

## Minutes: Library Articulation Meeting - May 7, 2007

Present: Teri Fink, Ron Brown, Don Johnson, Claudia Wiggins, Jodi Brown, Jeanne Barnes, Sharon Paine (for Linda), Sharron Johnson, Nancy Mowat, Dawn Smith, Kathy Dorey, Dan Gemeinhart. Not present: Kari Mathison, Kathy Anderson, Tricia Devereaux, Linda Riesterer, Laura Navone.

Purpose of meeting: discuss and determine our recommendation to administration for a new library management system.

Linda feels we need to make the decision now so it can go to the principals and superintendent.

Began with a Round Table: Each person was invited to tell the group where they are with the decision, including opinions, questions, concerns, and feed back from their principal about the maintenance fee.

**L&C:** Principal would support the maintenance fee. Sharron questions where the money for the add on's down the road. Claudia liked the look of Follett

**Sunnyslope:** Dawn likes the kid friendly page of Follett but would miss CASPR's index. Her principal wants to talk to the other principals before making a decision. Money might come from Tech or building budget.

**Wash:** Kevin is supportive of finding money for the program. Kathy is still learning but would support the upgrade.

**Mission View:** Need upgrade of some sort no matter which on it is. Principal will find money for the fee.

**Newbery:** Principal will support whatever we decide. Jeanne wants a Web based program so that the entire school community can access the library. She would like Follett because it is already well developed.

**WHS:** Has called cohort schools. Of six, the district picks up the funding. Teri has the e-mail information she received from those schools. Gracie Helm was not thrilled about going by FTE.

**Orchard:** Mike wanted to know what services are available. He thinks it is fiscally irresponsible to invest in Follett. With add-ons it would be \$2250 a year. Ron thinks there is a way to get around the costs as far as cataloging goes. Don thinks you can speed up LibraryWorld Gold. He has talked to someone who thinks LibraryWorld is more robust than Follett. He talked for LibraryWorld and how it could be cloned to do that Follett does. May take a lot of hours up front to pull the data bases together. Ron pointed out the new programs have data clean up. How long will it take to clean up the data base. He has been looking at Koha. Questioned timelines, what about the cost. Are we putting the cart before the horse?

**Foothills:** Need clarification about data clean up. Nancy spends more time in her back room than she wishes. She needs a system that will allow her to be out front helping students more. Do we have time to tailor an open source system? She pointed out that we have all got into CASPR at different times. She is worried about training so we are on the same page. Follett does have a three day training. Evolving product will need tweaking to fit different libraries. Will everyone have the time and know how for open source?

**Pioneer:** Linda has discussed with Mark. Recommends going to Koha. Money needs to

be set aside for the tweaking.

Ron thinks going to something centralized is a good idea. The programs that have given bids say they will clean up the data bases which includes enhancing the records. Ship libraries as text files. It will merge the records. The companies take the best one. He thinks you have to sacrifice from your library budget, building budget, Title V if this is important to you. The management of data base will go to nothing. It could show your own library's books.

Talked about funding. Do we look at having enough money for books or is it more important to be able to access them. Principals need to be our advocates. John Waldren would help that happen. **Perhaps, a portion of the levy monies should be allocated for libraries.**

Discussed that server would be internal. Discussed if everyone would be satisfied if other schools had more add-ons. Keep in mind equity of access. Ron suggested that elementary should be the same, middle schools should be the same. Parents might question why some schools have more than others.

How do we make this decision? Is it possible to keep looking at Koha? Either system you are at a 10 week transition. End circulation and start transition.

Training process for Koha is one day. Training for Follett is three days.

A concern was noted that not all librarians/schools were represented. Notices were sent to those librarians reminding them about the meeting, so the vote proceeded.

Question:

What librarians want Follett?: Nancy, Dawn, Jeanne, Teri, Claudia, Kathy, Dan  
Who wants Koha?: Linda and Don

There is no money to pay librarians for training. So we discussed some creative planning. Subbing out would be cheaper. Could use a per diem day.

Finally, decided that the majority rules. We are standing by our original recommendation for the purchase and implementation of Follett Destiny - the basic version .

Suggested that we talk to principals to remind them the recommendation is coming.

Ron and Jodi will present our recommendation to the principals. If it is accepted, we make plans for the implementation. If not, we regroup on 5/21 for an articulation meeting and will further discuss management systems (along with Title V).