

Renéal Team Meeting 8 September 2025

Topics

- Future of Reneal
- Trip Goals

Issues for Future of Reneal

- Technical
 - Hardware/software obsolescence
- Resources
 - Apto Solutions support
- Student Usage
 - Are labs being used

Technical Issues

- Reneal software is based on Ubuntu 16.04, support ended in 2021
- Current server hardware availability is a concern, and not sure 16.04 will run on newer hardware
- Newer laptops do not have RJ45 connectors
- Neal was working on an updated Reneal system based on 24.04, but it is not complete
- Apto Solutions has donated 20 microDesktops, which could be used as servers for 2026

Resources

- Apto Solutions has committed 200 laptops for 2025 Phase 2 (to be received later in 2025)
- But no commitment yet from Apto Solutions for 2026 and beyond

Student Usage

- Student usage was down significantly in 2024, compared to 2023
- If labs are not being used by students, Reneal's mission is not being achieved – does not justify the cost and effort
- Good usage depends on good maintenance and good training
- Board will review 2025 student usage to help determine future path

Options for 2026 for Reneal Board

- If usage continues to be poor, Reneal will:
 - Stop expanding in 2026
 - Continue to maintain active labs as long as they are being used
- If usage improves, Reneal will also:
 - Request 2026 donation of laptops from Apto Solutions
 - Review 24.04 work to date to decide if update should be completed
- For either case, Board demands that we deactivate labs with poor usage, so equipment can be deployed to existing or new schools

Goals for 2025 Trip

- Refurbish deactivated equipment (servers/clients) so it can be deployed to other schools
- Review Team action items to make sure schools are at 100% (maintenance and training)
- Prepare update of TZ National exams for all servers, for 2026 visits
- Review 2024 usage data with Team to see where problems are
- Update emergency servers in Warehouse
- Discuss wireless and WebDev on new servers

Next Meeting

- What day/time is best?