

Three schools of ORT Russia received the Hewlett-Packard grant

Dear Sirs!

We are glad to let you know that three schools of ORT Russia have been selected for funding of the 2009 HP Innovation in Education Grant award. Among the several proposals submitted from the secondary schools of the Russian Federation there were 9 schools selected including those ORT ones as Gymnasia # 1540 (former Secondary School # 1299), School # 550 in St Petersburg and Samara Secondary School # 42.

The HP Innovations in Education program for secondary schools helps improve student achievement by using technology to redesign the learning experience. Grant recipients receive HP products, professional development and funds to put technology in the hands of students to transform teaching, learning and collaboration. Through the program, innovative teachers share ideas and best practices in areas such as online learning, virtual worlds and simulations.

According to the contest's requirements participating educational institutions must be governmentally accredited and be committed to exploring the innovations available within teaching, learning and technology.

The grant includes several HP technology solutions (22 HP Tablet PCs, 2 HP wide screen LCD Monitors, 2 HP Office jet All-in-one and 2 HP Wireless Access Points) and some cash grant for the principal investigator to use to support the work of the project.

On behalf of the Managing Director HP Russia, VP HP, Mr Owen Kemp the congratulation letters were sent for the administration of ORT Schools in Moscow, St Petersburg and Samara, in which he said: "With only 50 selected proposals in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, your educational institution is part of an elite cohort dedicated to enhancing degree programs in engineering, computer science, information systems, and information technology the innovations that are possible at the intersection of teaching, learning, and technology. We are very excited to have the opportunity to partner with you and your institution as you implement your project and develop your institution's technology capacity for the benefit of your students. Congratulations again. Thank you for your commitment to education and for seeking new ways to transform the learning environment in ways that positively affect student achievement".

HP and World ORT cooperation began in 2001 by the realising 'Digital Village' program in the Dikhatole Community near Johannesburg in South Africa. In 2004 HP and ORT have once again joined forces to open a Digital Community Centres (DCC) in Slavutych (Ukraine) and Tula (Russia). In a year the Micro Enterprise Acceleration Centre was opened in Samara. In 2007 HP initiated the new program Graduate Entrepreneurship Training through IT (GET-IT) that seeds entrepreneurial energy and develops business and IT skills in young people and recent graduates. ORT Russia participates in this program actively. There were 6 HP-ORT GET-IT Centres established (in Volgograd, Yekaterinburg, Tula, Tambov, Moscow and St Petersburg). During the 2007-2008 years 2 schools of ORT Russia (in Kazan and Samara) won the Hewlett-Packard grant in terms of the program "Transforming teaching and learning through technology". In 2009 10 more HP-ORT GET-IT Centres are to be opened in Russia and Ukraine.

HP web-site information: <http://www.hp.com/hpinfo/grants/>