



MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. David Lenker, Superintendent
FROM: Wanda Nelson Fowler, Principal
DATE: February 1, 2007

Please accept the following as my response to a request for justification for the portion of White Oak's technology request for 2007-2008 that related to a wireless cart and 24 laptops.

White Oak Elementary School needs an additional computer lab to accommodate our growing student population. We have the highest student-to-computer ratio of any elementary or middle school in the County and the third highest of all schools.

The site-based leadership team at White Oak Elementary believes that a wireless mobile cart equipped with 24 laptops is a viable solution for some of our technology issues. We also believe our request for funding of this expenditure is pragmatic and fiscally responsible given our current technology access needs coupled with our physical space limitations

We use our computer lab for instruction in the technology standards, integration of those standards into all other curriculum areas, skills-based programs in math and reading, remediation, reading, writing, and math assessments. Any computer-created class or individual project requires lab time as well.

The school's short-term plans for utilization of these laptops include use by third, fourth and fifth graders in their regular classrooms, thereby accommodating the access needs while maximizing use of available space.

Long-term plans --once the new classroom building comes on line-- include putting the laptops on teachers' desks and taking the teacher desktops and equipping a lab classroom in the new building.

Please know that much thought and planning go into the budget requests that come from White Oak Elementary. Our technology request is no exception.
