

2014 CenturyLink: Teachers & Technology Grant Program

CFEF Awarded Projects

County/Foundation	Project Title	Project Abstract
Charlotte/Charlotte Local Education Foundation	Reflex Math	The goal of this project is to build fluency in basic math facts so that students are not spending all of their time trying to figure out the “simple” steps of the problem when there are so many steps to be solved. Reflex Math has proven through research to increase the most basic math facts for every student in grades 2-6. Some of the gains for these students have been as much as 75%. With grant funds, software licenses and teacher training will be provided.
Collier/Champions for Learning	Technology at Work: Students Learning From Teacher Externships	This project proposed to provide summer externships to 12 teachers for community-based professional development that will give them experiences in traditional and applied technology in various business sectors. These experiences will allow teachers to share examples of applied technology in the workplace and integrate the experiences into technology-driven classroom lessons. Hundreds of students will be impacted through this project. This project would support each teacher with a \$400 classroom grant to create a technology-driven lesson(s) that would allow students to experience the workplace technology in some way—examples might include: a simulation or demonstration, webinars or video conference, use of virtual labs such as PhET, the creation or use of virtual field trips, multi-media vehicles, or purchases of technology that will help their students experience the technology in a real-world context. This project is a collaborative effort between the local education foundation, the local Chamber of Commerce, and the public school district.
Glades/Glades Education Foundation	iPads in the Classroom	This elementary school is a Title I school located in a small, rural school district. School demographics data indicates 71% of students are economically disadvantaged. Based on state assessment (FCAT) 59% of students in 4th grade are reading below level, and 56% of students are below level in the area of math. Fourth grade teachers want to use every tool possible to ignite a passion for learning. The teacher applying for this grant will utilize iPads to increase the use of technology in 4th grade to enhance learning. iPads will be used during learning center time. This technology will assist in peaking the interest of reluctant readers, provide choices in reading materials, provide a tool for scaffolding instruction for diverse learners, and will assist with differentiated instruction. The iPads will be a tool for providing hands on learning that fits each individual child’s ability while they are working in small groups during center time. This learning will in turn improve students’ abilities to master many skills. These tools will aid in promoting student learning gains.
Glades/Glades Education Foundation	Kindles, Kids, and Reading	This elementary school is located in a small, rural county school district. School demographics show 66% of 68 second grade students are economically disadvantaged. Seventy-two percent of students in second grade are reading 1 year or more below level and students at all levels need to increase their independent reading time. Kindle E-Readers will increase the use of technology to enhance learning. This technology will assist in peaking the interest of reluctant readers. A class set of Kindles will be purchased and additional e-readers will be bought as funds become available. The Intensive Reading Teacher will introduce Kindles to teachers and students and provide training on how to use them properly. Readers will have a wider variety of genres, authors, and subjects than what is currently available in the school’s media center. The use of technology along with broader range of materials will increase reading practice which in turn will begin to instill a love of reading. STAR Reading Assessment given at the beginning and end of the project will provide the data to document an increased understanding of reading skills and an increased interest in reading.
Hendry/Hendry Public Schools Foundation	The Completely Interactive Math Classroom	The Completely Interactive Math Classroom project will transform the traditional teacher-dominated classroom into an environment where students are using technology to participate in lessons and the teacher is using technology to facilitate learning. No longer will the teacher ask a question and call on a student to answer. Instead, every student will answer questions posed via remote response devices (RRD). Students will interact with lessons via the RRD and the student slates that allow a student to virtually write on a projected image that looks like a traditional whiteboard. The teacher will facilitate the learning through the use of a teacher’s slate that controls the student slates as well as the lesson presentation and the polling/questioning students complete with the RRD. Teachers will have access to real time data to determine the class’s understanding of the material and later will have access to individual student data to determine which students need additional help or remediation in specific topics. The use of technology will also increase student interest and achievement in mathematics as they interact with lessons and assessments on a daily basis using the technology afforded in this project.

