

Technology Coordinator
Report to the Pittsville School District Board of Education
Monday, April 8, 2019



State Testing – [Forward Exam](#) testing has started. All has been going well so far. [ACT Aspire](#) testing at the high school will start at the end of April. I still have to setup the testing server and Chromebooks for that one.

Distance Learning Lab – In the last couple of years, the amount of use of our distance-learning lab at the high school has been going down. In most cases, there has been only a student or two taking occasional classes. Our expense for that room is constant regardless of the number of students benefiting from it. After discussions with NWECS (Northern Wisconsin Educational Communication System – our distance-learning consortium) we will be shutting down the distance learning lab at the high school and using portable monitors/cameras on carts next year. We already have one cart and we can easily convert some of our wall-mounted equipment to a 2nd cart at a small cost. After removing the installed equipment from the lab, the room can then be repurposed. Because the resale value of the used equipment in our lab will likely be of minimal value will be looking to donate much of it back to NWECS for them to use as backup equipment for other schools in the consortium.

SMARTboard Replacement – We have recently received two demonstration touch panels from Tierney Brothers for teachers to try out the new technology. The touch panels are like large HD TVs, but with the ability to manipulate objects and drawing by touch of fingers or pens, combined with the ability to display screens from or be controlled remotely by Chromebooks or laptops. With our current crop of aging SMARTboards we are looking to develop a replacement program over the course of the next several years to update the aging technology with the new touch panels, where appropriate.

Network Security Assessment – The network operations and the network security assessments have been completed by a network engineer from Skyward. An executive summary has been provided for your review. The complete reports are available if you care to see them. As part of our regular summer maintenance and update program I will be working with Skyward engineers to implement the recommendations to make our network more efficient, robust and secure. We already have a plan to replace our aging server hardware, as suggested in the reports.