

## FAMIS Board Meeting: NOTES (December 17, 2008)

Meeting Started at 3:35 PM, called to order by David Smith, FAMIS President (the meeting was held via conference call)

Board Members in Attendance: Marsha Cole (Duval), Bruce Patrou (St. Johns), John, David Smith (Bay), Bill Bush (Escambia), Ronald Moore (Orange), Rick James Goines (PAEC), Jack Harley (Nassau & Gateway), Rick Laneau (Hillsboro), John Wendt (Charlotte), Candy Garcia (NEFEC)

The major discussion was on the likely participation and viability of the **upcoming spring conference**. The majority of districts are either "restricted to travel within their zip code" or require compelling reason for making the trip and justify both travel and hotel costs, and time out. A number of ideas and comments were discussed including:

- Emphasizing the theme of the conference "*David or Bill, can you fill in here, please...*" relating to IT cost savings and initiatives from IT that can save districts operating dollars and increase value potentials. As one Board member put it "IT Cost Savings & Cost Savings for School Districts through IT" (something like this might even serve as a by-line)
- Shortening the conference to start at mid-day Monday, with wrap-up about Wednesday, mid-day so that participants are out of their districts for 3 days or less;
- IF vendor participation levels appear sufficient to cover costs (David Smith stated that he thought it important to maintain the overall fiscal strength of the association in planning for likely costs relating to the conference), consider funding two nights hotel and travel for each school district and consortium representative – an estimated cost of \$25-\$30k. The consensus of the Board was to calculate likely costs and anticipated income and to consider this further at the FAMIS meeting at FETC.
- There was some discussion regarding a fully on-line, interactive conference... while it was recognized that this might be sufficiently noteworthy and capture some media attention; many of the Board commented that there was substantial value in the informal, non-session discussions and interactions among school district CIO/CTOs – a significant portion of which would likely not be said or shared in a distributed web presentation...

There was also consideration discussion of the status of FIRN support. A number of updates and heard-news was shared. Most school districts are now working to get estimates on what the actual and additional costs back to the school districts will be. Due to the differences in vendor service options and in-house expertise/technical support/technical product capabilities among individual districts the additional cost to individual districts will likely vary substantially. (one district indicated that basic connectivity services, without premise equipment, would cost approximately \$155 per MB). From those districts having cost estimates the additional costs are expected to be at least 20-40% higher than current costs, with the individual school district being responsible for filtering (or lack of...), 24x7 operations, and expert tech support. Attached to these notes is the updated position paper from the earlier Board discussions.

It was confirmed that there would be a meeting of the FAMIS Board on Wednesday (Jan 21) at FETC.



FIRN Support Paper  
- Rev (Dec ...

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

W.D. Piotrowski  
Secretary, FAMIS

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