



Tom Heller <theller@mymtsd-vt.org>

who takes care of your school websites?

10 messages

Will Hatch <whatch@acsdtvt.org>

Sat, Oct 14, 2017 at 8:12 AM

Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

In ACSD we are sparring over who is responsible for taking care of individual school websites. My feeling is that the IT department can assist with the "how" of putting content on websites, but shouldn't be responsible for the "what" goes on them. We have asked all schools to designate one person as a point of contact. As I expected, I'm getting opposition to this plan. We have 10 websites. Website maintenance is currently not in the job description of anyone in the IT department. We use Schoolwires.

My question for anyone willing to weigh-in, is what do you do in your district? Thanks for any feedback.

--

Will Hatch
Director Of Technology
Addison Central School District

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Keith WWSU <kpuffer@wwsu.org>

Sat, Oct 14, 2017 at 8:44 AM

Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

Will,

The four Elementary schools that I currently work with have the school websites managed by Tech Integrationist or Admin Assistant. With that being said, as the more active web presence via a blog, one of the schools really uses the Admin blog as the medium for information sharing and that community relies on the Building Admin (Principal) for the updates.

If it is website structure (if doing in-house), or as you have stated the "how" to manage, then I agree IT assists. But I have never felt that the content update should fall to IT. One of my opinions that I hold is that IT staff are "enablers" not "users". We exist to support and educate others so that they can do whatever their focus is (Students learn, Teachers teach and someone, as in this thread, manages public facing websites). My perspective may be changing as IT transitions from the back server closet to the front end user support.

Sorry for the rambling, but sitting here on the porch having coffee and enjoying the Foliage....

Keith

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Steve Jarrett <steve.jarrett@cesuvt.org>

Sat, Oct 14, 2017 at 9:07 AM

Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

I concur with your view, Will. I think that:

- building lead educators should write the content to represent their vision for the school.
- the task of putting that content on the website is clerical. It should not be in tech support's realm any more than typing letters or adding numbers to a spreadsheet.
- tech team's role, whether all techies or a few experts on the team, is to provide ongoing training and be available to answer questions.

In each of our nine schools and central office, usually an administrative assistant and/or principal is responsible for adding content. Anyone can submit content to them to put on the website. When problems arise, expert individuals within our district-wide tech team are available to support.

**This view applies to use of social media, too.*

Steve Jarrett
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Tom Heller <theller@mymtsd-vt.org>

Sat, Oct 14, 2017 at 3:47 PM

To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>

My dream is to have students run the website.

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Roger Saffle <saffle@highlandschools.org>

Sun, Oct 15, 2017 at 3:01 PM

Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

IT department secretary post content she is GIVEN for buildings. Our PR person also post most of the main content on the front page.

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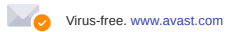
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Carole Renca <crenca@bsdvt.org>
Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

Sun, Oct 15, 2017 at 5:30 PM

A team of persons take care of the district and school website.

One designated administrator at Central Office who oversees at the district level and ensures district vision.

Each school has educators (librarians) as coordinators.

At EMS we have a team...they include:

The school librarian as coordinator and overseer the school website

The IT person actively posts school community and professional/ technology updates and coordinates all student posts of content and photographs

The gym teacher takes care of the school calendar including posting all athletic and other school events.

On Oct 14, 2017 8:12 AM, "Will Hatch" <whatch@acsdsvt.org> wrote:

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Russell Gregory <rgregory@fnwsu.org>
Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

Sun, Oct 15, 2017 at 8:16 PM

In our district each school finds someone who will/can do it for the school. In my first school I received a \$500 stipend for it (6 years ago). It's now part of my role as the Tech Integrationist at my current school, but I have a passion for web work as I teach it at CCV and a general interest in the web that is satisfied by working with the school site.

Our current site is a Wordpress Site that I setup. I made it clear that one person (on a staff of 120+) can't possibly be responsible for knowing what goes on everywhere. There is a form (handled by WordPress) that staff members can fill out (title, body, and submit photo button) when there is something to add. It comes through to me as an email and I just hit submit and perhaps format the photo for them, presto it's published.

My principal used to send me things all the time to add to the site, but she stopped doing that when she began tweeting two years ago. Now she tweets so much stuff that used to go on the website that we added her twitter feed to the right hand column of the front page.

You basically need to find the folks that produce the content and make it REALLY easy for them to get you the info for the site. Then just have your website quarterback your various information streams.

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--
Russell Gregory
Technology Integration Specialist
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[Quoted text hidden]

Mike Vining <mvining@sbschools.net>
Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

Tue, Oct 17, 2017 at 9:04 AM

SB also uses Schoolwires, we also help with the how, but not with the what, and we also got some push back until we put a Web Dev position into the budget... then we suddenly got a little buy in. Each building/department has a person responsible for the information on their page(s). Our stance continues to be that if you want something like a web site, you need to have some ownership of that tool.

Ain't nothing like telling the admins that IT needs more people to get the ball rolling.

Good luck!

Mike

From: School Information Technology Discussion [mailto:SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu] **On Behalf Of** Will Hatch
Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2017 8:12 AM
To: SCHOOL-IT@LIST.UVM.EDU
Subject: who takes care of your school websites?

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Craig Donnan <cdonnan@ewsd.org>
Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

Tue, Oct 17, 2017 at 9:38 AM

+1 Will, Keith and Steve

Web content is lead by admin with teaching/integration staff
Web DNS, or tech/hosting problems is IT

C
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--
Craig Donnan
Network Administrator

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If you need immediate assistance please contact our helpdesk at 802-857-7000 ext 1234 or helpdesk@ewsd.org.

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Will Hatch <whatch@acsdvt.org>
Reply-To: School Information Technology Discussion <SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu>
To: SCHOOL-IT@list.uvm.edu

Wed, Oct 18, 2017 at 7:05 AM

Thanks for the good feedback on this everyone.

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