



ICN Insider

Iowa Communications Network
January/February 2016 Newsletter

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Join the
#BroadbandMatters
conversation for
education, government,
public safety, and
healthcare.

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SYBAC Students Provide Technology Feedback

Eleven Iowa high school students meet together via video conference each month to discuss technology related topics with ICN's Executive Director, Ric Lumbard. While providing their technology perspective, the Statewide Youth Broadband Advisory Council (SYBAC) students are honing their leadership and networking skills. Each meeting, one of the students is the facilitator and researches questions/topics for the other students to discuss. The following are a variety of topics discussed since their first meeting in October.

- Technology challenges, how students are teaching educators' technology, trying to find content, and incorporating digital devices and cell phones in the classroom.
- Schools have dead zones, and teachers and students walk out of a classroom (into the hallway) to get a Wi-Fi connection.
- Gaming and coding is a new life skill that students are learning.
- Competition deficiency with Internet connectivity in schools and communities.
- How FirstNet will provide emergency responders with the first high-speed, wireless nationwide public safety broadband network.
- Augmented reality and what we consider 'futuristic technology' – should it be perfected or is it needless inventions.
- Do consumers and retailers have the same level of cyber security responsibility? Should there be more cyber security classes in high school?
- Satellite broadband in vehicles and Wi-Fi in buses: would this be more of a distraction or a helpful in completing daily assignments or tasks?
- Are retail companies susceptible to data breaches and the security of consumer information?
- Encrypting vs. non-encrypting data over the Internet.

Find a recap of each SYBAC meeting on ICN's website at <https://icn.iowa.gov/benefiting-iowans/sybac>.

You are cordially invited to...

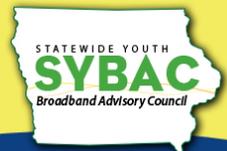
SYBAC Day 2016

February 9th, 2016
Hear from ICN's SYBAC student advocates!

Meet one-on-one with SYBAC students

10:30 – 11:30AM, Iowa State Capitol
Room 304

SYBAC monthly meeting
2 – 3 PM, Grimes State Office Bldg
Basement Room B100



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Visit us on the web at www.icn.iowa.gov

ICN's Iowa Distance Learning Database Website

ICN has launched a new Iowa Distance Learning Database (IDLD) website, which provides information about video sites located throughout Iowa that connect to the ICN. The website, <https://idld.icn.iowa.gov>, allows visitors to search by community college region and view customer video site information, scheduler and local contacts, and equipment and facilities data.



Iowa Distance Learning Database

The website incorporates user locations that have transitioned their video site equipment to ICN's Video@LightSpeed (V@LS 1.0). To identify if a video site has IP/H.323 capabilities, the node number will be in the 1000 or 2000 range.

ICN users are encouraged to transition their video conferencing use to V@LS 1.0. After June 30, 2018, MPEG2 video conferencing will no longer be offered or supported by the ICN. Advancements in IP video conferencing services and applications allow for mobility, space flexibility, lower operational costs, and simpler and easy-to-use interfaces.

For comments or questions about the ICN IDLD website contact lori.larsen@iowa.gov. For questions regarding the MPEG2 sunset date, please contact your account consultant or Phil Groner at phil.groner@iowa.gov.

Gov. Branstad Signs Executive Order to Address Cybersecurity

Gov. Terry E. Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds announced [Executive Order Eighty-Seven](#) that will combat cybersecurity threats in Iowa on December 21st.

“As co-chair of the Council of Governors, I know how important cybersecurity is to our state’s posture. With this in mind, I am issuing Executive Order Eighty-Seven which will direct our state agencies to draft a State of Iowa cybersecurity strategy and update Iowa’s emergency response plan to better deal with the physical consequences of a cyberattack against the state’s critical infrastructure,” said Gov. Branstad.

In December of 2014, Governor Branstad formed a State cyber working group to expand on the work that was being done at the national level. That group, comprised of state

agencies and key federal and private partners, looked at ways to prevent, detect, respond to and recover from cyber threats in Iowa. State of Iowa agencies involved in the group were the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Iowa National Guard, Iowa Department of Public Safety, Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Iowa Communications Network. In addition, the FBI, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, private industry and the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center participated in the group. The results from this group’s work are the foundation for this executive order.

Executive Order Eighty-Seven can be read in its entirety on the [Governor’s website](#).

Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report

ICN released its Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2015 on November 25. The report outlines activities for July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Highlights from the report include:

- On January 1, 2015, ICN began a new public/private partnership with Fiberutilities Group, who now manages ICN’s Network Operations Center and related field services.
- In FY 2015, 42 new healthcare sites were connected to the Iowa Rural Health Telecommunications Program’s fiber optic network managed by the ICN, which now joins over 200 healthcare locations.

- ICN serves as a technical management support partner to the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board, by gathering required FirstNet asset and profile data.
- The Broadband Matters awareness campaign was initiated and advocates broadband discussions within education, healthcare, public safety, and government entities.

Read ICN’s annual report at <https://icn.iowa.gov/about-icn/agency-reports>.



Helen Troyanovich Named Iowa Deputy SWIC

On December 9, the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) named ICN's Helen Troyanovich as Iowa's Deputy Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC). ICN serves as a technical management support partner to the ISICSB, by gathering required FirstNet asset and profile data. This new role for Helen will continue to strengthen the relationship between ICN and ISICSB.

Helen has been active with the ISICSB since 2014 as a member of the Technology Committee. The Technology Committee deliberates public safety interoperability technical standards for data and voice communications. In the Deputy SWIC role, Helen will work with the newly formed 'Usage' Committee, which includes coordinating communication with six Regional Interoperability Committees (RICs).

Ric Lumbard, ICN Executive Director said, "Helen will represent Iowa public safety and the ICN well in this endeavor. She has been involved in several aspects of the ISICSB board efforts up to this point technologically."

Helen has served in many roles within the ICN for the last 15 years, which include Telecommunications Sales Engineer, Product Engineering and Delivery (PED) Manager, and most recently ICN's Cyber Bureau Chief. She has a passion for first responders, since she has served as a volunteer fire fighter.

The Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) is a partnership that reaches all disciplines with a mission to unify common interests. The ISICSB establishes policies and protocol for developing and overseeing the operation of a statewide integrated public safety communications interoperability system.

Iowa FirstNet Public Private Partnership Summit

A discussion with public and private sectors interested in the FirstNet initiative.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2016

GRIMES STATE OFFICE BUILDING
400 E 14TH STREET
CONFERENCE ROOM B100

[RSVP](#) by February 25, 2016. Free and open to the public.



Broadband Matters News

[FirstNet Board Approves Final Request For Proposal; Release Expected in Early January](#)

On December 9, 2015, the Board of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) convened an open public meeting in which it considered and approved the material terms of its Request for Proposal (RFP). The RFP includes a national acquisition approach to building and operating the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN).

[New report: A fifth of Americans are now online 'almost constantly'](#)

Do you feel that you're constantly staring at a screen? You might be. Look around. A little over a fifth, or 21 percent, of Americans say that they are online "almost constantly," according to this new report by the Pew Research Center.

[Teaching coding to kids as important as foreign language, CEO says](#)

Apple CEO Tim Cook says teaching coding to kids is just as important as teaching any other foreign language. And the younger kids start learning it, the better.

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