

TAC Meeting

August 15, 2024

Attendance: Jeremy Cox, Troy Jessup, Jenn Gibbs, Joe Breen, Spencer Jenkins, James Deaton, Troy Thompson, Jim Stewart, Bill Mott, Jonathan Karras, Lynne Yocom, David Long, Barry Bryson, Greg Scherer,

- Welcome
- Dark Fiber to the school – Discussion
 - Requests from stakeholders to put in dark fiber IRU into the districts
 - Pros
 - Help with redundancy, possibly
 - You can put different bandwidths on different links, pick and choose between 1G, 10G, 40G, 100G on links
 - Don't have to worry about hardware failure, the fiber has broken sometimes
 - Makes the whole backbone feel like a local network
 - Find it easier to troubleshoot the fiber than a lit service
 - Need to make sure there is a diverse path
 - Redundancy helps mitigate outages
 - Fiber has turned into the new circuits because of scalability
 - Less hardware failure but backhoes still provide a danger
 - Cons
 - Some challenges for a service provider
 - No visibility for a service provider to see if it is working or not
 - If purchased in a bundle, then the provider could be monitoring
 - An issue with a service provider being less responsive than if they have full visibility
 - UETN would monitor but don't have telemetry in all
 - Smaller districts would struggle as they don't have as many provider options and many outages associated with power outages
 - Would there be any other solutions in these cases?
 - UETN works these on a case-by-case basis
 - Cost
 - Questions on how the service providers handle outages
 - Critical components with the locates associated with fibers can be an issue
 - If UETN does a consortium, have a MOU stating districts are not able to bypass UETN from monitoring the network
- Security Assessment RFP and next steps – Discussion (Troy Jessup)
 - RFP is complete, and is looking to CompuNet for help with getting a “snapshot in time” of CIS framework
 - Not an intrusive Pen test
 - Adding several areas that affect education that are beyond the CIS frameworks
 - USAC announced a program that allows building consortiums within e-Rate, Priority 1 funding
 - Details on building consortiums
 - Informed strategies for asks of legislative funding
 - Trying to assess so UETN can get statistics to be able to tell the story to the audiences
 - The assessments will help to understand the tool's needs
 - FCC Pilot Program sends a signal to e-Rate
 - **UETN Cybersecurity Assessment Process Overview**
 - Took ARPA funds to do statewide assessments to look at consistency in approaches
 - Overall Scope:
 - Higher Education Institutions (9)
 - Technical Colleges (8)

- K12 School Districts (41)
 - Sample set of Charter Schools (up to 10)
 - Not including field stations/research sites at this time
- Assessment criteria
 - Scope of Institution
 - Framework Assessment
 - Device Inventory Capability Assessment
 - Software Inventory Capability Assessment
 - Identity and Access Management
 - Vulnerability Management Capability Assessment
 - Security Monitoring and Alerting capabilities
 - Endpoint Protection Capability Assessment
 - Network and System Security review
 - Staffing Levels of Cybersecurity Personnel
 - Data Inventory + Security and Privacy Capabilities
 - Cybersecurity Policy Assessment
 - Regulatory Requirements Assessment
 - User Awareness and Training
 - Incident Response Assessment
- Most are interview-type questions
 - Shouldn't take a lot of time
 - Expecting to start end of 2024
 - Starting end of August 2024/Beginning September 2024
- Deliverables
 - Statistics and Maturity Report Deliverable
 - Executive summary of all institutions
 - Executive summary of Higher Education, Tech Colleges, K-12
 - Report for each institution that is unique to the entity
 - Gap Analysis Report Deliverable
 - Parity of tools and capabilities report
 - Parity of Tools/Capabilities Report Deliverable
 - Oral Presentation of Results and Outcomes
 - Other value-add deliverables
- Troy will provide a summary and report back to the TAC group
- Member discussion topics
- Adjourn