MTCS
Minnesota Transitions Charter School

Bill Glenz <bglenz@emailmtcs.org>

Tech planning discussion
6 messages

Bill Glenz <bglenz@emailmtcs.org>   Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 10:01 AM
To: Larry Herbison <lherbison@emailmtcs.org>, Peter Westby <pwestby@emailmtcs.org>, Ian Decker
<idecker@emailmtcs.org>, Renee Smetana <renee.smetana@emailmtcs.org>, Kevin McKenzie
<kmckenzie@emailmtcs.org>, Tim Pourciau <tpourciau@emailmtcs.org>

Greetings all,

We've been having some conversations around the future technology needs of MVNS and MTS as a whole, and it's
apparent that we need to get the ball rolling on getting some of the larger questions answered so we can start getting
some more concrete plans in place etc. In terms of what we want to start planning, here are some of the bigger "to do's"
that I wanted to get started on:

Moodle: As you probably already know, our current Moodle host ERDC will no longer be offering that service starting July
1 2022. We need to decide on what our plan will be going into that transition. I think we've gone far enough down the path
of investing in Moodle as our LMS to consider migrating to another, so we need to answer some of the bigger questions
regarding that change.
1. Should we look for another Moodle host, or should we consider hosting our own Moodle environment? What are the
pros and cons of each option? What are the risks? What steps do we need to take for each option? Who is going to
lead/own the process for not only migrating, but ongoing management of the new "normal" for how we use Moodle?
2. Is Moodle going to be more widely integrated into the school outside of MNVS? If so, how does that affect our decision
on hosting and Moodle management? How do we increase the Moodle capacity of more teachers and users throughout
the district?

I also think this conversation opens up an opportunity to analyze some other questions related to our technology plans for
the future, hence I'm opening up the discussion beyond just the Moodle plan.

Technology planning/integration:
1. Should we integrate resources better between programs in the district? If so, what's missing and/or difficult, and how
could we better use the resources we have and want to use?
2. If Moodle becomes the baseline LMS for (at least for the middle/high school) programs in the district, how does that
benefit the students and organization as a whole? Should that be the goal or not?
3. How does that implicate things like grading terms, transcripts and credit systems, attendance and policies related to
student engagement, credit recovery, etc.? Does it make sense to use Moodle as our LMS district-wide if those systems
don't line up?

I'd like to get people thinking about the implications of this discussion (and I've started putting together some ideas and
timeline on this Google document), as well as establish some conversations around these and more questions. I'm going
to send out an invite for Tuesday afternoon, and likely going forward have more session at this time. If you can't make
that and would like to suggest alternative times in the future, let me know and I'll try to accommodate those requests. But
either way, you're on this email because your input is valuable, so please try to contribute as you can even if you can't
make the meeting. Also, if you think there's someone else that should be included in this conversation, please let me
know and we can try to get their input as well.

Bill Glenz
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Larry Herbison <lherbison@emailmtcs.org>   Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 11:18 AM
To: Bill Glenz <bglenz@emailmtcs.org>

Andrea Miller at Banaadir may be interested in being part of this.
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Bill Glenz <bglenz@emailmtcs.org>   Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 11:39 AM
To: Larry Herbison <lherbison@emailmtcs.org>

Thanks Larry- good suggestion

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Bill Glenz <bglenz@emailmtcs.org>   Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 11:39 AM
To: Andrea Miller <amiller@emailmtcs.org>

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Andrea Miller <amiller@emailmtcs.org>   Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 12:00 PM
To: Bill Glenz <bglenz@emailmtcs.org>

Hi Bill,

I think Joe should be included in this meeting/conversation as well.
thanks!

Andrea Miller

Director of ELL
Co - Principal Banaadir Academy
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612-387-4974
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You are seen, You are heard, You are valued.

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Bill Glenz <bglenz@emailmtcs.org>   Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 12:06 PM
To: Joe Hutchins <jhutchins@emailmtcs.org>

Hi Joe,

Circling you in on this conversation.

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