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Highlands/Highlands County Education Foundation	Cultivating Civically SMARTer Citizens	Roles, rights, and responsibilities of educated citizens begin with active involvement in one's own learning and in applying that knowledge to choices one makes. Seventh grade students will develop and enhance their understanding of the required civics curriculum using interactive devices to develop, organize, and assess their learning. The integrated SMART Systems (SMART Board, document camera, response clickers, and SMART software) will be used to provide quick insights into learning, deliver visualization of content (posters, documents, images, maps, and work products), and allow students to interact with content more effectively using these digital tools. Technology actively involves students and provides the necessary hook needed for continuous engagement, thereby improving student short-term and long-term learning outcomes.
Highlands/Highlands County Education Foundation	Past, Present, & Future...Using iPads to Explore the World Around Us	Within the four walls of an elementary classroom, students have many resources at their fingertips. Objects like textbooks, pieces of literature, and a few student computers are often accessible by all students. However, the students' experiences are limited to only the resources provided within those four walls and very seldom get to venture out beyond what happens in the world around them. There is one tool that has the power to transform this reality: the iPad. In this project, our goal is to unlock the world around our students including the past, present, and future through the use of iPads in a digital learning literacy center that includes high exposure to non-fiction text and differentiated research all with the goal of boosting student achievement in reading. Through this project, the walls are no longer the limit, but rather the students' horizons will broaden as they discover a world full of rich history, fascinating facts, and wonderful wonders that can be unlocked through reading and technology. It is a win-win!
Lake/Educational Foundation of Lake County	Digital Literacy Through STEM	In this project students will be utilizing iPads, digital camera, software, and green screen technology to create products for different purposes and audiences with an emphasis on our school-wide STEM block initiative. We are creating a series of twelve-session STEM-related specialty courses in which students will explore STEM careers and learn some of the skills necessary for each. Students will apply and build on skills and knowledge learned in one grade level to subsequent courses. K-2 students will be engaged as Publicists, Digital Authors, and Business Owners. The primary Publicist students will learn to be in front of and behind the video camera as they write, perform, and record book commercials. Digital Authors students will plan and publish a book using props and photographs to illustrate their writing using software. The second grade business (Cupcake Boss) students will design, make, and market the ultimate cupcake. Intermediate (3-5) students will be engaged as Photographers, Graphic Designers, Public Service Announcers, and Magazine Executives.
Lake/Educational Foundation of Lake County	iPads at the Heart of Educational Success	In this project we plan to increase student engagement level and further implement Marzano's high yield instructional strategies by providing a personalized learning experience through the use of iPads. At this elementary, iPad instruction is integrated into 1st through 3rd grades, and with this project 4th grade students will also be able to use the iPad for instructional purposes. iPad instruction allows students to synthesize information and determine how to best manipulate it. They have opportunities to collaborate and learn with, and from, each other and experts all over the world. They have the chance to participate in challenge-based learning projects where they work to find solutions to a variety of real-world problems and generate/test hypothesis. They are allowed to be inquisitive, and they are encouraged to be creative. Most importantly, these classrooms are always transforming into an even better, more efficient and personalized learning experience.
Lake/Educational Foundation of Lake County	It's Simple Math: 4th Grade Students + SMART Technology = A SMART Future	This project proposes to purchase SMART LightRaise interactive projector and SMART Response XE interactive response system to encourage students to collaborate and assist in teacher monitoring and grading.

