Applicant UEIs (through SAM.gov) will be required for invoicing as of August 2026 - SAM.gov "Help" Doc

    i. Don't forget to choose your invoicing mode on Form 471!

    ii. If you do NOT choose an invoicing method, BEAR invoicing will be the default.

- MiSEN Form 470 for "everything" *(only certain things this year)
    i. Bids received, have we chosen awardees?
    ii. For FY 26, it can be used for last-minute needs (471 cites it)

- FY 2027 MiSEN/REMC Form 470 for "everything" *(found in survey)
    i. Survey link shared by REMC (Mike) and Joe

- FYI- Every vendor in the E-Rate program must allow the option of SPI billing, whether they'll admit it or not.

i. <u>IF YOU RECEIVE A DENIAL</u> of your C2 Form 471 for equipment/software because the Form 470 "did not support the Form 471" (applicant did not choose the correct dropdown on the Form 470)...

- The FY 2026 Eligible Services List has language prohibiting denial on these grounds

- Consistent with the current treatment of internal connections software, we will permit applicants to seek support for all software- and other remote-based services associated with equipment on their FCC Form 471 applications if they either sought bids for both equipment and software, or they sought bids only for equipment on the FCC Form 470, but the bid response includes both the equipment and software- or remote-based services. **We further clarify that applicants seeking support for software or remote-based services as internal connections in funding year 2026 for services that were competitively bid as BMIC services are not violating the competitive bidding rules for this funding year**. We also direct USAC to apply this decision to new funding year 2026 funding requests and pending appeals after the effective date of this Order.

- Footnotes:

    i. 35 *See infra*, Appendix B at 11 (describing eligibility and competitive bidding guidance for eligible internal broadband services in note (4)).

    ii. 36 *See, e.g., Request for Review of a Decision of the Universal Service Administrator by Albert Lea Schools et al.; Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism*, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, 24 FCC Rcd 4533, 4541-

4. METL Operations Center – Eric Feldhusen, MiSecure.org and Task Force

- MiSecure.org - 517-550-5667

- MiSecure Operations Team

    - Matt McMahon
    - Mike Schonert
    - Zach Taylor
    - Eric Feldhusen
    https://www.misecure.org/
    misecure@gomaisa.org

- MiSecure Project Update

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1B_2_vEa35tfSCcPlhgVaG3X1mNVvZK-8Oy6y4FO8cto/edit?tab=t.0

5. **Testing – John Price – MDE/OEAA**

   - Presentation - MSBO State Testing Updates - March.pdf

Next meeting is April 9, 2026, at 1 pm.

Rick Webb motions to adjourn at 2:06 pm. Seconded by Noah Kent. M/C

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Kopkau, MSBO