C.4 Instructional Resources

La Tierra Community School (LTCS) teachers will have adequate support and resources to effectively implement a classroom full of love, laughter, and learning.

Because an Expeditionary Learning classroom is constructive and place-based by nature, many of the materials the teachers will utilize come from personal research. For example, for a unit (*learning expedition*, in Expeditionary Learning schools) on migratory birds of Arizona, local experts from Prescott College would be willing to share their library of field guides and picture books with LTCS teachers. Our local library would be willing to mark and check out all books related to the topic and teachers would have access to the Audubon Society's maps and bird posters. With this ongoing community support from a variety of organizations, LTCS will have access to resources and materials that fit the teacher's needs and meet state standards.

During the first year of operation, $4000 is designated toward to the purchase of materials to be used in the two classrooms. This would include classroom supplies, math manipulative, books, calendars etc. An additional $3000 is budgeted to be used to purchase software or literature that supports the two classrooms, including software from NWEA (Northwest Education Association) for assessing students' progress. LTCS will be extremely frugal in our purchases, looking for used books and resources that are still ready to be used in a classroom. Because our total number of students, and classrooms, are low our first year, we feel confident that we can cover our instructional needs with this budget.

The LTCS classrooms will also utilize technology to support instruction. The first year will see an investment of $3000 for the two classrooms. Although this is a relatively small amount, LTCS has been in negotiation with local agencies that sell used computers and equipment. Two year old Mac Book lap tops were recently sold to a new charter in Prescott for $400 each. At this rate, at least seven computers could be purchased for the two classrooms during the first year. The second year of LTCS with the addition of one classroom would see further investment in this area ($2000) and then $3000 during the third year.

Almost all equipment and supplies would be purchased after July 15, 2011 with deals being negotiated before the first state equalization payment is received. The actual purchases of the items would take place towards the end of July 2011. Any purchases made before the July 2011 date would come out of the start-up budget.