

NCLB Title II-D ARRA Grants to Districts



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

**NH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
DR. CATHY HIGGINS**

SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

Title II-D ARRA Timeline



- **February 2009** - ARRA Funds announced
- **March 2009** - Original indications from USDOE that we would have to split funds 50% formula allocations to districts (based on Title I) and 50% competitive (based on districts with highest census poverty data)
- **March thru June 2009** – SETDA organizes “SETDA Collaborative” to provide input to USDOE on meaningful and realistic data collection across states. SETDA describes 21st Century Classroom features.
- **May 2009** – USDOE indicates splitting funds not required
- **June 2009** – USDOE **strongly** urges all states to use all ARRA funds for competitive grants that will have significant impact. This may be our last chance to make a strong case for the value of federal ed tech funds for schools.

Tentative Grants Timeline



- September 9, 2009 – Release RFP
- November 6, 2009 – Applications due
- December 7, 2009 – Awards announced
- December 10, 2009 - Projects begin with F2F session
- March 2011 – Projects end

Tentative Projects Timeline



- December 2009 –
 - Awardees determine common evaluator and begin formative / summative evaluation process
 - Awardees gather bids for purchases and begin PD efforts
 - Pre-surveys and other evaluation activities begin
- January 2009 – Equipment begins to arrive and PD continues
- Winter & Spring 2010 – Full implementation
- Summer 2010 – Intensive PD activities
- Fall & Winter 2010 – Final activities to project end

Formula v. Competitive



- Limitations of doing formula ARRA grants:
 - Formula grant amounts would be:
 - ✦ 2 districts would receive more than \$100,000
 - ✦ 11 districts would receive \$20,000 – 60,000
 - ✦ 20 districts would receive \$10,000 - \$20,000
 - ✦ 83 districts would receive less than \$10,000
 - ✦ 75 districts would receive less than \$1,000
- Grant amounts for majority provide limited impact on technology programs but require same amount of paperwork.

Best Use of Funds ???



What is the best use of \$3 million in NH for ed tech grants?

- Hardware – *Current trends include interactive whiteboards, clickers, netbooks, handhelds, etc.*
- Software – *Should we buy licenses or use open source software?*
- Connectivity – *Do we have enough bandwidth? What level of Internet filtering is appropriate? How do we keep our networks secure?*
- Professional development and leadership – ***Why haven't we made more progress already?***

National Trends and Research



SOME RESOURCES TO SET THE CONTEXT

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Reports on
Digital Media and Learning

The Future of Learning Institutions in a Digital Age

Cathy N. Davidson and David Theo Goldberg

with the assistance of Zoë Marie Jones

The future report...



- “If we face a future where every person has (easy access to) a laptop or networked mobile device, what will it mean?”
- What will it mean for institutionally advocated, mediated, and activated learning?
- How will educators use these tools and this moment?
- How will users—learners—adapt them to learning functionality, access, and productive learning possibilities?”

Some Current Discussion in the UK



“Like so much technology used in education, mobile devices [have] often been overlaid upon an existing outmoded pedagogy.... layer upon layer of technological solutions being applied to learning without real acknowledgement that learners these days are different from those in the 50's & before. Different expectations, different experiences, different use of media & so on.... Thus the "classroom in a box" designed to fit an existing teaching paradigm would seem apt to a commercial enterprise [that doesn't] wish to push water up a hill.”

*- Graham Brown-Martin,
LearningWithoutFrontiers.com*

New National Ed Tech Plan



Enabling unprecedented access to high-quality learning experiences.

Providing the information that creates transparency in the education system and enables continuous improvement processes at all levels.

Enhancing collaboration and content management to derive cost savings and productivity gains through process redesign.

Project New Media Literacies (NML)



- This research initiative based within MIT's [Comparative Media Studies](#) program, explores how we might best equip young people with the social skills and cultural competencies required to become full participants in an emergent media landscape and raise public understanding about what it means to be literate in a globally interconnected, multicultural world.

