



QWEST FOUNDATION TO AWARD INNOVATIVE COLORADO TEACHERS \$100,000 IN GRANTS

DENVER, Jan. 17, 2008 – The Qwest Foundation today announced the second chapter of the Qwest Teachers and Technology grant program. For the second year in a row, Qwest is providing a \$100,000 donation to selected Colorado teachers who use technology in the classroom.

The purpose of the Qwest Teachers and Technology grant program is to recognize and reward public school teachers outside of the Denver-area who develop innovative ways to use technology in the classroom to improve education. The grants will be administered by the Fund for Colorado's Future and the Public Education & Business Coalition.

"The Qwest Foundation has dedicated itself to helping improve education in the communities where our customers live and work," said Chuck Ward, Qwest's president for Colorado. "The Qwest Teachers and Technology grant program is a unique opportunity for teachers to find creative ways to bring technology into the classroom, and better prepare students to succeed in a world where technology is increasingly a part of daily life."

The grants will be awarded to teachers through a competitive review process. Educators can obtain applications for the Qwest Teachers and Technology grants by clicking on the following link: www.qwest.com/coloradoteachers. The Web site will provide specific instructions on the grant process. The deadline to receive applications is March 3, 2008.

Additionally, Qwest will host two Web-based information seminars free of charge on Feb. 5 and Feb. 6, from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. The seminars will bring together teachers and leading education experts to discuss recent trends and best uses of technology in the classroom, as well as provide helpful tips on applying for the Qwest Teachers and Technology program. Space is limited, interested teachers can contact Mindy Armbruster at marmbruster@pebc.org for registration.

In the first year of the program, Qwest awarded grants to 28 teachers in 10 Colorado school districts. The grants funded technologies including: music software to aid in musical development of band and choir students; digital media equipment for production of school projects, including a video production team;

and math software programs to aid math instruction in special education classrooms.

“We were so thrilled to be awarded a Qwest Teachers and Technology grant for digital media equipment,” said Axel Reitzig, a teacher at Trail Ridge Middle School. “Not only are students thinking more creatively, but they’re highly motivated to work on their projects. It’s been terrific.”

About the Qwest Foundation:

The Qwest Foundation’s core principle is that investing in education provides lasting value for the future. The Qwest Foundation awards grants to community-based programs that generate high-impact and measurable results, focusing on pre-K through grade 12 education.

About the Fund for Colorado’s Future:

The Fund for Colorado’s Future is an education policy research organization designed to foster and implement creative solutions to the educational challenges currently confronting the State of Colorado. The Fund develops dynamic coalitions of civic, education, political and business leaders who are committed to high academic standards for all students and to a strong accountability system for all public schools.

About the Public Education & Business Coalition:

The Public Education & Business Coalition (PEBC) is a Denver-based non-profit partnership of business and education leaders working together to strengthen public schools and improve academic achievement for all students. Its work is guided by three strategic goals: to provide professional development for teachers, principals and administrators; to provide information on education issues and policies; and to foster corporate and community engagement that leads to action and support.

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