

APPLE DONATION 9/22/87

Good morning. I am Stephanie Marshall, Director of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy and it is indeed a pleasure for me to welcome you to the Academy and to the beginning of another important venture in our institution's brief history. We are here this morning not only to announce a significant donation of computers by Apple Corporation to the Academy, but also to recognize that this donation is evidence of their commitment to the Academy and its mission; it is also a signal to other corporations and our legislators of the confidence that Apple Corporation has in the Academy and the positive impact we will have in improving math and science education in Illinois.

The Academy's original request for equipment from Apple was made in the context of a proposal with the University of Illinois for the

National Science Foundation,  
entitled "Reconfiguring Education  
for the 21st Century. The proposal  
calls for the development of a  
totally interactive and  
interdisciplinary computer-based  
environment on the IMSA campus.  
Within this environment, students  
will be exposed to multiple data  
sources and will use an  
interdisciplinary research model to  
solve problems.

The Academy asked Apple to  
participate in the development of  
this innovative educational  
environment by donating "equipment  
and expertise." Our program design  
is at the cutting edge of  
technology. We believe the  
participation of Apple is critical  
to promote the facilitation of  
teaching and learning through the  
use of an information-rich and  
technologically-intensive  
environment.

Our goals are threefold:

1. To develop the technical expertise of students and faculty in the use of word processing, spreadsheet, and database software so that each user can apply the programs effectively in problem solving situations; to develop software applications labs as centers for seminars and development of exportable demonstration and instruction packages.

2. Develop network applications appropriate to high school and college preparatory settings and share these with other schools designing network applications for their environment.

3. Begin the initial implementation of an artificial intelligence curriculum which focuses on applications in science, mathematics, and the social sciences; develop and test curriculum materials for statewide dissemination.

The equipment and support Apple is offering IMSA will transform our classrooms into laboratories where our students can truly become "apprentice investigators" with the tools required to learn in innovative ways.

Equally as important, this partnership will facilitate our outreach efforts as the Academy increases in its ability to become a laboratory and a center for curriculum development in math, science and technology for statewide dissemination.

In a recent speech to the Seventh World Conference on Gifted and Talented Youth, Dr. Terrance Bell, former Secretary of Education said that "probably the most neglected group today are the gifted and talented young people.... assistance for the gifted may be the most urgent unfinished business in education today.

Last year, Apple Corporation donated over \$60,000. in equipment, today's donation brings this contribution to over \$160,000.

This partnership, that the Academy has formed with Apple, will not only enable us to provide for our gifted students but will also provide the equipment necessary for us to serve as a laboratory to design new applications of this technology and distribute them statewide.

As you are all aware, the Academy has not received sufficient funding for us to continue beyond January 31st, without an additional appropriation. We are seeking that supplemental appropriation during this session.

We remain optimistic that the legislature will approve the funds that we require.

It is our hope that this demonstration of commitment from Apple Corporation will reinforce to