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Eliminate Extended Warranties on Your Workstation Purchases

This month I want to discuss a topic that came up during our NJASBO presentation in Atlantic City a few weeks ago.

During our seminar on “Reducing Technology Costs” we outlined a strategy to eliminate extended warranties on workstation computers. The strategy outlined is as follows:

When purchasing a group of workstations at one time (let’s say 25 or more), it may make more sense to decline the extended warranties offered for these machines and instead invest in one of each of the following hardware components:

- Hard Drive
- Memory
- Power Supply
- System Board

Remember that these components must be identical to the group of machines that you are purchasing; generic hard drives, memory, power supplies and system boards will not do.

In the event that a workstation hard drive fails, you can easily retrieve your backup hard drive from the storage closet and install it. Once installed you will need to purchase another hard drive to replace the backup.

The anticipation and purchase of defective hardware in advance can not only significantly save on the initial cost of a group workstation purchase, but also speed up the process of getting that machine back up and running – no more endless phone calls to Dell, HP or Apple trying to expedite a defective part replacement and no more waiting for a technician to arrive.

Following this strategy can save your school a significant amount of money and you will always have a backup hardware component on hand to replace failed parts. Furthermore, this strategy is fairly straightforward to implement and can be applied to your next group workstation purchase.

Keep in mind though that you will need specific hardware for each group purchase. Models along with the associated hardware installed changes quickly over time. Label all parts by the make, model and purchase date for your workstation groups.

At this time of year it is too nice outside to be stuck on a lengthy phone call with Dell, HP or Apple

technical support!

Enjoy your spring,



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