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Lee/The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools	Computers for AVID Student Success	The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program delivers support to students who want to go to college but may not have the support at home. Many times, these students are the first generation in their family to attend college. During AVID class, students need to complete career inventories; do college research and research for other class assignments; complete ACT/SAT practice; register for ACT/SAT and complete college and scholarship applications. All of these activities require a computer and internet access. Currently, there are only two student computers in the AVID classroom for 22 students. While our school does have computer labs, they are frequently being used for testing and unavailable. Some students do not have internet or a computer at home, so school is the only place they can have access. Having dedicated laptops in the AVID classroom would provide equal access for all AVID students to complete essential research and college-related activities.
Lee/The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools	LEGO MindStorm Robotics	This project proposes to purchase LEGO MindStorm Robotics technology to enhance the already rigorous curriculum and move our ever-burgeoning initiative to be a "world-class school" (and world competitor – as robotics are becoming more a part of our lives each day). The goal of this program is to create a cohesive interdisciplinary environment wherein technology is seamlessly integrated into the given curriculum to best prepare students (and staff) and increase rigor with real-world technology-based lessons as students apply science, engineering, and mathematics in contexts that make connections between school, community, work, and the global community.
Lee/The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools	Student Generated Digital Designs Converted to 3D Solid Models	Our project is Student Generated Digital Designs Converted To 3D Solid Models. The purpose of this investigation is to determine if adding 3D modeling to our existing Introduction to Digital Design program will increase the number of students who are intrinsically motivated to learn the Engineering Design Process. The process will include teaching the Six Step Design Process. Next the students' will learn how to create isometric, oblique, and orthographic projections by hand. The students will then create a five piece puzzle cube in a CAD program. The next step is to use student made wooden blocks to create a solid model of the designed puzzle cube. Finally the students will create their puzzle cube using a 3D printer. We will compare student engineering notebooks after both processes and see if there is a difference in the completion rate with the different manufacturing methods. Students will also complete an After Action Review where they will provide feedback on the process. We will also compare students grades at the end of both 3D model processes.
Leon/Foundation for Leon County Schools	Through the Eyes and LENS of a Kindergartner: Digital Storytelling	Students are now at an age where they live through their technological devices. This project will help Kindergarten students become more comfortable with technology as well as assist them in meeting curriculum goals in the areas of Science, Reading, Language Arts, Technology, and Writing, beginning with an integration of digital storytelling and time lapse photography that coincides with the reading unit Ready, Set, Grow.
Marion/Public Education Foundation of Marion County	SMART Board System for Library Classroom to Highlight Digital Collections	Embedded within the new standards of Common Core is the ability for students to conduct meaningful research using a variety of complex text resources. Many of these resources are increasingly being found online within digital collections. eBooks and online databases are the foundations of these new digital libraries. To equip teachers and students with the necessary skills to access and navigate digital collections, this project proposes to install a SMART system in the library classroom with the goal to use the SMART system to facilitate teaching the intricacies of navigating digital collections. Both teachers and students will receive instruction starting with the incoming freshman class of 2014. The SMART system will also be used to guide whole-class research projects with targeted English classes in grades 9-12. I believe the ability to successfully navigate and access digital collections will prove to be a vital component of being deemed college- and career-ready.
Okaloosa/Okaloosa Public Schools Foundation	iPads for Early Childhood Innovations	Students will combine research and images to create a story collage on the iPad. Students will choose a national landmark or national park to research. After collection of information, students will combine these images and factual information into a visually interesting and informative story collage. The collage will be created using the iPad application "Pic Collage." Students will then share their projects by sending them via email, on social networks and media resources in the school district.

