

Sept 10, 2018

1:00PM – 3:00PM

Connecticut Education Network - Update

LOB, Hearing Room 1C, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

- Staffing
 - CEN currently has 10 full-time staff members, 4 part-time student workers.
 - 1 volunteer advisor - Richard LaFave (1 day /week).
 - Will post for additional Network Technician this quarter.
- Budget
 - Feb 16 Bond Commission - CEN authorized for \$1.5M for CapEx spend. Evaluating new routers to incorporate into the infrastructure to increase capacity from the hub sites to the core. When evaluation complete, expected to spend nearly all of the authorized amount.
 - New bond request to refresh the network was submitted as part of the 20-21 biennium budget.
 - FY 2020 price announcement expected in November.
- Policy Review
 - No change: Updated Participant and Acceptable Use policy distributed previously; others in process.
 - Plan is to revise/update as needed, provide for comment, and post as part of new website.
- Value-Added Services / Revenue Generation
 - New firewall's purchased, in process of configuring and make ready for onboarding. 5 members committed. Plan on submitting proposals against E-Rate bids starting this fall.
 - Other potential services in concept mode and awaiting further feedback from the councils and possible survey feedback from the membership for priority.
- CEN Engagement
 - Advisory Councils meeting on 9/7, 9/13, 9/14. Overall councils are in various states of getting organized and focused on topics of interest. Chairpersons in place for 2 of the 3 councils.
 - New website still underway with systematic overhaul of the current to the new. Target Completion is January 1.
- CEN Strategic Planning
 - Found information from years ago, though was never synthesized into a formal plan.
 - New planning process with start this fall with a target draft for feedback by the Spring CET meeting and final by the 2018 Member Conference.
 - Process will engage CEN staff, member advisory groups, and likely include regional workshops within the state in an effort to include the widest audience possible.
 - Process will include evaluation of current mission/vision, values, basic strategy, service portfolio, staff alignment, SWOT, survey feedback, competitive landscape analysis, communications, etc.
- Threat Management / DDoS Mitigation
 - 26 Attacks this quarter. Generally quiet over the summer and picked up with the academic year.
 - Additional 10 Gbps capacity added over summer to on premise Arbor DDoS solution.
 - Akamai Prolexic services, configuration near complete for select overrun needs if/when on premise solution is overwhelmed. Akamai solution is cost effective for emergencies.

Connecticut Education Network Update (continued)

- NYC Buildout
 - NEREN Collaboration (RI, MA, VT, NH, ME, NY).
 - Expected outcomes are new ISP services at lower rates. Additional peering to help reduce costs.
 - Updated target completion date winter '18 (from summer '18). Continued project delays with carrier IRU agreements have caused numerous delays.
- CT Library Fiber Consortium
 - Project leverages Federal E-rate funds and matching State Library funds. Current scope is a four-phase project across four years.
 - Phase Four Status: Currently three libraries committed, two pulled out and may consider for the next phase.
 - Phase Five Status: CEN will respond to the next bid when posted
 - Current project across all phases will bring total fiber connected libraries to 139 of 193 (193 total does not include branch libraries).
- New Members/Customers (as of last meeting, June 4)
 - Higher Education
 - Hartford Seminary
 - Municipalities
 - Town of Colchester
 - Public Safety
 - Guilford Emergency Communication Center
 - Tolland Fire Dept.
 - West Stafford Fire Department
 - Riverton Volunteer Fire Dept., Barkhamsted
 - Pleasant Valley Fire Dept., Barkhamsted
 - Barkhamsted East Volunteer Fire Company
 - Libraries
 - Ora Mason Branch Library, West Haven