

June 3, 2019

1:00PM – 3:00PM

LOB 300 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT

## Connecticut Education Network - Update

- Staffing
  - CEN currently has 10 full-time staff members, 6 part-time student workers, and 1 volunteer (1 day /week).
  - Network Technician 1 or 2 search is underway. Target to onboard for July 2019.
- Budget
  - No change - State 2020-21 biennium 'debt diet' resulting in \$0 allocations.
  - Equipment coming to end of life/end of support this year.
  - 2018-2019 biennium: \$3M bond authorized, \$1.5 allocated. Requested the remaining \$1.5M.
  - Federal Tariff on network hardware products manufactured in China resulting in a 10-25% increase in equipment costs.
- 2019-2024 Strategic Plan
  - Final was distributed during the CEN Conference. Also distributed here.
- Policy Review
  - No change: Plan is to revise / update as needed, provide for comment, and post in conjunction with the new Website launch.
- Value-Added Services / Revenue Generation
  - Managed Firewall Service: Incremental growth, 11 members committed (up from 7).
    - Solicitation for security serviced firm to offload 'fully managed' option near complete.
  - Cloud Connect Service Announcement (hand-out) and URL: <https://ctedunet.net/cloud-connect/>
  - Service Management Advisory Council: Survey for additional services is active.  
<http://bit.ly/CENSurvey19>
  - NSF Grant: Letter of Support to Richard Jones, Ph.D. for 'Shared Computing Resources for Large-Scale Science Problems' - was approved, waiting on final award info.
  - NSF Grant Submission: MidScale Research Infrastructure (RI)-1 - 12 Universities and 6 regional networks involved; CEN and Yale participating from CT; preliminary proposal submitted Feb 19 (value added, not revenue-generating).
    - Was not awarded. <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2019/nsf19537/nsf19537.htm>
- CEN Engagement
  - CEN Education and Development Advisory Council
    - Digital Accessibility Workshop: 10:00 AM, Thursday, June 6 (various locations).
    - <http://bit.ly/2XobqQG>
  - New Website is live: <https://ctedunet.net>
  - CEN Annual Conference Recap <https://bit.ly/2BBJakU>
    - 674 Registered, 613 attended.
    - 28 open sessions, 1 all-day workshop, 4 closed sessions for affiliate groups (CAPSS, ACES, EASTCONN, CXO Roundtable).
    - Very positive survey feedback
    - Exploring a 2-day conference for next year. Day 1 workshops & training, Day 2 traditional format
- Threat Management / DDoS Mitigation
  - 136 mitigated attacks since the last Commission meeting (March 5, 2019).
  - Tableau-based analytics in progress, student supporting it moved on, now on hold.

## Connecticut Education Network Update (continued)

- NYC Buildout
  - NEREN Collaboration (MA, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT)
  - Connectivity into one of the busiest telco areas in the world, increasing CEN's capability and reach.
  - Will result in more diverse options and lower commodity (backbone) Internet rates, commercial peering to reduce costs, backhaul opportunities to Ashburn (VA) and Chicago, and peering partnerships with other Regional Optical Networks (RONs) within the research and education network space.
  - Hardware shipping, the target completion date of July 2019.
- CT Library Fiber Consortium
  - Leverages federal E-rate funds and matching State Library bond funds.
  - Phase 4: 3 libraries have committed and should be connected by mid-July.
  - Phase 5: 18 libraries may move forward. 14 of 18 have library/town approval to do so. Currently, four branch libraries for the City of New Haven are waiting for final approval.
  - The current project across all current and past phases (1 – 5) will bring total fiber-connected libraries to 168 (including 47 branches) of 239 libraries statewide. (70%)
- New Members/Customers since the last Commission meeting (March 4, 2018)
  - Libraries
    - Prospect Public Library
  - Public Safety
    - Southwestern Regional Communications Center, Inc.
    - Wolcott Volunteer Fire Department
    - Willington Hill Fire Dept.
  - Open Access
    - Genie Innovations, Inc.
    - 70 Audobon Assoc