

Ed Tech Meeting Minutes

11/28/2023

7:10pm Meeting called to order by Committee Chairman Chris Wolfe

Committee Chair calls for Introductions and brief bios for attendees.

Present at the meeting are:

Chris Wolfe	Keith Cramer	Katie Sunderland
Geoffrey Moore	Geoff Beier	Dr. Amy Jackson
Kristie Saini	Melissa Hyatt	Avatar LeFevre
Zuraya Tapia-Hadley (Joined at 7:22)	Anant Raut	

Minutes:

We cycled through the Chairman's slides prepared for this meeting.

Who we are, what we do.

ACTL Definition: Advisory Council for Teaching and Learning

Chirs: EdTech committee is focused on teachers and how they are teaching students. Review Ed Tech slide.

How do we work?

Dr Jackson: Our liaison takes our work to the board to see if there is interest in what we have to say.

Question: Who is our liaison with the School Board?

Answer: Mary Kadera

Chris Wolfe clarified what "Open to the public" means. Our minutes are open to the public, but our deliberations and discussions are not. Anyone from the public can join the EdTech subcommittee by applying through the school board channels.

How does change happen in APS?

Anant: Will this board be effective or capable of effecting change?

**(NOTE: This question got the heart of what we all wanted to know. We spent a good hour discussing the purpose of this subcommittee, and how it can affect change. The conclusion is that we can affect change by making a recommendation to the board, through our sponsor and our Board Liaison.)**

Geoff: How is technology being used now? What does APS believe is being used; how are the students using it? Would like a system-wide view.

Dr. Amy Jackson: EdTech (This committee) is relatively new. (2021).

Katie Sunderland recommends the book "Stolen Focus,"

Dr. Amy Jackson disagrees with the take-aways of the book as summarized by Katie.

Anant: Is there a policy about how EdTech is used in APS?

Discussed tools for teachers. Melissa Hyatt explained the Tools for Teachers slide. Standards of Learning was mentioned.

Anant: Can students download apps on APS iPads themselves?

Answer: Only approved apps.

Regarding AI: APS does not support generative AI (AI that can create new content from existing data). It does support AI in apps that are installed on APS iPads and Macs, such as the AI that might suggest further research topics based on topics that have already been delivered to the student/teacher.

Virginia Department of Education statutes re: AI were mentioned.

Chris Wolfe: The AI Subcommittee under EdTech will be headed by Curt Odar (not present today). Chris called for anyone interested in joining the AI subcommittee to send an email to Curt.

Discussion came to future topics.

Anant: Asked how we can focus on any particular future topic?

Anant: Ranked Choice voting on future topics. Chris to do?

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35pm.