



HALEYVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2011 Twentieth Street

Haleyville, Alabama 35565

www.haley-k12.al.us

Dr. Holly W. Sutherland
SUPERINTENDENT

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To Whom It May Concern:

I currently serve as the STEAM Instructional Coach for Haleyville City Schools. As a newcomer to this position, I am actively seeking ways to help teachers enhance classroom instruction to provide inquiry based collaborative learning environments for students on a daily basis. This goal is much easier to achieve when technology is a routine part of classroom instruction. Studies have shown that a device in the hands of all students increases student achievement and provides a modest boost to their 21st century skills. It isn't that providing a laptop to every student will automatically increase student achievement, but it is a helpful component to the process. Additionally, in rural communities like Haleyville, the capability for the school to provide 1-to-1 instruction is a way for students to also help educate parents, which takes the learning beyond the school and into the home.

I formerly served as the STEM/Curriculum Coordinator for Winfield City Schools and was a part of the leadership team when we transitioned into a 1-to-1 initiative. The 1-to-1 initiative for Winfield City Schools provided an opportunity for those students to be better prepared for future opportunities in an ever-changing technological age. While serving in Winfield, our district became the first district in the nation to have all schools earn STEM certification by AdvancED, the largest accrediting institution in the world. As the system STEM Coordinator, I was so grateful when Freedom Fiber made its way to Winfield, as it created larger areas of rural Alabamians being served with high speed internet, while also increasing the quality for those citizens who had internet via other service providers. The access to high-speed internet certainly played a role in the Winfield district earning STEM certification. The technology that Freedom Fiber provided for the students in the Winfield City School system completely changed the way we did school. We were able to provide after school hour internet service to students and citizens through a local internet café' which gave us a place to house adult education and senior citizen classes centered around various technology topics.

Thank you, in advance, for considering my request for grant money, making it possible for the patrons of the city of Haleyville, along with Haleyville City Schools, to receive the benefits and technology that Freedom Fiber can provide if funded. We are striving to become an AdvancED

STEM Certified School and we need Freedom Fiber in place to make this happen. The STEM certification would provide students an additional edge for them to include on their resume', which would open up job opportunities and college scholarships for our graduates as they embark on their next stage of the journey. Please feel free to call or email me should you need any other information that I might could provide.

Sincerely,

Candy Garner

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“Every student deserves a great teacher, not by chance, but by design.”
Fisher, Frey, & Hattie

