



For Immediate Release

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Board of Education Approves \$2.4 million Order for Apple Equipment and Services

At their July 17th regular meeting, the Board of Education approved a \$2.4 million order to Apple, Inc. The order consists of 1,272 iMacs, 155 MacBook Pro laptops, 870 iPads, 21 Apple TVs, plus a full service Apple implementation, training and maintenance plan.

The order was motivated by the desire to provide teachers with a new classroom technology suite for evaluation in support of improved student achievement, and the need to replace a large number of older district PCs which cannot support the installation of Windows 7 and Microsoft Office 10 planned for this summer.

The iMacs will be installed in the three high schools – Santa Fe High, Capital High, and the Academy at Larragoite. Existing newer PCs from the high schools will be redeployed to middle schools, K-8 and elementary schools.

The initial focus of the classroom suites is planned for 9th grade math to enable the use of web-based instructional programs such as the Khan Academy. Selected other-subject classrooms lead by tech-savvy teachers are included in order to “lead the way” in developing new, more effective, and more engaging instructional practice. Planned for installation in 21 evaluation classrooms, these Apple-based technology suites include iPads for students, an iMac for the teacher coupled with a smart board, Apple TV and wireless connectivity to support classroom integration. Two of the technology classroom suites will be installed at Ramirez Thomas Elementary, the district’s turnaround school. A mobile iPad lab is planned for Wood Gormley Elementary. Additionally, school principals and district administrators will be issued iPads to accelerate the process of embracing the world of learning preferred by our students.

“This Apple order represents a bold new direction for the district, one that I believe is instrumental in developing new strategies for improving student learning,” said Interim Superintendent Tom Sullivan. New Superintendent Joel Boyd agrees.

The initiative is being funded via SB-9 and HB-33, the mill levy funding received through elections approved by voters. Additional orders are likely this year once this installation is completed and the district evaluates next steps. Learnings from the high schools can be deployed in the middle schools. The installation is planned for late August through early September.

Please direct any questions to Carl Gruenler, Chief Financial Officer, at 467-2047 or cgruenler@sfps.info.