

Arizona Daily Star

Teacher of deaf pupils gets technology grant

A teacher at the Arizona School for the Deaf has won a grant to receive a technology-infused classroom and training worth more than \$15,000.

Elementary school teacher Kristina Manning submitted the winning application, having her students get involved with letters of support.

Educators for the deaf rely on American Sign Language and spoken and written English during classroom instruction. Nearly 50 percent of classroom time is spent on students leaving their seats to answer questions in sign language and then scanning for visual cues from classmates to see who the next respondent will be. During this process, students miss out on instructional content.

"I'm absolutely thrilled my class was chosen as a recipient of these interactive educational tools," Manning said. "To be able to teach using a document camera, wireless slates and student-response systems will greatly reduce lost instructional time. It's such a wonderful gift, and we're so thankful for it."

The grant was awarded by CCS, an innovator in audiovisual training among educators and corporate professionals. The competition was open to Arizona educators for kindergarten through 12th grade.

The Arizona School for the Deaf is on the campus of the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.