

## Technology Initiative



North American Martyrs School has begun an initiative to update our school's technology resources. Through our Middle States Certification review, we have designated improved technology as one of our most important goals. Recently, our efforts in this area have centered on adding 20 Hewlett-Packard 2.3 GHz I3 laptops, equipped with webcams and USB 3.0 ports, installing SMARTboards in every classroom K-8, acquiring a multitouch SMART-Table for preschool, and updating our wireless infrastructure.

In addition to over \$118,000 our school families raised last year for the general school fund, they also raised \$7,000 to fund this important initiative. Adding to their commitment, the school has designated an annual budget of \$5,000 for school technology improvements.

This year that money was used to install a new SMARTboard in the fourth grade classroom. In addition, we have adopted a one-to-one Chromebook initiative for students in grades 6-8. They will be able to use these personal tablets in every class and for homework assignments.

But we have a long way to go in our technology improvement initiative. Major milestones marking our progress in this initiative include:

- Integrating student response units (clickers) for class-wide interaction with the SMARTboards
- Designing applications for the creative arts
- Computer classroom set of high speed All In One devices
- Rotating cart of 20 laptops for K-5 usage
- Additional Vex Robotics equipment for robotics engineering club
- New interactive and user friendly school website
- STEM Programs & Challenges for 6-8

If completely implemented, this investment in technology could total upwards of \$100,000 over time. So as not to overburden our school families with even more fundraising than they already have to do, we are looking for creative alternatives to fund this initiative. We understand the importance of providing a quality education for the children who will continue to keep our faith alive in the years to come and we hope as a parish you share that commitment. Therefore, we ask your support in our future technology fundraising efforts whenever possible.

If you feel you can do a little more to help, we welcome donations and would be pleased to recognize your generosity in a lasting way on our hardware. Donations make our journey a little easier. For example:

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| \$ 500   | - could fund one student laptop computer   |
| \$ 1,000 | - could equip one classroom document camera, cart and software                   |
| \$ 2,000 | - could fund a student SMART Response Set and software for 2 classrooms          |
| \$ 3,000 | - could equip five laptops with scientific probeware and software                |
| \$ 5,000 | - could equip one classroom with a SMARTboard, projector and teacher workstation |

Of course there will be many smaller incidental expenses as we make our way through this technology initiative, so donations of **ANY AMOUNT** are welcomed. If you think you can help, please forward your donation to our principal with a check made out to North American Martyrs School and note on the check it should be used for our Technology Initiative.

We ask for your prayers that the good Lord will guide us in our efforts to lay the groundwork for the future success of our students by preparing them to function in an ever-changing technological world.

With our sincere thanks and gratitude,

\*The teachers, administrators and students of North American Martyrs School\*