

Resolution – ANB ALLOCATION FOR TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE UPGRADES

WHEREAS, every school district in Montana strives to provide a quality education for every student that culminates in college and career readiness; and

WHEREAS, every school district in Montana is united in the belief that All students deserve to be successful; and

WHEREAS, every school district in Montana is striving to provide 21st Century learning opportunities and needed skills; and

WHEREAS, every school district in Montana is funded through a variety of sources, but primarily by the average number of students in attendance or ANB, and

WHEREAS, Timber sales have been used to historically fund technology but that revenue stream has continued to decline and now represents a minute fraction of needed monetary resources to fuel technology; and

WHEREAS, schools are having difficulties in funding for technology and funding is not equitable across the state for upgrading, maintaining, and supporting technology hardware in schools; and

WHEREAS, a basic allocation per student, similar to Data Achievement (MCA 20-9-325), would bring a constant revenue that school districts could support refreshing technology hardware on at least a five year cycle (industry standard). A basic annual allocation of \$50 per student over a five year span would generate \$250; which may not cover the complete cost of hardware for a student, but enough that a district can do more effective and efficient planning; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the following costs would be associated with the resolution:

Cost of funding technology hardware for a five year refresh cycle	
Per student allocation of \$50 with 144,532 students (as of 2014-2015)	\$7,226,600

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Falls School District hereby requests that the 2017 Montana Legislature increase the state’s funding for technology by appropriating \$7,226,600 million each year for technology hardware.

Designation: Support

Submitted by Jon Konen (President of MAEMSP and Principal of Lincoln Elementary) on 4/22/16 for MAEMSP on behalf of Tammy Lacey (Superintendent of Great Falls Public Schools).

Supporting Information

- 1. Name of member school system submitting the resolution.**
Great Falls Public Schools

- 2. Date upon which the Board of trustees affirmatively voted to submit the resolution for consideration?**
NA

- 3. Please paste (at attach a copy of) the relevant portion of the minutes of the board meeting at which the resolution was approved for submission.**

NA

- 4. What is the conception change sought? Please provide an overview of the Intended purpose of the resolution.**

This resolution asks the Montana Legislature to create an allocation to every public school for technology hardware. The allocation based on ANB of every school of \$50 would generate over \$7 million dollars for schools and help with the refresh cycle of at least 5 years (industry standard).

- 5. What sections of law do you anticipate need to be changed? (Please list the sections of law, but not the specific changes sought to such laws, so as to ensure sufficiently flexibility regarding how to implement the change.**

20-9-533, Technology acquisition and depreciation fund – limitations.

20-9-534. Statutory appropriation for school technology purposes.

- 6. How is the resolution anticipated to advance the Interests of all of Montana’s public schools, and/or public school students and/or increase student success?**

All Montana public school students need access to technology in order to compete with an ever changing world. Almost all jobs require a minimum level of technology knowledge. Increased student access will be evident and anticipated in all schools.

- 7. What are the anticipated sources of external opposition?**

Opposition will come from taxpayers that may have just passed a levy within in their school district, as well as legislators that believe that technology should be funded through local school districts.

- 8. What are the anticipated source of internal opposition or division within the education community and what steps have been taken, if any, to mitigate/minimize or resolve such division?**

Division within the education community may come from school districts that have recently passed a technology levy. This requested allocation is above and beyond the technology levies already passed. This allocation will help support all those districts that cannot pass a levy or are not able to refresh, maintain, or fund current technology.

- 9. What is the projected statewide impact of Montana’s public schools of the proposed resolution?**

School districts would be reassured that they have a basic allocation that they can count on in order to refresh and buy new or refurbished technology.

10. Please provide any additional background, explanation or other context for the resolution that you would like to be considered during the deliberations of the Delegate Assembly.

NA