

# The Murfreesboro Post

## Oakland receives \$5,000 grant for ed tech

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Bill Spurlock, principal Oakland High School, Carol MacCauley, information tech specialist, Don Odom, assistant superintendent, and Andrew Lombardo, regional manager for Vantage

Teachers, students and district administrators at Oakland High School received a much needed grant for education technology this morning.

Oakland is the recipient of over \$5,000 in educational technology funding, as a part of the Vantage Learning Keystone Partner Program, in which Vantage will award over half a million dollars in grants, endowments and subsidies to 10 districts throughout the nation to install their signature MY Access! writing program.

MY Access! is proven to help students improve their writing proficiency and overall results on mandatory state exams. The program will give significant educational funding to districts throughout the country that are dealing with the current economy and increased budget restrictions as they look to incorporate educational technology into the classroom for this coming school year.

Vantage is building upon the Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) program that was authorized in 2002 as part of the Bush-era No Child Left Behind law. Since that time, funding has steadily declined by 62 percent to \$267.5 million in 2008 from \$700.5 million six years earlier.

The economic-stimulus package signed into law this past February by President Obama restored \$650 million in funding to the program, to be used over the next two school years. Vantage is adding to the funds Obama has given by kicking off their program this month and distributing funding to 10 school districts throughout the country.