

# MSBO Technology Committee Meeting

April 15, 2021

1:00 – 2:00 pm

**Chair: Rick Webb, Fremont Public Schools**

**Co-chair: Fred Sharpsteen, Mecosta-Osceola ISD**

## 1. Welcome & Introductions

Members present:

Attendees: Rick Webb, Fremont Public Schools, Jim Rarus, Wayne RESA, Susan Case, Forest Hills Public Schools, Pietro Semifero, MDE, Erik Drake, REMC \$ave, Christian Palasty, East Lansing Public Schools, Jackie Laymac, Carrollton Public Schools, Jay Bosworth, Pinconning Area Schools, Jeff Bennett, Charlotte Public Schools, Donny Milovski, Rochester Public Schools, Fred Sharpsteen, Mecosta-Osceola ISD, Jeff Smucker, Hudsonville Public Schools, Joe Polasek, MDE, Jon Harpst Jr., Ingham ISD, Kali Stevens, East Lansing Public Schools, Leslie, Nancy Couto, Armada Area Schools, Mark Deschaine, Grand Ledge Public Schools, Nate Moore, Grand Ledge Public Schools, Patty Nollet, University Preparatory Art & Design, Steven Miles, South Haven Public Schools, Steven Mezzadri, Nancy Corner, REMC \$Save, Brad Hess, Jackson County ISD, Peter Klein, Clinton County RESA, and Debbie Kopkau, MSBO.

## 2. Approved minutes from March 11, 2021. Couto makes motion to approve. Seconded by Case. M/C.

## 3. Nominations for chair – Case nominated Webb and Couto seconded. Couto closes nominations. M/C. Webb will serve another year.

## 4. Erik Drake – REMCSave.org

- Device purchasing bids opened successfully yesterday. \$2 million worth of orders as or today. The supply chain is worse than last year. Really deteriorated in the last couple of weeks. All the major manufactures have increased their pricing up by 15% but REMC has been held harmless in this increase.
- Delivery has been delayed by 16 weeks. Unfortunately, this is going to continue. Please order as soon as possible. REMC is keeping up to date on these timelines and will continue let you know as the timelines change. This has to do with the major manufacturers of mining and getting the materials. Keep in contact with your resellers for updates too.
- There are some issues with last year's contracts and delivery of the 14-inch chromebooks were affected.
- No personal purchases will not be available since it will take away from purchasing for schools.
- Software bids – Microsoft and content filtering. We ran it one month earlier to help with the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for most. The vendors did not want to release the pricing until the contracts were signed. Check the remcsave.org for updates on the pricing.
- If you want to get together with Wayne RESA, Jim Rarus, they can bring the numbers together to help with pricing.

## 5. Pietro Semifero – Testing – Michigan Department of Education

- Testing has started
- Students for in person learning need to take the test. The virtual learner is not required to test
- Still waiting to see if the State of Michigan will give guidelines on who is required to take test
- Need to read by Grade 3 accountability is in affect by using MStep
- Testing has a few hiccups as trying to get them fixed in past years and now needing to re-fix depending on where those devices have been
- We have had a good start, but some districts have many students virtual so just a more even start and not all at once
- DRC Customer Service - [misupport@datarecognitioncorp.com](mailto:misupport@datarecognitioncorp.com)

## 6. Polasek – E-rate - [polasekj3@michigan.gov](mailto:polasekj3@michigan.gov)

- Final Numbers: 2279 FRNs seeking \$64,134,533.92 (one day to go)
  - Consortium: 301
  - School/School District: 1654
  - Library/Library System: 324
- **Please make sure of the following...**
  - **E-Rate dates are on your calendars**
  - **E-Rate status checks are part of your regular technology discussions**
  - **School Board meeting items are scheduled far in advance**
  - **Ensure that a delivery date is set so your district is less likely to scramble for approval late in the process**
- Reminders:
  - Gift Rule waiver through end of FY 2020 (6/30/21)
  - FCC Order on automatic extensions for FRNs receiving an RFCDL
  - Don't use banned providers (expanded list)
    - <https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain/coveredlist>
- American Rescue Plan Act
  - \$7.1 billion and change for E-Rate
    - SECA advocated for...
      - Funding caps by district with addition per pupil funding for rural classifications
      - \$300 cap on devices
      - Waive competitive bidding requirement and lean on state/local procurement laws
        - AT&T disagrees with that stance (SHOCKED)
      - Allow for assurances instead of heavy documentation burden to USAC
        - Still retain documents related to the program for audit
      - Keep a reimbursement period to January 27, 2021 through June 30, 2021
      - MI districts will likely NOT need reimbursement and can use these funds for future considerations

- 2nd Application Window for “leftovers”
- Open Location Eligibility to wherever the education is happening
- Waiver of Cost Allocation of E-Rated IA/Transport for off-campus use
- Clarify prohibition on fiber builds and to allow network extensions
- Separate processing for ECF apps from E-Rate apps

Emergency Broadband Benefit

Schools are NOT eligible for EBB subsidy

Yes, even if the school pays for a student connection

Schools (or ISDs or us at the state) will need to verify NSLP or other poverty indicator information to service providers and behalf of eligible households

- Connecting MI Communities Grant

[https://www.michigan.gov/dtmb/0,5552,7-358-82547\\_56345\\_91154---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/dtmb/0,5552,7-358-82547_56345_91154---,00.html)

7. Kopkau – MSBO update

- Almost 1250 registered.
- Over 173 sessions.
- Take advantage of the scholarships.
- 120 exhibits
- SCECHs are available up until June 30, 2021.

8. Roundtable

Bordewyk - Couto motions to end the meeting. Case seconds. M/C Meeting ended at 1:52 pm

Next meeting – May 13 at 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Kopkau, MSBO