

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
JANUARY 30, 2017 – SPECIAL MEETING 4:30 PM**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Mary Ellen Wieczorek

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Robert Angeli; LES Principal Andrew Gonzalez; Director of Technology Jacques Dulac; Casey Mikula of Apptegy

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 4:33 p.m. by M.E. Wieczorek.

2. Presentation by Apptegy

Webinar presented by Casey Mikula of Apptegy, a service to link communications from websites to mobile apps and also enables schools to create and distribute content from mobile applications. Casey presented the following:

Thrillshare which provides a single platform. Users can create content one time eliminating the need to update website, Facebook, mobile apps, emails, voicemail. Create message once and Thrillshare automatically coordinates and disseminates information to all applications. Thrillshare mobile apps allows creation and distribution from mobile app which eliminates the need to locate a computer to update. Features automatic formatting to fit pages on mobile phones.

Apptegy integrates mobile app into Thrillshare platform. Would engage community, parents, and staff with the app by allowing easier access. Allows District to switch between schools to easily update.

Apptegy also creates and maintains websites utilizing Thrillshare which integrates updates directly onto websites eliminating the need to update each app and website. Websites are interactive and provide better access for users. Easy to navigate between site sections in each school page. Casey showed several examples of websites created by Apptegy. District could delegate specific users to update each site section. District could possibly eliminate Blackboard which the District currently uses to disseminate information. The District could still host on our dedicated server. Apptegy uses Amazon Web Service, a secure cloud services platform. There would be no cost for Apptegy to host our site. Casey stated that Hebron, East Hampton and Cromwell Districts are committed with Apptegy. Superintendent Angeli thanked Casey for his time and noted we would be in contact possibly in the early spring.

3. Update on FaceBook

LES Facebook went live on January 20, 2017. Principal Gonzalez sent notification via Blackboard providing a URL to link to the LES Facebook page. In the first week there were 329 page visits. Principal Gonzalez set filtering so comments cannot be posted to the page. Principal Gonzalez is the only admin who can post to the page. Teachers email Principal Gonzalez with classroom happenings, milestones or events. No other staff at LES have been allowed access to post at this time.

4. Update on District Website

Jacques Dulac reported that Joomla has been upgraded. The District Webmaster continues to make updates. Template that was purchased has limitations to enhancing the visual aspects of the site at this time.

Motion made by M.E. Wieczorek to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Wieczorek
Communications Subcommittee, Chair