

Broadband Presentation Adequacy Committee

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"I don't have my homework because my dial-up modem couldn't connect with my on-line homework helper."



**"Our school computers are one year old.
How can they expect us to be competitive
in the job market if we're being trained on
obsolete equipment?"**

Survey Results

- Superintendents and Co-op Directors Surveyed
-- 226 surveys returned for 89% return rate.
- 170 or 75.6% indicated their district had experienced problems with bandwidth the past year.
- 56.6% who contacted DIS were pleased with the support provided.
- 45.5% have experienced problems (computers locking up, etc.) when submitting required ADE reports.

Survey Results

- 156 districts or 70.9% indicated there are technology initiatives they would like to implement but can't due to bandwidth limitations.
- 74.9% have restricted use of educationally relevant internet sites due to lack of bandwidth.
- 62.8% have purchased additional bandwidth.

Comments from Survey

- Due to limited bandwidth, we have to keep many categories closed to our teachers and students.
- Too many computers, not enough bandwidth.
- During our IEP season the bulk of our teachers are using web applications simultaneously and this creates a drag on the network.
- Bandwidth is a nightmare on training days for teachers.
- The internet has consistently gone out to the point that we cannot run essential programs for our district.

Comments from Survey

- We are trying to utilize smartboards, netbooks, and iPads. As we try to use these our system slows down since we have not been able to purchase more bandwidth.
- Not enough bandwidth to incorporate technology into classroom curriculum efforts.
- We are bottlenecking due to the great demand. We also didn't get any bids in our area through the BEE (Bandwidth for Educational Enhancement) program.

Comments from Survey

- We blocked useful websites because we don't have enough bandwidth. Teachers are frustrated when they try to use online resources for class activities.
- The BEE initiative hasn't helped us because there isn't a provider in our area.
- General slow speeds causing wasted faculty and student time.
- We have slow and non-working computers when the CIV labs are running.

Comments from Survey

- There is no way our students will be able to take the Common Core online assessments.
- There is no provider in the area to purchase additional bandwidth.
- Additional bandwidth has just now become available through AT&T and we are trying to get pricing information.
- The BEE program didn't have a bidder.
- There is no provider in the area and we cannot afford to purchase any more from DIS.



AAEA Testimony

Part of our verbal testimony was that schools were going to have problems implementing the Common Core if the broadband issue was not addressed.



March 2010



2010 Adequacy Report

"A significant component of education technology infrastructure that will need to be restructured as technology permeates the education environment is bandwidth for schools."

"The State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) established recommendations in 2008 for external bandwidth of 10 Mbps per 1,000 students. Arkansas is typically 3 Mbps per district at this time."



Cost of Bandwidth



Department of Information Services (DIS)

\$643 - \$1,495 per month for 1.54 Mbps

\$5,100 per month for 100 Mbps

April 5, 2010 bid at Bryant Public Schools

AT&T - \$4,278 per month for 100 Mbps

Comcast - \$419.80 per month for 100 Mbps

History

1940 -- 112,050 in Arkansas had electricity while the population was 1.95 million.

How could they get electricity to rural Arkansas and areas of need?

Governor Carl E. Bailey signed legislation allowing the incorporation of electric cooperatives in Arkansas.

Through policy, elected officials figured out how to serve the people and offer services at affordable prices.



Questions

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