NORTH DAKOTA
EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

ND Information Technology Committee
October 14, 2010

The ND Educational Technology Council (ND ETC) has statutory responsibility to coordinate educational technology initiatives for elementary and secondary education (NDCC 54-59). The ND ETC meets that responsibility by providing leadership for several key technology initiatives in the state and by providing policy oversight for the North Dakota Center for Distance Education (ND CDE) and EduTech. (http://www.ndetc.k12.nd.us/index.html)

Updates on elementary and secondary education information technology initiatives

ND ETC
- All public K12 school technology plans (187) were received by the ND ETC, reviewed and approved as required by the ETC and by the federal E-Rate and US Dept. of Ed. Title II-D programs. http://www.ndetc.k12.nd.us/Activities/Planning/Status.html
- Classroom Transformation Grants were awarded to 22 schools – $349,000.
  - Four implementations are complete.
  - Site visits will be made by the ETC director as projects are in-place and being used by teachers and students.
  - http://www.ndetc.k12.nd.us/Activities/Grants/Classroom.html
- Video Grants were awarded to 6 consortiums (69 schools impacted) – $255,000
  - Three consortium implementations are complete.
  - Site visits by video will be made by the ETC director as projects are completed.
  - http://www.ndetc.k12.nd.us/Activities/Grants/Video.html
- Initiatives that are currently in discussion
  - Statewide K12 directory of all K12 educators and students
    - DPI, ITD, EduTech, ETC
  - Complex issues related to K-12 data in the SLDS and use of SLDS by schools
    - DPI, ITD, ETC, NDUS, K12 schools

ND CDE
- Began a process of refining its mission and making technical advancements in the way it delivers online courses to North Dakota high school students.
- Began working with other developers of online course materials placing more emphasis on credit recovery and advanced placement courses.
- Dr. Alan Peterson was hired in July as the new director of ND CDE.
- CDE enrollments are steady - being driven more by new ND graduation requirements.
- https://www.ndcde.org/Home.aspx

EduTech
- The PowerSchool team was ramped up to implement the legislatively mandated common student information system in all schools. The current status of PowerSchool in North Dakota:
  - 125 public schools are currently on PowerSchool (86,000 students)
  - 14 additional schools will be added by September 2011
  - All public schools will be on PowerSchool by July 30, 2013
- EduTech strengthened some of its long standing services: e-mail, web hosting, anti-virus and internet filtering.
- Newer services - blogging, podcasting and social networking - were added to give educators and students the ability to create, connect and publish among global peers.
- Face to face, online and one-to-one professional development was made available for teachers to develop the skills to effectively integrate technology in their teaching.
- http://www.edutech.nodak.edu/

Anticipated budget needs for the 2011-13 biennium

ND ETC
- An increase in general funds may be requested for the Video Grants Program to help schools bring their video classroom transmission equipment up to current specifications.

ND CDE
- An increase in general funds may be recommended by the Governor's Commission on Education Improvement to fund CDE's reorganization and repositioning.

EduTech
- Full funding of PowerSchool may be recommended by the Governor's Commission on Education Improvement.