



## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Phone: 970-336-7204 Fax: 970-352-0242  
1150 O St., P.O. Box 758, Greeley, CO 80632

## NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Jennifer Finch, 970-336-7203

### COUNTY PC REFRESH PROGRAM TO BENEFIT SALIDA DEL SOL STUDENTS

WELD COUNTY, CO – Students at Salida del Sol Academy, a K-8<sup>th</sup> grade school in Greeley-Evans, received five laptops on Wednesday morning courtesy of the Weld County PC Refresh Program.



*Joe Melendez, Superintendent, and David Sanchez, Controller, accept laptops from Weld County Commissioner Sean Conway and Ryan Rose, Weld County IT Director. As a new school, which opened in September 2014, Salida del Sol Academy is in need of essential work-related items such as laptop computers. With the donation from Weld County, the office staff and teachers will be able to work from anywhere, not just at their desk.*

"The laptops donated today have reached their end-of-life cycle for the county, meaning they no longer meet county standards for efficiency or minimum specifications, but that doesn't mean the laptops aren't usable anymore," said Weld County Commissioner Sean Conway. "In fact, these laptops, like the others the county has donated to non-profits, still work well for various everyday uses including running basic programs and internet research."

When a county computer is up for replacement, the county's Information Technology (IT) Department examines the machine to determine if it can be donated for other use or if it should be recycled altogether. If it is determined that the machine is still usable, the IT Department completely reformats the machine – removing all county software and data – prior to the donation.

"Until today, our staff didn't have any laptop computers," said Joe Melendez, Superintended for Salida del Sol Academy. "Now we will be able to work from home or in various meetings, and the laptops will

provide another tool to teach our students with."

To date, the county has donated 40 laptops to three different Weld County non-profit agencies. In February of 2015, the county donated 30 laptops to the Fort Lupton Boys and Girls Club, and in June of 2015, the county donated five laptops to the Weld Faith Partnership Council.

"To be able to help our local non-profits in this manner is important to the Board," said Commissioner Chair Mike Freeman. "It's a great feeling to know equipment that is no longer useful to the county is being repurposed and donated to local agencies dedicated to helping county residents."

The county has a limited number of laptops available for donation to Weld County non-profit agencies. If your non-profit agency is interested in applying for a laptop, please contact the Weld County Commissioner's office at 970-356-4000 and request a donation form.

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