

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF 36 COMPUTERS, TWO WIRELESS CARTS, TWO PRINTERS, AND THE PERIPHERALS NECESSARY TO ENABLE STUDENTS TO ACCESS THE INTERNET IN A WIRELESS ENVIRONMENT FROM APPLE COMPUTER, INC.

Apple Computer, Inc. has offered to donate 36 iBook computers (laptops), two wireless carts, two printers, and the peripherals necessary to enable students to access the Internet in a wireless environment. The laptops are being donated to support a pilot investigating the use of electronic textbooks, which was approved by the School Board on January 16, 2002. The pilot will enable staff to study how computers can enhance state-adopted educational content with dynamic media and sound presentation. Apple Computer, Inc. will help provide teacher training and on-going technical support.

Only two middle schools applied for and will participate in the pilot, Highland Oaks and Howard D. McMillan Middle Schools. In addition to meeting the pilot criteria, Howard D. McMillan Middle School has a demonstrated need for technology based on the District's *Annual Technology Inventory and Statistics Report*, and will therefore receive the donation.

Ms. Alicia DeMichael is the K-12 Account Executive for Apple Computer, Inc. If approved, a letter of appreciation will be sent to Ms. DeMichael.

No local funds are required.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to accept a donation of 36 computers, two wireless carts, two printers, and the peripherals necessary to enable students to access the Internet in a wireless environment from Apple Computer, Inc.

No local funds are required.