



HISD Awarded \$200,000 R-TECH Grant

Preparing today's youth for success in the digital world will accelerate as the Hallettsville Independent School District is awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Texas Education Agency. According to TEA representative Thomas Howe, Hallettsville ISD has been selected for its innovative technology plan and awarded a Rural Technology Grant which will assist in funding the purchase of laptop computers for students in grades 6-12.

According to the state agency, the funds must be used to provide technology-based supplemental instruction that will help the district reach all learners. The goals of the program are to increase educational opportunities for students located in rural districts and increase academic performance by providing access to technology. The district was recently

informed of the grant award that will provide limitless opportunities for transforming HISD classrooms into 21st century learning environments.

In developing a district-wide plan for technology integration, a team of instructors and administrators came together to share ideas and write a plan that includes teacher training, research-based instructional support, academic tutoring, distance learning and much more. The written plan was then submitted to TEA with the hope of being awarded funds allocated during the last legislative session that were designated for innovative technology plans. Members of the grant writing team include Sophie Teltschik, Dr. Jo Ann Bludau, Lisa Berckenhoff, Paula Parkinson, Melanie Castellow, Denise Henk, Susan Brandenberger, Carla Jones, Trina Patek, and Jason Appelt.