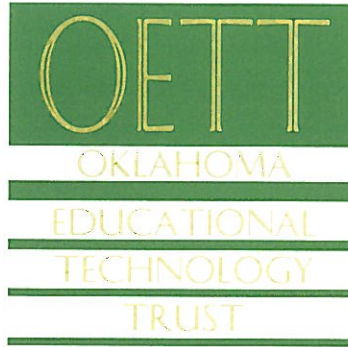


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Educational Technology Trust Celebrates 10th Anniversary More than \$12 million given to Oklahoma schools

The creators, administrators and educators of the Oklahoma Educational Technology Trust (OETT) gathered today to celebrate 10 years of advancing classroom technology.

OETT was established 10 years ago as a result of an agreement between then Attorney General Drew Edmondson and AT&T Oklahoma during the company's transition to a modern form of regulation. As part of the agreement, AT&T contributed \$30 million to establish the trust.

OETT equips Oklahoma common schools students with the technology and technological skills necessary to compete in the global marketplace. The trust provides funds for computer and telecommunications equipment infrastructure, leadership and professional development to implement and advance the integration of technology into classroom instruction.

To date, the decade-old fund has provided more than \$12 million in grants to 153 Oklahoma schools. OETT funding has placed the latest and greatest technologies directly in the hands of more than 62,600 students and trained more than 4,300 classroom teachers and almost 1,700 administrators on how to best incorporate these high-tech gadgets into the learning environment.

Edmondson and AT&T Oklahoma President Bryan Gonterman were joined at today's ceremony by Steed Elementary School Principal Dayna Hamilton.

By integrating new technologies into the classroom environment, OETT schools are delivering instruction in new and engaging ways to improve student achievement, Hamilton said.

"OETT puts modern technology in Oklahoma classrooms and helps prepare our students to prosper in a technology-based world," Hamilton said. "OETT puts real technologies into classrooms like ours that will give our students important skills in their pursuit of higher education and the job market."

- Integrating Technology & Leadership -
www.oett.org

Edmondson, who served four terms as Oklahoma's attorney general, said he envisioned OETT not only as an avenue to put current technology in classrooms today, but also as a perpetual source of funding so that Oklahoma schools can harness the technologies of tomorrow, whatever they may be.

"We saw the wisdom in this concept a decade ago," said Edmondson, now a partner in the law firm of GableGotwals. "It may appear we invested \$30 million in technology, but we actually invested \$30 million in Oklahoma students. We're talking today about what OETT has done up to this point, but the long-term implications of what OETT is bringing to Oklahoma schools are immeasurable"

OETT funding helps Oklahoma schools stay current on the ever-changing advances in technology, according to Gonterman.

"To stay on the cutting edge of technology, schools' equipment requests have evolved over the years," said Gonterman. "It started with desktop computer labs, moved to interactive white boards and now it's hand-held devices. As a company we are always pursuing new and better technologies, and it's the students in these classrooms today who will be inventing the technologies of tomorrow. We always point out that AT&T invested \$625 million in wireless and wireline technology in Oklahoma over the last few years, but I would argue no investment is more important than the \$30 million we donated to OETT."

Schools are evaluated each year on their performance implementing the grant funding into the classroom environment, according to OETT administrators. Since 2004, 81 percent of schools have exceeded expectations and 16 percent have met expectations.