Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DIST.

Project Title: LAUSD Mobile Internet Computer Access (MICA) Program

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, LAUSD will make available the Mobile Internet Computer Access (MICA) Program to school site parent community centers. This program will provide a wireless laptop cart to be used by the students and their families as well as 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. LAUSD is benefiting in four closely related and complementary programs: (1) LAUSD Mobile Internet Computer Access (MICA) Program (described in this proposal), (2) the CFY/LAUSD Family Broadband Engagement Program (Easy Grants ID 5711, partner proposal submitted separately), (3) the LAUSD Communities Broadband Expansion Project (Easy Grants ID 5217) and (4) the recently BTOP funded L.A.CAN - Los Angeles Computer Access Network (Easy Grants ID 887) so that the community can have access to and gain a greater awareness of services obtained with broadband access to the internet. The LAUSD Mobile Internet Computer Access (MICA) Program will exist in all K-12 District schools, providing much needed access in the School Site Parent Community Center and serve as critical for broadband adoption. There are a variety of other resources for home use of broadband Internet services and these will be identified and disseminated during trainings and in outreach sessions. It is strongly believed that once people see and learn how to leverage the information and resources on the Internet they will take advantage of broadband accessibility at home. Partnerships will be sought throughout the grant period to help the community with broadband accessibility at home. The LAUSD Mobile Internet Computer Access (MICA) Program will service a population estimated at greater than 1 million people (students, their parents, and the greater school community). The overall cost of this project is $13,515,000 of which 20% will be provided as a cash match from qualifying LAUSD reimbursement funds through the K12 Educational Technology Voucher program. Also in-kind costs will contribute to the training program provided to the parents and the community. The greatest impact is on career preparedness and readiness, access to community and health care services, online learning modules, as well as access to student information. 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 in 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 personal relevance and benefits students, parents and the school community see to being connected to the Internet and learning how to effectively use online resources will foster an ongoing investment in these resources saving time and money. Ongoing broadband subscriptions and greater adoption are expected growth outcomes of this project.