



Rick Pummel

Support Staff Spotlight

NAME: Rick Pummel

POSITION: Network Engineer

DEPARTMENT: Technology

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 14 years

Q. What is your role as Network Engineer?

A. My primary job is to keep all computers talking to each other and to the internet. We work hard to keep kids safe from the nasty elements of the internet through the firewall and web filters. I also plan ahead for growth in the technology infrastructure.

Q. Did you ever think the internet would be what it is today?

A. The internet has changed what we do in many ways. We are able to use resources that are outside of our entity. These resources can be for gathering knowledge or processing data. It allows better communication than we have ever had before. It's been a major enhancement and what's to come is still unknown or is anyone's guess.

Q. What are some of the changes you have seen during your career in technology?

A. I worked in hospital technology for 10 years before coming to the district in 2001. I have seen a lot of changes over the years in operating systems and servers. Our desktop computers are much more powerful today too. The consumerization of technology has put a lot more power in the hands of users. We are trying to push these options out to the classroom.

Q. What do you do when the technology is not working properly?

A. We receive notifications when issues arise. I begin to troubleshoot the cause to determine the problem. There can be a lot of different issues in the complex environment that we work in, so it can take some time to resolve. The nice thing about technology there is always a cause and a solution. It's a matter of figuring it out.

Over 

NOTES:

There is nothing we want more than to provide something useful for the classrooms and kids. There is so much you can do with technology and we are the facilitators. We want to make the technology work and let our staff and students do amazing things.

Highlights Rick Pummel

I like to sing, mostly in a church environment. I sing with the Oregon Adventists Men's Chorus and WW Choral Society.

I like to volunteer with an organization called Pathfinders. We take teenagers mountain biking, caving, rock climbing and swift water canoeing.

I'm married and have two adult sons.

