

Windstream announces finalists for technology donations

Thirty-four schools vie for 'Classroom Connections' donations, 'Spirit Awards'

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LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – Windstream (Nasdaq: WIN) has selected 34 schools as finalists for the company's *Classroom Connections* program. In its second year, the program provides financial awards for technology-related upgrades in public schools throughout the company's service area. \$150,000 will be awarded this year.

Windstream received 120 applications from schools in 15 states. Public and public charter schools were eligible to apply online and were required to submit a video with their application.

Finalists include:

Arkansas: Rose Bud High School, Rosebud.

Georgia: Commerce Middle School, Commerce; North Murray High School and Spring Place Elementary, both in Chatsworth; White County Ninth Grade Academy, Cleveland; Winder-Barrow Middle School, Winder.

Kentucky: Campbellsville Elementary School, Campbellsville; Jessamine Early Learning Village, Wilmore; Monroe County Falcon Academy, Tompkinsville.

Missouri: Northwestern High School, Mendon; St. Elizabeth School, St. Elizabeth; Union Star R-II School, Union Star.

Nebraska: Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer School, Humboldt.

North Carolina: Aberdeen Elementary School, Aberdeen; J.R. Ingram Elementary, Sanford; Jay M. Robinson High School, Concord; Lakeshore Elementary School, Mooresville; Laurel Hill Elementary School, Laurel Hill.

New Mexico: Nob Hill Early Childhood Center, Ruidoso.

New York: Persell Middle School, Jamestown.

Ohio: Madison High School, Madison; Union Local Elementary School and Union Local Middle School, both in Belmont.

Oklahoma: Heavener Elementary School, Heavener; Margaret Hudson Program, Broken Arrow; Milburn High School, Milburn; Prague High School, Prague.

Pennsylvania: Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit, Edinboro; West End Elementary School, Meadville.

South Carolina: Landrum Middle School and O.P. Earle Elementary School, both in Landrum.

Texas: Burkeville Jr. Sr. High School, Burkeville; Montague Elementary, Montague; Ralls Middle School, Ralls.

A panel of Windstream executives and outside leaders in the technology and education industries will select four schools to each receive a \$25,000 donation.

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Schools will be judged on demonstrated need and creativity as well as enthusiasm shown in their application. Windstream will announce the four schools selected for the technology grants in early May.

The remaining thirty schools will be eligible for a Spirit Award. Up to 10 Spirit Awards worth \$5,000 each will be awarded in September based on public online voting at www.windstream.com/classroom. Voting will open in May.

About Windstream

Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq: WIN), headquartered in Little Rock, Ark., is an S&P 500 company with communications operations in 21 states and about \$3.7 billion in annual revenues. Windstream provides phone, high-speed Internet and high-definition digital TV services. The company also offers a wide range of IP-based voice and data services and advanced phone systems and equipment to businesses and government agencies. For more information about Windstream, visit www.windstream.com.

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