



Funded by The Newton Schools Foundation
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From Bored to Smart: Interactive SMART Boards

Grantee: Paul Lyons and Russell Hunt

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Newton Schools Foundation is to enhance and broaden community support for public education and to provide funding for innovative and challenging programs in the Newton Public Schools. This private, 501 (c)(3) non-profit community foundation is governed by a Board of Directors which represents community and business leaders, parents and teachers.

Project Overview:

SMART Boards are an innovative way to deliver curriculum to all learning styles. By the beginning of September 2008, Oak Hill Middle School's Team 6-1, Mr. Lyons and Mr. Hunt, will each have a SMART Board installed in their classrooms. This technology will allow students to access the core curriculum in English, Math, Science and Social Studies in an innovative, visual and tactile manner. Not only will this allow for greater manipulation and understanding of curriculum, it will address the many differing learning styles that are present in a heterogeneous classroom. The SMART Board allows for increased interactivity as the teacher can project both written and graphic representations on the board and students can write on the screen with a special writing instrument or even their finger. The software that is installed with the SMART Board allows the user to select and drag onto the board a variety of templates such as maps, number lines, geometric shapes and graphic organizers to name a few, that can be instantly and easily adjusted to fit the lesson being taught. All Internet resources can instantly be displayed as well. Everything that is projected onto the SMART Board can be saved to a computer and through hand writing recognition software, can be printed out as a hard copy for students to take with them at the end of class. SMART Boards enable classrooms to take advantage in a meaningful way the advances of technology that are not usually found in today's classrooms.



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