

LISD receives Rural Technology Grant

Written by Betsy Blevins

Thursday, 03 February 2011 11:15 -

Feb. 3, 2011 - The Leonard Independent School District was recently awarded a Rural Technology Grant. The Rural Technology Grant is designed to improve the performance of those students not currently meeting standards in English language arts, social studies, mathematics, science or languages other than English and to supplement the education of students needing more opportunities than currently provided by the district. The purpose of the program is to establish pilot programs to provide technology-based supplemental instruction, including online courses, to students in rural school districts to improve the overall success of students and address their individual academic needs.

The goal of the Rural Technology Grant is to provide students enrolled in rural districts with access to technology-based supplemental instruction and with guidance from an instructional facilitator responsible for monitoring, instructing and tracking each student's progress through the program.

"Leonard ISD would like to open their doors both after school and during the evening hours so that our students and their parents can have access to the technology tools that are available to them," said LISD Superintendent Larry LaFavers.

"We have many online programs that the students may use either at home or at school. Students that do not have Internet connection available at home will now have access to the online programs after school hours and evenings. This program is for our sixth- twelfth grade students, but will benefit the entire school district. We will be offering classes for students, parents and community members. Some of the upcoming activities will be Parent Portal night in order to help any parent with online access the capability of looking at their child's grades and attendance. Some of the other activities will be Scholarship Night, ACT/SAT help, Cyber Safety, Excel, Chess Club, Tutor Vista, Career Night, College Board Night, TAKS night, School Messenger training, Storytelling Time, Reader's Theater, Technology Night, Introduction to Spanish, Enrichment Classes, and many more activities. We will post a monthly calendar online for the LCLC (Leonard Community Learning Center) upcoming activities," continued LaFavers.

This grant will also provide before school and after school tutoring, after hours library time and some Saturday activities. The school looks forward to the participation of the parents and children in the district. For further information, contact Leonard Junior High Principal Heather Sumrow at 903-587-2315 or sumrowh@leonardisd.net, or Leonard High School Principal Brad Connelly at 903-587-3556 or connellyb@leonardisd.net.

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The school requests that parents having suggestions for activities they would like to see on future calendars, to please let them know.

"The staff of Leonard ISD looks forward to a successful grant implementation that will benefit the whole of Leonard ISD and community of Leonard," LaFavers added.