

Muscogee Schools: District receives \$2 million for classroom iPods, laptops and video cameras

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by Sara Pauff

The Muscogee County School District has earned a \$2 million grant from the Department of Defense to improve instruction at schools with a high enrollment of students with parents in the military.

Nine schools will benefit from the grant money -- Columbus High, Early College Academy, Hardaway High School, Northside High School, Arnold Middle School, Blackmon Road Middle School, East Columbus Magnet Academy, Midland Middle School and Veterans Memorial Middle School. The schools all meet the criteria for the grant of having a military student enrollment of at least 15 percent.

The grant activities will target science, math, technology and engineering. Schools will receive advanced technology for instructional use, including iPods, interactive white boards, document cameras, high definition video cameras, DVD/VCRs and laptop computers.

Teachers at these schools will also travel to the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta to learn new instruction methods and attend training by the Center for Quality Teaching and Learning, the Coca-Cola Space Science Center, Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center, the Columbus Regional Mathematics Collaborative, Columbus Technical College and the Patterson Planetarium.

The funding will begin immediately and continue through August 31, 2013.