SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 11-Feb-13   **Agenda #** _____

Staff/Administrator: Jessica Durrant   **Superintendent:** Dan Huber-Kantola

Type of Item: [X] *Informational*   [ ] *Action*

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

Jennifer Tudor has applied for a *Promising Practices Grant* from the Oregon Education Association (OEA). As part of the grant, Jennifer is seeking funds to purchase one iPad to be used by students who currently have an IEP and can be categorized in two categories: students with Print Disabilities and students who will use it for education gains. For those students who have a print disability, our goal is to improve their access to the general eucation curriculum by providing BookShare and other services to them using the iPad. Other students will use the iPad and its educational apps to review material in a fun, interactive manner. Assessment of the first group would be included into the data in our district AT team goals. The evaluation for the second group is more subjective, based on increased participation and interaction.

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

Currently, slightly less than two percent of our total student population can be qualified as *print disabled*. These students have average cognitive ability, but due to their learning disability, they are unable to read the grade-level material. Using technology such as an iPad, they will be able to have grade level curriculum read aloud to them, including books used in conjunction with BookShare and other Accessible Instructional materials.

List the advantages of your proposal:

Students will be able to access the general classroom curriculum on a portable device, providing greater opportunities to be included in the classroom.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

The grant is requesting funds to purchase one (1) iPad. The disadvantage would be that after implementing this technology, we would find a need to have more iPads on campus to be used in a similar manner. We would look at additional grants to help purchase this equipment.

List possible alternatives that could also offer a solution to your proposal. Why were they not recommended?

We currently are able to use computers to access the materials, but those computers are not in the classroom. Students have to use computers in the center pod, which is not in the classroom.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):   **Approve:**   Yes [X]   No [ ]