



# Muscogee County School District

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## For Immediate Release

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Date: October 24, 2011

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **DoDEA Grants Provide MCSD \$5.53 Million for Cutting Edge Technology Projects**

(Columbus, GA) – The Muscogee County School District (MCSD), in collaboration with Columbus State University, will announce the results of cutting-edge technology projects implemented through three grants from the **U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)**. These projects, which have already garnered national and state awards, will be described in a press conference at Columbus State University Coca-Cola Space Science Center, 701 Front Street, Columbus, Georgia, on November 2, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. Educational materials and technologies produced through these grants will be used to improve student achievement worldwide.

Over the past three years the DoDEA has awarded the MCSD *three* grants totaling \$5.53 million. The grant funds have allowed the MCSD to create a video podcast web site that is accessible free of charge to people worldwide, place iPods, student response units, iPevos, digital microscopes, high definition video cameras, slates, and other technology in the classroom, and provide technology rich professional development for teachers in 32 schools. At the press conference, grant participants will unveil the website, demonstrate the technology, and acquaint the public on the impact the projects have on military and civilian students.

The purpose of the grants is to enhance student achievement and ease the challenges military dependent students face due to transitions and deployments. The grant awards are based on the number of military students enrolled in the schools. For a school to be eligible to receive a grant, the schools are required to have a military dependent population of 15% or more. 32 schools in Muscogee County are receiving the grant funds, however all schools in the district, as well as around the world, are able to utilize the website and podcasts.

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MCSD Grant Administrator, Dr. Tina Cross says, “Our data indicates that the majority of the schools that have been recipients of the grants statistically show significant increase in the test scores of the military dependent students.”

In addition, teachers and principals report that the technology use in the classroom has yielded a significant increase in student engagement and enthusiasm.

“The techniques and technology also had a positive impact on students with special needs,” added Cross.

For more information, e-mail MCSD Director of Communications, Valerie Fuller, [communications@muscogee.k12.ga.us](mailto:communications@muscogee.k12.ga.us) or call (706) 748-2034.

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