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TRT Funding Impactful By Ramona Loiselle, CMS TRT

The Coronado Unified School District (CUSD) staff members and students have found the Technology Resource Teacher (TRT) at each site to be an invaluable asset to students and teachers alike. The Coronado Schools Foundation (CSF) funds a TRT at each campus. In order to use technology and equipment, teachers and students need technical support and training to integrate that equipment into the educational learning environment. The TRT spends time each day assisting students, teachers, and staff members with the use and integration of technology equipment, software, and best teaching practices. The TRTs are also a part of the district's technology committee and the County Office of Education's Technology Support Network.

The Technology Resource Teachers, or TRTs, are able to support both teacher and student learning in the following ways:

- provide whole class instruction on using the network, Internet, and other software programs available for students
- provide instruction and staff development for the entire staff on software programs available for use
- research the newest technology innovations and determine those that would be useful in integration with classroom curriculum and CA state standards
- allow the classroom teachers to focus on curriculum and standards, while still integrating advanced technology tools to enhance learning and communication

The TRTs have various methods of assisting staff and students. At the middle school and high school, a monthly calendar is available that staff members can use to sign up for assistance. These calendars are then reviewed to determine the areas of most need. At the elementary school sites, the TRTs also serve as lab technicians and teach thematic lessons to students in groups. All TRTs assist staff with the set up and use of the various software and equipment available. Additionally, TRTs regularly meet and consult with the district Technology Support Team.

Teachers and staff report that the TRTs' expertise, access, collaboration, and in-class demonstration lessons have significantly increased their use of technology. The TRT is an invaluable addition to any school with goals to use technology in an innovative and seamless manner. The CUSD staff and students would like to express their collective thanks to the many donors of the Foundation who provide incredible financial support for our schools. Thank you!

