

ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: August 27, 2012

AGENDA ITEM No. 12-08-(2)-08

ACTION ITEM: (Y/N) N

SUBJECT: Technology Update – Special Education

INFO. CONTACT: Dr. Denise Morton and Connie Crimmins PHONE: (919) 732-8126

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Summary of Specialized Computer Needs

PURPOSE: To provide the Board of Education a technology update on specialized computer purchases for students with disabilities.

BACKGROUND: During the discussions about the digital conversion this past school year, staff and Board members discussed that not all students may need a standard laptop. The discussion centered on students with disabilities who might benefit from a different type of technology. As a follow-up, the Board of Education requested that the Director of Exceptional Children and her staff conduct a needs assessment to determine special needs students' technology needs.

The EC staff began with the assumption that most of the students identified through the Exceptional Children's program could access the student laptop except for those students with access difficulties such as low vision, etc. Input was solicited from teachers and related service providers to create a list.

Some students with access difficulties due to intellectual disabilities or communication needs were selected to receive an iPad. There was not a "one solution" for all students with disabilities who needed something different. Each child was individually considered as to what type of device would provide the greatest access to the curriculum.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The cost for 15 iPads and 7 laptops for 22 students with disabilities was \$14,331.58.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education receive for information the technology update on special education.

SUMMARY OF SPECIALIZED COMPUTER NEEDS

2012-2013

Centralized Program Students

Orange High School

- 7 Students with Intellectual Disability
- 3 Students with Multiple Disabilities
- 1 Student with Autism
- 11 Students Total

10 Students will receive iPads with otter boxes
1 Student will receive 1 mini laptop with headset

A.L. Stanback Middle School

- 1 Student with Other Health Impaired
- 1 Student with Intellectual Disability
- 2 Students with Multiple Disabilities
- 2 Students with Autism
- 6 Students Total

All students will receive iPads with otter boxes

Non-Centralized Program Students

C.W. Stanford Middle School

- 1 Student with Visual Impairment
- 1 Student with other Health Impairment

Cedar Ridge High School

- 2 Students with Visual Impairment

A.L. Stanback Middle School

- 1 Student with an Orthopedic Impairment

Orange High School

- 1 Student with Other Health Impairment/Visually Impaired
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6 Students total all will receive full size laptops
*1 Student has read aloud software on their laptop