



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Highlands Elementary receives \$215,800 technology grant

Highlands Elementary School is the recipient of one large donation: \$215,800. The Board of Trustees accepted the donation on behalf of the school at its November 12 meeting.

Highlands Elementary fifth grade reading teacher, Dee Wilson, wrote a grant to the Soar Foundation to request funding for educational technology such as Promethean Boards, Active Slate Boards and associated handheld devices, students laptops and other technology upgrades.

Mr. Karl Buckman, Soar Foundation CEO, agreed and thus extended his generosity to another Goose Creek CISD elementary school.

Last year, San Jacinto Elementary received a \$300,000 technology grant written by then art teacher Nelda Yaw, from Mr. Buckman. Ms. Yaw now serves as executive director of the Soar Foundation.

"Having worked with Dee for many years, I know her sincere dedication to the success of students. It is with great pleasure to fund the technology grant for Highlands Elementary," Ms. Yaw said.

The grant will provide the latest in instructional technology for every fifth grade classroom.

"Dee joined the Highlands fifth grade team at the beginning of this school year, and already she has had a lasting impact on our campus," said Bonnie Hogue, fifth grade math and science teacher.

Mrs. Hogue, along with fifth grade reading teacher Kim Kerr and fifth grade GATE teacher Kevin Fontenot, expressed their excitement and showed solidarity at the Goose Creek CISD Board meeting on Monday evening as the Board unanimously voted to approve the receipt of the grant.

During the meeting, Board member Agustin Loredo III acknowledged and applauded Mrs. Wilson's continued efforts to promote student success in Goose Creek.

"I was sent to Highlands by a Greater Power for the purpose of providing impeccable instruction and an unconditional love for my students," Mrs. Wilson said.

In October, the Board accepted another donation from the Soar Foundation — \$25,000 to cover hotel, conference fees, travel, and substitutes for two days so that 27 District art teachers could attend the National Art Educators Association convention in Ft. Worth.

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