



LCTAC All Things Web

January 22, 2015

Agenda

- Look at district web hosting models
- Look at LESD's web hosting service
- Roundtable discussion on LCTAC members' web hosting and content management practices and challenges
- Other topics or expectations?

Hosting and Content Models

- See [handout](#)
- General observations
 - Eleven districts use a content management system (CMS)
 - Six use WordPress
 - The rest use Drupal, Google Sites or proprietary services
 - Five districts use HTML/FTP
 - Eight districts are hosted by LESD
- Comments, corrections or clarifications?
- FYI: Web hosting is no longer e-rate eligible

LESD Web Hosting Services

Technical details

- HTML/FTP on single shared host, virtual machine at network core, running on CentOS-5, Apache2
- Most district CMS on individual virtual machines at network core, running on CentOS-6, Apache2, MySQL5
- All server systems are secured, hardened and patched regularly by LESD
- Nightly backups of all data files and databases (for CMS) to tape and disk on separate backup hosts
- All hosts monitored 24x7 for availability and host problems



Roundtable Discussion Topics

“It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers.” - James Thurber

- Content management process
- Keeping content current
- End user support and training
- Requests for “X” (themes, misc. sites, blogs, social media)
- Working with contracted services
- Maintaining standards
- LESD service feedback
- Additions?



Roundtable:

Content management process

- How does content get updated?
 - Webmaster?
 - District technology staff?
 - District staff via CMS?
 - Any website committees or liaisons?
- How much time is involved with the respective processes?

Roundtable:

Keeping content current

- Who initiates updates?
- How are updates vetted and approved?
 - Related: photo permissions, copyright
- Is information future proofed?
- How can processes be improved or streamlined?
 - Does a CMS help?

Roundtable:

End user support and training

- How are staff trained on use of CMS?
- What kind of ongoing support do they need or request?

Roundtable:

Requests for “X”

- How are requests for new CMS themes, miscellaneous websites, blogs, or social media accounts handled?
- What kind of miscellaneous sites do you have?
 - E.g. LESD has lanecea.org, connectedlanecounty.org, constructioned4me.org, lanecareerfocus.org, lanehealthcarepathways.org, laneschool.org
- How are “rogue” instances of the above (e.g. teaching staff created without consulting district or technology staff) handled?
- How do you balance cohesion and convenience?

Roundtable:

Working with contracted services

- Experiences working with services like SchoolWires, EdLine, EdSpire, etc.
 - Costs?
 - Transition / conversion experience?
 - Customer service experience?
 - How does the e-rate issue affect future use?
- What are transition plans for when service goes away (e.g. Tim Goss retiring or end of service contract)?

Roundtable:

Maintaining standards

- How are design and technical needs identified?
- How are design and technical needs addressed?
- Advantages / disadvantages to CMS
- Advantages / disadvantages to HTML/FTP
- Where do you want to be or think you should be in the near future?

Roundtable:

Service Feedback

- Are there things you would like to see LESD provide or change?



Thank you!

- Meeting notes and files will be posted at the LCTAC blog: lctac.blogs.lesd.k12.or.us
- Discussion of e-rate and public wireless will follow
- Next LCTAC meeting is February 19th, covering ISP services

