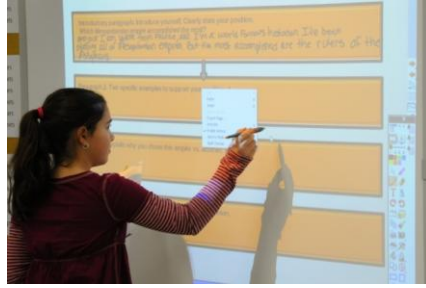


Birmingham Public Schools receive \$30,000 technology grant



Birmingham, Michigan -- May 4, 2009 – The Birmingham Education Foundation has agreed to commit \$30,000 toward the purchase of thirty interactive whiteboards for use in middle and high school classrooms in the Birmingham Public School District.

“Our Board of Trustees worked closely with the district to determine the best way for the Foundation to support the district’s 21st Century Learning initiative,” said Laura Couger, the BEF’s executive director. “The interactive whiteboards are a great asset in building 21st century classrooms.”

“The Promethean Board allows teachers to create interactive lessons by integrating handwriting, text, the internet, audio and video content to help students learn mathematics,” said Stuart Kane, head of the math department at Groves. “The technology easily captures students’ attention and promotes 21st century teaching and learning by enhancing the way mathematical concepts are presented and explored.”

As a result of this funding assistance, every math classroom at both district high schools will have a Promethean ActivBoard, by the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. The board manufacturer was selected by a team of district math teachers who researched the interactive whiteboards.

The technology can be used to teach any curriculum, from social studies and language arts to science and math. Based on the success of the 21st century middle school classrooms the BEF supported with this technology last year, more of the boards are also being purchased for core academic classes at the middle schools and for math classrooms at the districtwide 3rd through 8th grade school.

“We are so grateful for the support of the Foundation,” said Lisa Martinico, Executive Director of Technology for Birmingham Public Schools. “This will allow us greater purchasing power during this time of constrained budgets.”

The BEF Board of Trustees has made technology a focus of fundraising projects for the near future. Parents, teachers and community members can support this technology initiative by visiting www.supportbef.org, and clicking on Ways to Give. To learn more about Promethean ActivBoards, visit www.prometheanworld.com.