

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: Los Angeles Unified School District

Project Title: LAUSD Online Parent Community Centers

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Executive Summary

Families of school children and the greater school community that do not have broadband access are at a disadvantage in helping their children with their education as well as other essential services provided by the city and other agencies. In order to help bridge this gap, all LAUSD middle schools will become online parent community centers by providing each middle school with a wireless laptop cart to be used by the greater school community. Schools will provide training and learning opportunities to parents in the area of school resources, city services, communication with teachers and staff, job/career search, and general health information. The Online Parent Community Centers will compliment the Computers For Youth application (CFY/LAUSD Family Broadband Engagement Program), where parents can apply what they learned at home.

To address these issues, LAUSD is participating in two closely related and complementary BTOP proposals: (1) the LAUSD Online Parent Community Center Program (described in this proposal) and (2) the CFY/LAUSD Family Broadband Engagement Program (partner proposal submitted separately). LAUSD's Online Parent Community Centers will serve parents at school, and the CFY/LAUSD Family Broadband Engagement Program will support entire families at home as described below. Middle schools selected for the CFY/LAUSD Family Broadband Engagement Program will receive priority for participation in the LAUSD Online Parent Community Centers.

LAUSD Online Parent Community Centers will also be created in middle schools that are not participating in the Computers For Youth program, but are involved with other initiatives, such as School2Home. In these schools, parent and community involvement in the centers is just as critical for broadband adoption. Partnerships will be sought throughout the grant period to help the community with broadband accessibility at home.

The LAUSD Online Parent Community Centers service a population estimated at 400,000 people. It is expected that in a given year more than 31,000 people will be served in addition to the student population that is enrolled at the school. The overall cost of this project is \$5,775,300. A portion of the project costs contribute to providing training, but the majority of the impact on job creation is in the

training modules that will be developed. Showing parents how to look and apply for jobs online, build resumes, and enter into online learning programs to better their positions for employment is where the greatest impact on employment will take place.

LAUSD has been successful in implementing many large Federal grant programs. The District's successful participation in Erate and the Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) programs has had a positive impact on teaching and learning in LAUSD.

Major activities include the following:

- The use of instructional technology facilitators to drive the adoptions of technology, media, and data driven decision making into classroom practice
- Design and provision of instructional technology professional development
- Implementation and maintenance of systems for data collection and reporting to improve teaching and learning
- Provision of online professional development and student learning programs
- Implementation of online and Internet collaboration applications such as web-based meetings and videoconferencing
- Technical support and maintenance of LANs and telephone systems at 728 K-12 schools
- Installation and/or modernization of telephone systems and/or local area networks for close to 700 K-12 schools

The LAUSD Online Parent Community Centers is a project that can begin as soon as funding is available and will have a direct impact on schools and the communities they serve for many years to come.