

November 20, 2009

Christine Morita-Mcvey & Andrew Riley
Co-Presidents
Duniway PTA Board of Directors

Dear Christine and Andrew:

This letter is to request a grant of \$7,984.20 to purchase ten (10) Student PC Desktop Bundles @ \$798.42. A “bundle” includes an HP 17” LCD student desktop computer, Imaging/ tagging/ delivery/installation of Microsoft Office license.

The Desktop Bundle is on the approved list from Portland Public Schools IT Department, therefore meets PPS standards and technology guideline. All student desktops purchased will be used by students in grades k-5 classrooms, and will help meet the goal of phasing out all current out dated computers with Windows 98.

Our school technology coordinator and third grade teacher Joanne Chow will work with the district IT department and the classroom teachers under my directions to ensure that these desktops are installed and ready for student use after they are delivered to our building.

The effectiveness of additional student computers will be less waiting time for students to access and utilize the computers in their classrooms for research and for their daily writing assignment and projects. This year, our Academic Action Plan of our School Improvement Plan is to crease the number of students meeting and exceeding the statewide Writing benchmarks and to improve our student writing performance. More student computers will enhance our achievement of this Plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Tou Meksavanh

Questions asked by the PTA board:

How, specifically, does having computers address improvements in writing benchmarks and thus meet the goals of the PTA?

How will these be integrated with the grant funded laptops received this fall?

How many student computers does the school have now, how many are in each classroom, and how many will be in each classroom after the upgrade?

Response:

Drafting and editing using the computers as a tool directly supports and enhance our student writing in every classroom. The laptops will be used mainly by fifth graders, I have purchased 5 more from this year's IT Refresh allocation from the district. This will bring the total Mac laptops to 24 and will allow each student and fifth grade teachers to have access to one and not having to share one every time the entire class utilize the laptops. The laptops will also be used for on-line testing back-up for the lab on the second floor.

We have a total of nearly ninety student desktops in 18 classrooms, including one in the music room, and four in the Special Ed room. There are ten computers with Windows 98 that Mrs. Chow (IT coordinator) and I plan to phase out this year. The additional ten new computers if approved by the PTA Board will allow us to do so.