

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

# Anchorage - Lake Hood Elementary School Book and Technology Grant

**State Funding Requested: \$10,000****House District: 26 / M**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

This grant would provide funds to purchase books and technology equipment for Lake Hood Elementary School's educational needs.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$10,000***There is no other funding needed***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This is an educational priority. A book and technology grant will allow Lake Hood Elementary School to keep up with the ever-growing list of technological and computer accessories that are necessary to meet the educational needs of students. It will also allow the school's classrooms and library to purchase books and audio books which are used to increase literacy rates.

**Project Timeline:**

The grant funds will be expended during the 2010-2011 school year in FY11

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Anchorage School District

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No



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Tamara Nunley  
Principal

To Whom It May Concern:

February 26, 2010

The purpose of this letter is to share with the Alaska State Legislature the reasons why Lake Hood Elementary would benefit from a grant to support netbooks on a mobile cart, document cameras, projectors, color printer, and other books/technology. Let me share some of my teacher's thoughts concerning the needed resources for our classrooms.

One thing we could say about the document cameras and projectors is that they have pretty much taken the place of overhead projectors in the classroom. They allow teachers to share any printed document, book excerpt, or computer page with the class immediately without the need to run transparencies. The year I taught 1st grade, I bet I used \$100 worth of transparencies (and hours of my time) just to copy the pages of the EDM workbook. It was the only practical way to help the kids understand the new concepts constantly being introduced. All the first grade teachers made their own set because we were teaching the same thing at the same time. In that respect, the document cameras and projectors can help pay for themselves. Overhead projectors are going the way of the ditto machine!

Every classroom teacher really needs to have his or her own. Kindergarten is trying to share one right now, and it is awkward because we don't have that immediacy. We don't know if it is going to be available and we have to go get it and set it up each time we want to use it. I would probably use it almost daily if I had consistent access. One example is that our HM phonics readers include only 5 copies. They do a great job of reinforcing the new concepts learned each week in our literacy program, but the kids really need to see the pictures and print (and they are tiny). I would love to use them for whole group instruction and read-along, and I could do that if I could project them. They would also be in color! Much more engaging for the students than the black and white copies available when using the transparencies and overhead projector. - Sheryl

My two cents regarding the document camera/projector: I use it ALL day long, in every subject!! It saves on loads of paper/transparencies and my favorite use of it is for students to bring their work up to show the class. Very empowering. And, I love being able to hook my laptop up to it and show them websites, teach mini-technology lessons, etc. Don't know if that's helpful at all.

-Kimberly

OR what about smart boards? Especially for intermediate as these students will be using them a lot in middle school. -Rachel

Classrooms need these items to keep up with the technology being utilized in the private sector. Without adequate current materials, schools will not have access to tools that ASD or Lake Hood purchases (online programs, streaming services, research sites, site programs etc) nor can we access thousands of free resources available to students and educators.

The projection system will enable classrooms to project student work (a huge motivator) as well as project any teaching material without the use of an overhead slide. This will allow classrooms to keep up with new materials, new editions of curriculum, workbooks, and outside resources without making & replacing overheads – literally hundreds (maybe thousands) of pages of overheads PER classroom.

As educators, we also need to stay current with the technology out there. We need to be educated ourselves to ensure that these materials are utilized efficiently and effectively – so we can teach students to be efficient and effective with their use of technology. -Diane

A document camera would be useful for instruction of special education students to teach students the writing process. As it is, I use copies but I don't have a good means of the students staying on track.... for those that don't read that well, me pointing to the words would be helpful. I could project pictures and get color with them so the kids can have a springboard for writing. I can think of uses and all are especially helpful when you consider the size of groups we are working with. Same goes for math, it would just be more effective than erasing the board and standing at the board with my back to kids.... Environmentally friendly, less wasteful. -Kay

Document Projectors would allow me to: 1) Display limited copy primary source documents to the class without infringement of copyright law 2) Display student work/revisions/editing during writing workshop 3) Display non-print items and overlays

Other ways technology has impacted student learning: With the use of Flip video cameras and iMovie, the Student Support Team was able to craft a behavioral intervention plan that included making a movie of a student self-modeling appropriate behaviors in school. This same technology will help the sixth grade provide leadership in school climate change--they will soon be making a movie about bullying, its effects, and ways that students can prevent and break the cycle of bullying. -Donna

I use the document camera and smart board everyday with my class. For math it is great to do the Everyday Math using Smart Board. The kids can actually come up to the board to do the problems or follow what is on the board with me in their journals. This is so much easier than using a transparency because you cannot only keep the work current. Everyone can see what you are doing and it is a lot of fun for the kids. I will be scanning reading workbooks in it for the same reason. It is a more interactive tool. There are

things I can have on my computer and show the kids using the smart board. I can use the websites to find information which we are studying - Anchorage history, Iditarod, etc.

Netbooks and cart would be excellent for the kids to use to type their own stories in. I've used them in the past and the students feel like they have written an actual book compared to when they just write it out. This helps with their typing skills, which is what they need in this world.

Among all these things mentioned, the most important is the academic achievement of all students at Lake Hood Elementary. Online technologies such as Lexia, Aimsweb, Achieve 3000, and Skills Alaska are among many that can differentiate specific skill areas that are weak for students in the area of Reading, Writing, and Math. Education is moving in a new direction where tools can be accessed at school and at home. To take full advantage of these resources, hardware is necessary. When students have this technology in the classroom, students are engaged in their learning due to the new rewiring of the brain: digital natives.

I would like to have access to a color printer as the leader of Lake Hood Elementary. There are times when it is appropriate to print in color whether it is a brochure, mini-poster, newsletter, photos of student activities, etc. I need this tool as the instructional leader at the school. Using this resource wisely would enhance communications already going home to parents, students, and the surrounding community.

I do hope the Alaska State Legislature follows through with these particular grants for Lake Hood Elementary. All resources would be used wisely to benefit our diverse learning community. Thank you for your time to share this information with you.

Best regards,



Tamara Nunley  
Principal