

Kan-ed Advisory Committee Notes
February 20, 2008

KAC Members Present:

Jim Bingham (KU Medical Center), Jennifer Findley (Kansas Hospital Association), David Rosenthal (Kansas Telecommunications Industry Association), Doug Penner (Independent Colleges Association), Chris Modellmog (Kansas Association of Interactive Distance Education), John Federico (Kansas Cable Telecom Association), Catherine Moyer (State Independent Telephone Association), Christie Brandau (State Library of Kansas), Tom Erwin (Community Colleges), Carol Barta (Kansas Library Association), Jamie Murdock (Office of Educational Innovation & Evaluation & Eldon Rightmeier (Deputy Director of DISC).

KAC Members Absent:

Cheryl Semmel (United School Administrators of Kansas), Kathy Gosa (Kansas Department of Education), & Ravi Pendse (Regent Universities).

1. Kan-ed Mission: “Kan-ed will be the leader in facilitating statewide technology solutions for Higher Education, Hospitals, K-12 schools, and Libraries. Kan-ed will provide resources that enable its members to collaborate educate and enhance their information delivery services to ensure our members become part of the global technology environment.”
2. In 2007 vendors announced that older ATM networks were going to be decommissioned by 2008/2009. This would mean new technology like Layer 3 routing would be available in Kansas, high definition video conferencing and other advantages.
3. Executive Director, Brad Williams gave a presentation and answered questions regarding the new backbone for Kan-ed. Four vendors bid (AT&T, Cox, Hughes Satellite & Verizon) and AT&T was chosen. Calence & KanREN evaluated and recommended the AT&T proposal. AT&T was the technically superior solution and the most cost effective. The contract will last five years and members have the option to disconnect after 36 to 48 months. There will be a pilot program that will connect 15-20 Kan-ed sites and additional KanWIN sites to validate the solution. The pilot will start in late spring and go through the fall of 2008. Towards the end of the pilot, Kan-ed will develop a migration plan to work with new and existing Kan-ed connected members. The current network will remain in place through June 30th, 2009. The presentation is posted on the Kan-ed website under the “Executive Director News” link.
4. A planning meeting is set on February 29th with DISC, Kan-ed and AT&T to discuss future changes.

5. Kan-ed leases 100% of its circuits and network access points from telecom providers. Over ½ of the budget goes to circuit costs. Kan-ed then receives a 65% discount on those leases through the federal E-rate program which is \$4.2 million to date.
6. Brad will send Legislative data on district funding to members for their local legislators.
7. Charmine & Jerry went to Austin, Texas to look at video equipment from Polycom & Lifesize manufacturers. Both will be used for future video conferencing. Jerry also updated KAC on current Kan-ed E-rate applications.
8. Randy updated KAC on grant programs currently taking place including the FCC Telehealth Grant.
9. Chrisy updated KAC on membership conferences, member eligibility, website and Empowered Desktop.
10. Brad asked for comments about the 2007 Annual Report from members and discussed any changes for next year.