

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
K-12 Telecommunications Grant Awards

Background:

The K-12 Telecommunications Grant was funded by the Tier 2 Special Fund, a fund created by the Minnesota Performance Assurance Plan (MPAP). The MPAP, a plan proposed by Qwest (now CenturyLink d.b.a. Qwest) and approved by the Commission, established wholesale telecommunications service quality standards and self-executing remedies for failure to meet those standards. On April 21, 2009, the Commission authorized a grant program to distribute funds accruing to the Tier 2 Special Fund, specifically, the “Commission delegate[d] to its Executive Secretary the authority to develop and implement a grant process for the purposes of distributing the balance of the Tier 2 Special Fund to promote telecommunications for institutions throughout the state providing primary and secondary education.”¹

On May 29, 2012, the Commission publicized the availability of the K-12 Telecommunications Grant and issued a request for proposals from qualifying educational institutions. Subsequent to the termination of the application period, August 31, 2012, and review of the proposals, it was determined that the entire Fund of \$2,857,212.15 would be disbursed among the 23 educational institutions identified in the table below.

The award recipients represent a wide geographical dispersion of educational institutions, both urban and rural, and public and nonpublic. The projects proposed by the successful applicants will support over 35,000 Minnesota students by improving the ability of those students and their educators to exploit newer telecommunications technologies.

[Order](#)

[Application Information Packet](#)

[Award Recipients](#)

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¹ *In the Matter of Qwest’s Performance Assurance Plan*, Docket No. P-421/AM-01-1376, ORDER AUTHORIZING GRANT PROGRAM DISBURSING TIER 2 SPECIAL FUND BALANCE (April 21, 2009).

Successful Applicant	Amount
Blessed Trinity Catholic School	\$26,771.00
Brooklyn Center School District #286	\$204,182.00
Chokio-Alberta School District #771	\$64,535.00
Cook County Public School District #166	\$56,316.80
Hibbing Public School District #701	\$80,600.00
Hill-Murray Foundation	\$12,660.03
Lester Prairie Public School District #424	\$14,485.00
Little Crow Telemedia Network	\$218,427.00
Mahnomen Independent School District #432	\$132,029.00
Minneapolis Public Schools	\$490,620.55
Minneota Public School District #414	\$27,739.03
Minnesota New Country School District #4007	\$15,172.00
Montevideo Public School District #129	\$162,828.74
Mounds Park Academy	\$67,375.00
North Shore Community School District #4084	\$42,565.00
Region 1 School District #869	\$313,488.00
Rochester Public School District #535	\$159,750.00
South Washington County School District #833	\$124,528.71
St. Mary's Catholic School	\$26,000.00
St. Mary's School Bird Island	\$100,000.00
St. Francis Catholic School	\$7,200.20
St. John's - St. Andrew's School	\$11,611.00
SW/WC Service Cooperative	\$498,328.09
Total	\$2,857,212.15