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Instructional Technology News

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Projector Installations at FPS by Patty Plummer

How does that Aesop Fable go ... slow and steady wins the race? Not that we were in a race ... exactly ... but we were determined to see our goal of a projector in every classroom through! So where did we start and where are we now?

We started in 2002-2003 school year with the first of our QZAB Grant Projects. Awarded to Jefferson Elementary School, the grant funded a computer in every classroom for every child, along with a ceiling-mounted projector in every classroom for enhanced instruction.

Asbell followed in the 2003-2004 school year with their version of 1:1 QZAB Grant Project – different computers, different desks, same concept. We brought in computers in every classroom for every child, along with ceiling-mounted projectors, the key item in an Intelligent Classroom.

The 2004-2005 school year targeted shared access to QZAB Grant Project funds amongst the remaining Title Elementary schools... Holcomb, Happy Hollow, Leverett and Washington. While building-wide 1:1 computing was cost prohibitive for the remaining schools with the amount of funds allotted, we were able to stay consistent with our

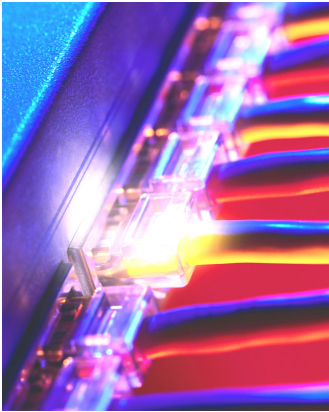
overall goal of Intelligent Classrooms in every building with a ceiling-mounted projector as the focal point for each room along with some newer technologies for more mobile instruction!

The 2005-2006 school was the year of equity! Yes, we were still fortunate enough to be awarded a QZAB Grant Project this year – this time for Holt Middle School – but the school board also challenged the district to match the funds and get the non-title elementary and middle schools on the same playing field as the title schools in the district. McNair, Root, Vandergriff and Butterfield were the elated recipients of Intelligent Classroom setups too!

The 2006-2007 school year continued our slow but steady trend with complete Intelligent Classroom setups at both of our junior high schools. The 2007-2008 school year wraps up our projector race with FHS/Bates at 50% completion. Maintenance has been working hard to knock out a few projector installs each week, with the remaining rooms scheduled for installs over Spring Break.

The 2008-2009 school year will find the district goal of projectors in EVERY instructional classroom COMPLETE. So what's next? Perhaps projector and cables upgrades, the potential of retro-fitting classrooms with ceiling sound, maybe network management technology? Whatever the future holds – remember slow and steady wins the race!

Network Wireless Coverage by Patty Plummer



From upgrading the network switches, to installing power in the ceilings, to running miles of network cable, to configuring access points, our district teams are happy to report that January 2008 finds the Fayetteville Public School District complete with enhanced wireless coverage in all instructional areas! During the 2006-2007 school year, Enterprise Systems and Services completed school surveys which located the areas in each building that would provide ubiquitous wireless access based on the types of use in each area (teacher workstations, classroom labs, mobile carts, and professional development training areas). In addition to the design for providing enhanced wireless access, Enterprise Systems and Services formulated the plan for new security systems to authenticate and

encrypt wireless transactions to keep information private and prevent unauthorized access to the district network. In conjunction with the electrical and networking staff in our Maintenance Department, Enterprise Systems and Services began full implementation of the Enhanced Wireless Coverage Project during the Summer of 2007.

Technology Spotlight: Assistive Technology by Sherry Wallis

In the Fayetteville School District, Assistive Technologies are provided to those students in need. Students are identified through a process defined by Special Services and the Assistive Technology Consultation Team. Sherry Wallis, Technology Specialist at Vandergirff, is one of the newest members of the Assistive Technology Team, joining as a technology consultant to the team. She recently attended a Preparing for Success workshop in Clarksville at the University of the Ozarks. The Workshop's focus was Using Technology to Foster Independence in Students with Learning Disabilities. One of the sessions was a simulation which placed the participant in a learning disability learning situation. Sherry then offered a

short in-service to simulate learning disabilities. Kay Jamar, another member of the AT Team and a Hearing Specialist assisted with the session. The mini workshop created an environment of hearing loss, dyslexia, and other learning disability situations. The most enlightening thing to come out of a workshop such as this is the level of comprehension captured when people see the affects of a learning disability. It is meant to bridge the gap of learning disability understanding between student and teacher. Look for a 3 hour in-service on this topic offered by Sherry and other members of the AT Team. Feel free to contact Sherry at swallis@fayar.net for details.



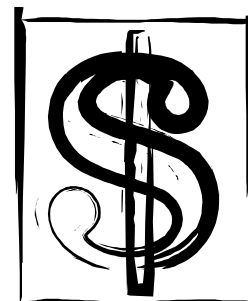
<http://www.granitegrok.com/pix/spotlight.jpg>

In addition, the Assistive Technology Team was recently awarded a grant to purchase equipment to establish/enhance the Assistive Technology kit for assessing the use of targeted equipment. The team will be meeting in the very near future to review needs and prioritize. Look for an update in the next newsletter. For further information, contact Debra Wilson at dwilson@fayar.net

Grant Opportunities

* Fayetteville Public Education Foundation *

Applications for the 2008-09 FPEF grants are now available. Applications will be on hand in every principal's office in the district or may be obtained by contacting our executive director, Treva Hamilton. They can also be downloaded from the FPEF website.



http://schoolcenter.fayar.net/education/components/whatsnew/default.php?sectiondetailid=19715&sc_id=1201292948

Application deadline: March 3, 2008

Application process: Applications must be completed and returned to Treva Hamilton by mail to PO Box 571, 72702; Faxed to 527-3656; or delivered to the foundation office, located at 877 California Drive, by 4:30 pm March 3, 2008 . Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

* Professional Development for Arts Educators (PDAE) Program *

The Professional Development for Arts Educators (PDAE) Program supports the implementation of high-quality professional development model programs in music, dance, drama, media arts, or visual arts, including folk arts, for arts educators and other instructional staff of kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) students in high-poverty schools.

<http://a257.g.akamai.net/7/257/2422/01jan20081800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-217.htm>

Application deadline: Submit Notice of Intent to Apply by February 11, 2008
Submit final application by February 29, 2008

Application process: Request Application Package: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone, toll free: 1-877-433-7827



Web Resource

Write Source Writing Topics Guide (www.thewritesource.com/topics.htm)

provide suggestions for student topics and shows models of good writing. The student models are shown by type (creative writing, persuasive, academic, workplace, etc.) and the links at the top of each page access MLA and APA styles as well as samples and information on how to cite references

Instructional Technology News is edited by Laura Wainscott, Technology Integration Specialist at Holt Middle School and Leverett Elementary. For column suggestions, please email lwainscott@fayar.net.