<http://newmedialiteracies.org/>

Other Levers of Change



- www.edtechfuture.org
- [21st Century Skills.org](http://21stCenturySkills.org)
- Updates to [NETS-S, NETS-T, and NETS-A](#)
- AASL – [Standards for the 21st century learner](#)
- [SETDA Reports](#)
- [USDOE Online Learning Report](#)
- Other resources???

Planned Title II-D Grant Types



**Title IID Regular
(\$1 million)**

Mini-grants

Tech Leaders

**Title IID ARRA
(\$3.2 million)**

**21st
Century
Classrooms**

21st Century Classrooms



- Districts less than 10,000 students may apply for up to \$150,000 to conduct one 21st Century Classrooms Project (aka digital tools grants) per district to put engaging technology into the hands of students. (Over 10,000 students eligible for up to \$200,000)
- Approximately 20 projects for total of \$3.2 million
- 10% for evaluation activities - Districts must agree to participate in a statewide evaluation of all such projects with comparison groupings.
- 25% for professional development – In addition to local PD, districts must agree to be part of a common professional development effort designed to support all 21st Century Classroom Projects.

What is a 21st Century Classroom?



- Classrooms with technology rich learning environments are well equipped with computer hardware, software, electronic whiteboards and rich digital and online curricular resources.

What is a 21st Century Classroom?



- When you enter a technology rich learning environment, you quickly see that interactive learning, higher level thinking skills, and student engagement are pervasive, whether students are learning math, science, reading, or history.

What is a 21st Century Classroom?



- Using digital cameras, interactive white boards, robust courseware, digital content, and computers provides students with opportunities to collaborate and connect to the rich and relevant content that would not usually be available to the highest need students being served by these programs.

What is a 21st Century Classroom?



- Collaborative planning, investment in core components for technology, intensive professional development – training teachers not only how to use technology but also how to integrate technology into the curriculum - and IT support are some of the key elements necessary to transform schools.

21stC Classroom - Core Components



- Teacher Laptop & Productivity Tools
- Presentation Device - Interactive Whiteboard, LCD, or Plasma TV
- Projector (if needed, depends on presentation device)
- Learner Response Devices - for Formative Assessment & Individualized Instruction
- Document Camera
- Digital Camera
- Video Camera
- Robust Software & Digital Content
- Printer
- Professional Development on Technology Functionality

Additional Elements



Based Upon Location and Curricular Goals

- Mobile Learning Lab or Centralized Computing Stations to create 1:1 ratios of students to digital devices
- Webcam for Teacher Computer
- Flashdrives for each Student
- Audio System
- Courseware and Content Aligned to Standards and Curricular goals
- Safe and Secure Communication & Community Building Tools with Web 2.0 Functionality for Teacher and Administrator Cadres as well as Home/School Connections
- Formative Assessment for Individualization of Learning

School Environmental & Policy Changes



- Enthusiastic and informed leadership
- Internet safety training
- Progressively open access
- Changes in AUP and other policy documents
- Significant online & blended learning
- Ongoing professional development and support
- Significant formative and summative efforts
- Ongoing connections to research
- Engaged students
- Community support

Federal Reporting



GPRA Performance Indicators:

- **Tech Access:** Percentage point different in Internet access between classrooms in high and low poverty schools
- **Tech related teacher PD:** Percentage of teachers who meet state tech standards
- **Tech Integration:** Percentage of districts that have effectively and fully integrated technology
- **Student Tech Literacy:** Percentage of students who meet state tech standards by end of 8th grade

Technical Assistance



Session Date	Type
Thursday, 9/10/09 at 12:30 PM	Webinar #1
Thursday, 9/10/09 at 3 PM	Webinar #2
Monday, 9/14/09 at 11 AM	Webinar #3
Monday, 9/14/09 at 2 PM	Webinar #4
Wednesday, 9/16/09 at 9 AM	Webinar #5
Wednesday, 9/16/09 at 11 AM	Webinar #6
Thursday, 9/24/09	NHSAA / NHASBO meeting
Thursday, 10/1/09 9am to 3pm	NHDOE Room 15
Wednesday, 10/7/09 9am to 1pm	NHDOE Room 15