

kwaGLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS
Regular Meeting – Monday June 14, 2010
District Business Office

TO: Dr. Mike Riggle

FROM: Marcus Thimm
Kimberly Ptak

DATE: June 14, 2010

RE: DISCUSSION/ACTION: APPROVAL TO PURCHASE COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

Background

At the March 22, 2010 board meeting, the board approved the FY 10/11 technology budget which included the purchase of \$562,000 of equipment. \$50,000 of this amount is designated for security enhancements (cameras and door fobs) at GBN and GBS. The remaining \$512,000 is designated for specialty curriculum area equipment and general system replacement at GBN, GBS, and Off Campus/GBE.

This purchase is in accordance with our 3-year computer refresh cycle approved by the board in June 2008. The following cycle was presented in previous board documentation:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Items</u>
2008/09	Staff computer replacement
2009/10	Labs, Dept & Classroom computer replacement
2010/11	Update of broadcasting and other special equipment

1. Cost Comparison

The iMac desktop computer unit cost is \$839.03 after all discounts, compared with \$769 for a desktop PC with monitor. The difference of approximately \$70 per unit represents a 9.1% premium over the PC while providing the specific Mac platform benefits including dual platform capabilities on the iMac. Users have the option to operate the Mac in either the Windows 7 or OS X (Snow Leopard) platforms or can have them operating simultaneously. The biggest differentiators between the PCs and Macs are the larger LCD display and video card on the PC. The PC/Mac costs are now very closely matched and we believe the investment in iMacs will be justified by the benefit they provide to staff and students.

The GBS computer refresh quantities are higher than the GBN quantities since they received a significantly higher number last summer. The majority of GBS computers were younger and were not eligible for replacement last year.

The following equipment is recommended for purchase this summer:

2. **Broadcasting Equipment** – The current broadcasting equipment at GBN and GBS is 5+ years old and has historically not been part of the district computer refresh cycle. GBN and GBS broadcasting teachers worked collaboratively with the building and district administrators to determine the best solution to meet student and staff needs. We reviewed the top three solutions for television and radio broadcasting which included Avid, Adobe, and Apple. We conducted visits and solicited practitioner feedback as well as product demos. Apple's Final Cut Studio solution was unanimously selected as the appropriate solution for the Glenbrooks. Apple's Final Cut Studio software has been used in 8 out of 10 Oscar nominated films and also represents the solution with the largest market share in this segment. GBS already uses Final Cut Studio (older versions), while GBN is currently PC based.

The technology upgrades for broadcasting will be rolled out in two phases:

- a. Phase one - to be implemented this summer, includes providing students with notebooks, desktop iMacs and MacPro towers to operate the Final Cut Studio software.
- b. Phase two - we will reflect on the experience gained in phase one and design opportunities to refine workflow and operations as staff and students become familiar with the systems and software.

The following table summarizes equipment recommended for Phase 1 to be purchased this summer:

Type:	GBN Qty	GBS Qty	Qty	Unit Cost	Subtotal
Macbook Pro 15"	12	14	26	\$ 1,776.71	\$ 46,194.46
MacBook Pro 17"	1	1	2	\$ 1,865.59	\$ 3,731.18
iMac 21.5"	16	22	38	\$ 1,021.23	\$ 38,806.74
iMac 27"	1	1	2	\$ 1,421.19	\$ 2,842.38
MacPro Tower	3	3	6	\$ 3,562.31	\$ 21,373.86
24" Monitor	3	3	6	\$ 205.00	\$ 1,230.00
SUBTOTAL					\$ 114,178.62

3. Computer Lab Refresh

Two years ago the district adopted the "Innovations without Restrictions" plan. A key component of this plan was dual-platform access for staff. The Macbook systems for staff are currently providing Windows XP and OS X (Leopard) and will transition to Windows 7 and Snow Leopard during next year. Both GBN and GBS have taken a measured approach to also providing Mac computer system access to the student body to allow for access to Mac only software titles for all users (staff and students).

The specialty labs in Music, Visual Arts, and publications have benefitted from the Mac platform. Mac computers and software are the industry standard in these areas and it benefits students to learn and work with these systems. This year's computer refresh provides replacements of Mac computers in these areas.

- a. Specialty Labs – Art, music and yearbook labs at GBN and GBS have equipment 5+ years old that has historically not been part of the district computer refresh cycle.
- b. General Use Labs – Computers greater than 5 years old in labs will be refreshed this summer. The library labs at GBN and GBS will be converted from PC labs to Apple labs and will be available for student use.

The following table summarizes lab equipment recommended to be purchased this summer:

Type:	GBN Qty	GBS Qty	Qty	Unit Cost	Subtotal
Macbook 13.3"	30	12	42	\$ 782.10	\$ 32,848.20
iMac 20"	66	122	188	\$ 839.03	\$ 157,737.64
PC desktop w/ Mon	42	164	206	\$ 769.00	\$ 158,414.00
SUBTOTAL	138	298	436		\$ 348,999.84

4. Summary

The total cost for computer equipment is:

Broadcasting	\$ 114,178.62
Lab Computers	\$ 348,999.84
Total	\$ 463,178.46
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Approved equipment budget for computer refresh	\$512,000.00
Difference	(\$48,821.54)