TECHNOLOGY WORKING PARTY

<table>
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<th>Our Goal</th>
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<td>To analyse &amp; implement the best technology tool(s) to maximize the educational experience &amp; learning of our students.</td>
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3rd UPDATE to ALL PARENTS/TEACHERS/STUDENTS
- 23rd August 2013 -

Research & Review Stage - COMPLETED

Following is a summary of all the activity, results & the Technology Working Party recommendations, together with the suggested next steps in the process.

SCOPE of RESEARCH & REVIEW PROCESS

It was agreed that we should not be focused on an individual product but to remember the ultimate purpose for all of us is to maximize the educational experiences & learning of students at Sacred Heart to best prepare them for whichever direction they head in the future. Much of the discussion was around the premise that technology in all forms is one of many tools to facilitate this outcome. Thus it was agreed to broaden the parameters of the working party beyond an iPad only review to:

“Analyse & implement the best technology tool(s) to maximize and enhance the educational experience & learning of our students”.

The REVIEW PROCESS

The committee undertook a number of activities in the course of our research. Activities included & data collected included (but was not limited) to:

- A review of the general technological environment and its impact of change in the school room
- Research via face-to-face, phone & email interviews of key figures at numerous Primary & Secondary schools in the local area
- Research & interviews of the key feeder Secondary Schools that are relevant to our Community (namely St Bedes & Star of the Sea)
- Sourcing & review of industry studies/information/advice developed/created by the Catholic Education Office (CEO) & Department of Education & Early Childhood Development (DEECD).
- Running of a structured iPad Trial with Sacred Heart Preps at the end of Term 2 that included a Staff, Parent & Student survey.
SUMMARY of the TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT of the GENERAL / EDUCATION

General Technological Environment

We are lucky to have on the Sacred Heart Parish School Technology Working Party an expert in understanding & implementing current technological developments. Rather than outline the incredible range of developments that have been discussed it is suffice to say that the changes & developments in the General Technology realm are dramatic. Even since the start of Sacred Heart Parish School review period of only 6 months ago, new devices are being rapidly brought to market.

Educational Technological Environment

Technology has always played a large part in educational transformation in general and even more significantly over the past 2 decades. In the 1990’s and early 2000’s, Education saw the whiteboard, electronic whiteboard and PC’s. In the early 2000’s to now, we saw the proliferation of Desktops and laptops (‘a laptop for every student’ program).

The introduction has led to compound growth in the education experiences of our children. These are tools that in combination assist to deliver the overall educational environment our children experience today. They are not intended, nor have they proven to replace core curriculum and core teaching methodology. Sacred Heart has embraced all facets of these changes and employs all current technology that is common place in the classroom including smart boards, PC’s and Laptops, iPads (or Tablets) as the technologies move from leading edge to mainstream.

In our local community (primary sector), the number of Catholic Schools introducing ’tablet’ type devices has increased significantly. Of the local 11 catholic schools, approximately 8 now have a tablet program over the past 12-18 months. In the Public system, DEECD has had an operating iPad program for 3 years St Bedes, Kostka Hall & Star of the Sea have strong adoption of either iPad &/or Apple PC deployment at the start of year 7 which are the predominant destination schools for many Sacred Heart students.

Environment Summary

With the data collected & reviewed and the subsequent obvious technological movements in the General & Educational Environments around us, the Working Party felt Sacred Heart Parish School would not in fact be early adopters (where we would be first to adopt new technology and thus be bleeding edge (i.e. potentially suffer from initial bugs or lack of knowledge / understanding of the process)). But rather it would be sensible to keep Sacred Heart Parish School moving along not in front of, but more towards the forefront of the general wave of new device technology for the benefit of all our kids.

As such we felt it was worthwhile to undertake a comparison review of the positives/ negatives of the newer device technologies. The below provides a high level overview of the committees view of the options available as part of this review. It is not comprehensive in its nature, but highlights some of the key considerations that the committee has been reviewing in developing its recommendation:
KEY FACTORS

The analysis was very detailed, we thought the simplest way to provide an easy to read summary was via a Table with the following set-up in the context of an Educational tool:

- The key focal points for review are covered by 7 Core Categories for review with a brief description. We believe these cover the area’s of importance for Tablet like device introduction into the Sacred Heart Parish School community. This enabled the team to review each option with a level of consistency of each of the mainstream Tablet options
- The Weighted Priority Rating provides us with a scale of the most to least important of these categories in terms of their meeting the primary education objectives
- The scores for each were determined based on the research with a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest score
- Each Category is then weighted by multiplying the Score and Weighted Priority Rating (total in Brackets)
- The total scores for each of the reviewed devices are then provided

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighted Priority Rating</th>
<th>SCORES &amp; (WEIGHTED SCORES) for</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Apple iPad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced Learning Experience</td>
<td>Does it enhance and augment the current student / teaching tools</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5 (35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student engagement / enablement</td>
<td>Do the students respond to new tools and the affect on learning</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5 (30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost / Cost of ownership</td>
<td>It is affordable/can it be affordable</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3 (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usability</td>
<td>As an Education tool, how easy it is to use (Student &amp; Teacher)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 (20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>How much Education content and technical support is available</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5 (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Is the balance of value demonstrated with effective security</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manageability</td>
<td>How easy is it for the Students to carry and look after</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Scores</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>127</td>
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</table>
RECOMMENDATION

The benefits of an enhanced educational capability and experience in applying a tablet type device are being proved across the market in both Public and CEO communities.

From a basic technical perspective, each of the Tablet options can deliver technically available content effectively. As standalone devices they are similar but not the same for the current educational environment. Of the three tablet options reviewed, there is a clear advantage with the Apple iPad.

Apple has been the leader in this segment (Tablets for Education) since the iPad introduction 4 years ago. This has enabled Apple to define the overall ‘device’ ecosystem from hardware, software, Apps/Apps store and service/integration support for the Education Sector.

Our review also needed to focus on key areas of Security, Usability and Risk Management for stability & support for the Sacred Heart Parish School community specifically. As Sacred Heart Parish School is not a leading edge adopter with a significant IT Support budget, we found ourselves focusing on the lowest cost/risk option with the largest vendor & partner support base being the Apple iPad.

Thus our recommended improvement to the current Sacred Heart Parish School education technology tools is to proceed with the implementation of iPads at the start of 2014.

WEBSITE UPDATE

For your interest, we have added much of the data (it was impossible to load it all) that we used to conduct the Research & Review Process to the Technology Working Party section of the Sacred Heart Parish School website. To access it, please click here.

We will shortly be releasing a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) section on our website which will reflect questions that we, the committee, have been asking each other. Please have a read and there will be a section at the end of the FAQ's where you can simply click and send us any questions that you would like answered (if appropriate, we will also add these queries with their answers to the FAQ section for everyone to see).

As we proceed through the ‘NEXT STEPS’ as listed below, we will keep you all updated, and in turn we would like to request you to keep reading the FAQ's. We want to ensure we get the best implementation processes to suit all Students / Parents & Teachers.

NEXT STEPS

The next step of the review will consider and develop the following for the next release:

- Cost and cost management
- Supplier & Support
- Implementation process and timeframe/s
- Training for Staff/Parents
- Usage Framework & Policies – Students & Parents
- Post implementation feedback

Many Thanks for your interest in reading this update
Sacred Heart Technology Working Party