



FOOTHILL TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

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CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

CALIFORNIA TWENTY RANKED SCHOOL

Urgent – Please Read

July 20, 2009

Dear Parents of Foothill Technology High School,

The school needs your help to continue to provide our students with updated and usable technology including computers and software programs. The budget cuts over the last several years have drastically affected our site budget. At the present time, Foothill receives very limited funding to support the upgrade and replacement of our technology infrastructure. This infrastructure is extremely expensive, and we cannot keep up with the ongoing cost. Currently, we have **approximately 300 computers** on the Foothill campus with 3 classroom labs, 4 mini pod labs (25 computers), 2 specialized pod labs (50 computers total), media center lab (32 computers), and staff computers (50 computers). In addition, yearly costs include hardware, software licenses, educational programs, and disposable items such as ink cartridges.

Last year, we implemented a \$90.00 technology lab contribution per student to sustain and improve the opportunities for our students and staff to access technology. The parents at Foothill responded to our plea and generously contributed approximately \$55,000 to support the upgrade and replacement of our technology infrastructure. These funds provided for the replacement of over 50 computers, a multi-media presentation station, digital cameras, flat panel monitors, two Apple computers for high level art and design curriculum, plus many ongoing disposables and maintenance costs.

The costs for the next three years are approximately \$300,000. These technology costs are ongoing as the life of a computer is approximately 5 – 7 years. If you consider the replacement cost of 300 computers and all associated infrastructure over a five to seven year period we need to replace approximately 50 computers per year. This means the school needs **\$75,000 per year** just for maintenance of existing technology.

Our technology needs for the 2009-2010 school year include replacement of an additional 50 computers including our Spanish language lab, two Apple computers for our new cutting edge online journalism course, software licenses, laser printers for computer labs, replacement of disposable items such as multimedia projector bulbs (\$275 each), and ink cartridges. The approximate cost of providing students access to this technology is \$75,000 for the 2009-2010 school year.

As a school, we want to make sure the level of technology available to our students and teachers is at a high level. One of the benefits of attending Foothill is the high level of technological sophistication that our students attain and the ability of our teachers to use technology to bring learning to life. This allows our graduates to be more successful in college and whatever profession they pursue.

Again this year, we will be requesting a **\$90.00 per student technology lab contribution** to cover the cost of technology upgrade and replacement, yearly hardware and software licenses, and technology disposables. These funds will be used for technology related costs only. This contribution is tax deductible (non-profit 501© (3) Tax ID # 95-2397308). Families with a financial hardship will be asked to contribute to the best of their abilities. At Foothill, we pride ourselves on being one of the best schools in the nation and are determined to provide our students and staff with all the necessary resources to remain so. Thank you in advance for your support. We are looking forward to a great 2009-2010 school year.

Joe Bova,
Principal