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ACADEMIA DEL PUEBLO AWARDED APPLE CONNECTED TECH GRANT
Elementary education program to receive beneficial, versatile & opportunistic Apple devices

(PHOENIX, AZ., August 24, 2016) – The Academia del Pueblo School (ADP) is one of only two schools in Phoenix to receive an Apple ConnectED grant, which provides an iPad for every student, an iPad and MacBook for every teacher, and an AppleTV for every classroom. The school will host an assembly on Thursday, Sep. 22 to celebrate the student iPad rollout.

“We believe this technology will open doors for our students and expose them to content and learning opportunities that will promote global and critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration,” said Michael Henderson, Vice President of Elementary Education at ADP.

These powerful devices will allow ADP teachers to create personalized learning opportunities for every student through engaging and innovative curriculum. ADP is one of thirteen schools in Arizona awarded this highly selective grant.

The end-goal for ADP is to maximize technological capabilities and intelligence for both students and teachers. Henderson said the impact of this grant is just as valuable for the teaching staff as it is for the students.

“It is also the teachers in the classroom who are designing meaningful lessons that integrate the use of technology in order to enhance the educational experience for all of our students,” he said. “We are working collaboratively at ADP to frontload learning and build the technological capacity of our teachers and community.”

Fifth-grade teacher and Milken Educator Award recipient, Shalini Sharma agrees that this award does greatly impact ADP’s teachers and community. However, she claims the students are receiving the biggest benefit.

“This award mostly impacts the students because the granted technology provides an opportunity for students to study better, and form opinions on what they want to do in the future,” she said. “The enthusiasm epitomized by ADP’s teacher-and-student community has created an environment designed for positive, rigorous learning within the classrooms.”

In June 2013, President Barack Obama announced the ConnectEd Initiative, tailored to enhance K-12 education for all students in the United States. The campaign aims to empower teachers and students with the best technology available for individualized teaching and learning.

Apple and other private companies committed to supporting the effort, with Apple pledging \$100 million in teaching and learning solutions to 114 underserved schools across the country. ADP is proud to be associated with that group.

ADP also received a grant from AT&T to provide cellular access at home so that students can continue their learning when they leave the classroom.

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About Friendly House

Friendly House is a multi-service non-profit organization located in Phoenix, Arizona that offers wide-ranging programs aimed at addressing the pressing needs of our diverse community. Our efforts have resulted in building resilient communities that are helping to spur economic development, stabilize neighborhoods and revitalize our city. For more information, call (602) 257-1870.