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Mount Vernon Educational Foundation Raising Funds for MVCSD Students in Need of Laptops

MOUNT VERNON, N.Y. (April 9, 2020) — The Mount Vernon Educational Foundation (MVEF) is calling for donations to help raise money to purchase laptops for the students in the Mount Vernon City School District who are in need of devices as they continue to learn at home.

MVEF – the only recognized fundraising partner of the District – has set a goal of raising \$30,000 as quickly as possible for purchasing approximately 100 laptops.

The District implemented its digital learning model immediately after school buildings were closed as per the governor's executive order in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The Foundation is hoping to bridge the gap for hundreds of students who do not have computing ability in their homes.

"Our colleagues in the School District are committed to meeting 100% of the computing needs of our children," said Foundation President Eileen Justino. "The MVEF has partnered with the School District to help reach that goal. The success of the District's online learning program is predicated on every student having access to a computer and the Foundation is striving to help make that happen."

The newly formed Board of Directors of the MVEF had been in the process of setting goals and planning campaigns for this year when the pandemic surged in March. The Foundation shifted gears to meet the immediate needs of the students. The planned goals of the Foundation are to provide opportunities for students that enhance learning while delivering programs and opportunities beyond the classroom, such as extending the District's robotics program and taking educational trips.

"We are excited to partner with the Mount Vernon Educational Foundation to continue to expand our efforts to ensure every student has an equitable opportunity for success by way of a digital device," Superintendent Kenneth R. Hamilton said. "We are appreciative of the Foundation's support and its mission to expand the education of students in the School District by giving them new and different learning opportunities."

Justino said of the current campaign for laptop funding: "Every gift, no matter the size, will have an immediate impact on a child's ability to learn in this new virtual environment. Now, more than ever, it is critical that our children have the resources they need to continue their education."

To donate and for more information, please visit: <u>https://www.mtvernoncsd.org/foundation</u>. Or email us at: <u>MVEFBOT@gmail.com</u>.

The Mount Vernon Educational Foundation, Inc., an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your donation is 100% tax-deductible.

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