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McGinnis School Grant Proposal Approved *\$50,000 from Pepsi would help improve middle school Laptop Initiative* **VOTE for the William C. McGinnis School**

Perth Amboy, NJ – The William C. McGinnis School is in the running for a \$50,000 grant from Pepsi to expand its current laptop program. In the year 2010 Pepsi will give millions of dollars to fund proposals in various areas, including education. The McGinnis School's proposal is one of 729 others across the nation. At the end of the month the top 10 ideas will receive funds. To vote for the McGinnis School's Laptop Initiative Grant Proposal visit www.refresheverything.com/grade6.

"In this day and age, if there are funds available, we have to think outside the box and try to acquire them," stated John M. Rodecker, Superintendent of Schools. "The laptop initiative at the McGinnis School has instilled a 21st century learning environment for a small group of students in grades 7 and 8. We would like to provide that same type of environment to 6th graders."

The school has benefited from a 1:1 laptop initiative, each student will have a laptop designated to him/her personally throughout the school day, but the project only served a small group of 7th and 8th graders within the school. The McGinnis School would use the Pepsi Refresh Grant to purchase mobile laptop carts for 2 teams of 6th graders to connect globally with other schools, engage in project based learning, and create learning communities within the district.

The Laptop Project was established by Kean University in the McGinnis School in 2005 and lasted until 2009. Supported and funded by a U.S. Department of Education Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant, the project has supported well-developed professional development, both for teachers and administrators, and a thorough assessment model. The Kean grant provided 240 of these machines for two teams of middle school students as a research based 4 year initiative.

For more information please contact Brian Wilson at (732) 376-6291

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