Glenwood Community School District Technology Department
Board Report for November 14, 2022

Tech Tickets:
For the month of Oct. 4 through Nov. 7, the technology department has received 133 requests for assistance. That does not include problems that were fixed from walk-up and email traffic.

Teacher Chromebooks:
Teachers have had both a PC and a chromebook. We are transitioning to teachers having two chromebooks and replacing the PCs (certain exceptions are allowed). There are several reasons for this change. 90% of what we do in the classroom now is largely cloud/google based. Therefore, we no longer need PC devices to run specific programs and where that is still necessary, PCs will be maintained. PCs are much more time intensive to maintain and update. Lastly, securing PCs requires more sophisticated security which is both more expensive and taxing on the machine itself (ie. security measures make the devices run slower).

Teachers at High School, West, and Northeast have been given a new teacher chromebooks. One of the barriers to issuing these devices was the cabling in classrooms being VGA versus HDMI. VGA cords predominantly served PC laptops and required an adapter in order to use a chromebook. In short, VGA is old technology and HDMI is newer technology (even new PC laptops no longer are equipped with VGA). Therefore, we spent time installing HDMI cables in classrooms before issuing the new chromebooks. Cables are installed at ⅔ of the Middle School and should be completed within the week, followed by issuing the new chromebooks to the Middle School teachers soon after.

Staffing:
As of November 11, Trevor Stanley will be leaving the district as was planned for his temporary employment. We are in the process of interviewing candidates for this position. Likewise, our technician contracted through Western Iowa Network has taken another job and we are working with WIN to bring in his replacement.

Cybersecurity Training:
As part of the Green Hills AEA Technology Director meetings this year, we will be taking part in Cybersecurity Training monthly. We will be both evaluating and making changes to our systems in order to increase security. In the month of November we will be instituting 2 factor authentication for all staff. In the actual training we are set to discuss the topics of phish testing. Following that training we will be creating a plan for this type of testing here in Glenwood.

Supply Chain Issues:
We received our 8 smaller switches that will go in locations like Baseball and Softball pressboxes and some other locations outstanding, with a pending delivery in November. We still have the two biggest switches outstanding for the Grandstand and HS gym (potential for most users at any given time = bigger switch) which are pending delivery in January.

ECF Funding:
We are still awaiting a decision on this item from the last board report.
(We have applied for the third round of ECF funding to see if we can get approved to order additional chromebooks for our lower elementary students, whose devices will no longer accept google updates. If we should not receive this funding we will supply these students with devices from the rotation. We are

awaiting the decision by USAC on this application.)

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Jedd Taylor
Director of Technology, GCSD