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Okaloosa/Okaloosa Public Schools Foundation	Maximize Technology Integration in Every Classroom with iPads	The County Instructional Technology Department provides iPad workshops for district teachers at the district Instructional Technology Department lab to prepare teachers to effectively integrate iPad technology into the classrooms. Many district schools have iPad carts for teacher/student use at the schools. The focus of this proposal is to provide a set of 10 iPad Air Wi-Fi 16 GB within the district Instructional Technology Department lab for teachers to use during the workshop sessions if they are unable to bring an iPad with them to the workshops. Having iPads to use during the workshops will enable them to become proficient and learn how to integrate iPad technology into their classrooms. These devices will also enable more teachers to assist non-ESE students in the lowest quartile (grades 3-8) in need of remediation to make gains of at least 15% growth in content area knowledge.
Orange/Foundation for Orange County Public Schools	21st Century Digital Curriculum	This elementary has supported students bringing their own electronic devices for many years. Moving into the Common Core Standards and implementing new curriculum programs in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Math made current technology non-compatible with state, district and curriculum requirements. To move the school into the 21st century, a full digital curriculum will be implemented in grades 2 through 5 impacting approximately 800 students. Students can utilize devices meeting district/state requirements brought from home or school-based devices housed in the classrooms. Instructional staff members will utilize the digital components within the curriculum programs to differentiate the instruction, thus meeting the individual needs of each student. Instructional staff members will go through 24 hours of initial training provided by the district, plus on-going training options. Instructional staff members will learn how to utilize the digital curriculum components as well as tools such as Google Docs, Edmodo, and Safari Live. These programs will allow access to daily instruction both in and outside the classroom for both students and teachers.
Orange/Foundation for Orange County Public Schools	Dig Deeper with iPads and Metacognition	This project will utilize iPad technology and applications to motivate students and require them to dig deeper into what they are learning in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) curriculum. Students will be asked to think about their thinking (metacognition) by showing their learning through voice recordings, their writing, images, and reflection. In support of this project, research studies examining learning and achievement recommend using strategies in metacognition to enhance students' ability to become autonomous and be successful learners. Metacognition is tied to higher-order thinking, problem solving, and deeper understanding of concept--something we want for all of our learners. This is especially important in the STEM areas, which can often be quite abstract and technical. Students need to dig deeper to gain more than a superficial knowledge of these very crucial subject areas. Metacognition, utilizing motivating and captivating technology, can bring this strategy to life. Through the use of iPads, equipped with various screen capture and reflection applications, students at this elementary will demonstrate their learning and increase their understanding, thus affecting not only their grades, but also improving their attitudes toward subjects that are often viewed as difficult.
Orange/Foundation for Orange County Public Schools	Digital Curriculum Integration--Nearpod	As a digital pilot school, this middle school is developing new instructional practices to differentiate instruction and track student progress using the one-to-one iPad distribution at the school. Nearpod allows for teacher-designed lessons to be delivered wirelessly to the students' iPads through cloud-based resources. Lessons could be whole class, small group, or individual instruction. Nearpod would allow teachers to integrate tests and quizzes to provide real time student data during a lesson allowing for greater tracking of student mastery. Such data could be used to modify lessons to address student needs.
Orange/Foundation for Orange County Public Schools	Interaction with Technology Helps Music Students Achieve More Exponentially	An interactive Smart Board (White Board) will enable all music students to interact with technology in a new and creative way, regardless of their background or economic status. As musicians, they will have access to all types of software applications, which are compatible with the white board that will enhance their knowledge, musicianship, and musical performance. These orchestra, guitar, and piano students will be able to experience technology, by physically touching and manipulating what is on the screen, in addition to creating music right before their eyes. The collaboration that will take place will expand their learning exponentially. The Smart Board will merge the best of modern music technology with student performance on their instrument, without them having to leave the room.

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Orange/Foundation for Orange County Public Schools	Project SOAR (Scientific Observation, Analysis and Research)	The proposed program will enhance learning for all students at this middle school in Project SOAR (Scientific Observation, Analysis and Research). By utilizing state-of-the-art sensors and measurement equipment, students will learn core content through hands-on activities and interactive experiments. Learning will take place during school hours. The goal is to empower students to discover fundamental science concepts while igniting interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematical (STEM) careers. This initiative will increase student performance in science and mathematics, increase student enrollment in honors and high school credit science and mathematics classes, and improve student performance on the algebra and geometry end of course examinations.
Orange/Foundation for Orange County Public Schools	Summer Superheroes: Using Technology to Conquer the Summer Slide	Using the power of iPad technology, an initial group of "Summer Superhero" teachers will take learning into the summer months with 80-100 Middle School students. Teachers will work together to design, create and implement interactive mini-courses that will reduce the usual loss of academic momentum (known as the "summer slide"). This project targets the After-Care Program student population of our school, where 40% of students are low-performing on FCAT math and/or reading. These students will rotate through Superhero Stations where they will use the iPads to interact with teachers who are not on campus. Teachers will learn alongside the students in this innovative, virtual world. This summer launch program will then be the catalyst for other teachers to realize the power of technology when used to connect, collaborate and create with students. Each member of the Summer Superhero teaching team will share summer successes with teachers on their team and teach monthly lessons to teachers on how to provide these same activities in their own classroom during the following school year.
Walton/Walton Education Foundation	Media Technology = Engaged Readers	High school students openly express, "I do not like to read books. "We read on our phones, computers, or tablets." These comments are typical and especially true in reading classes where high school students struggle to read above seventh grade level. Reading students need help; thus our district purchased online researched based Empower3000.com. Current classroom computers are out-of-date, therefore this project proposes to purchase Dell Latitude 10 tablets with keyboards and cases to successfully use Empower3000 to encourage reading and improve reading skills.