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NNSS donates \$34,000 to help students connect to education

North Las Vegas, Nevada – Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) management and operating contractor Mission Support and Test Services (MSTS) has announced a \$34,000 donation to Nye County School District (NCSD) to provide mobile hotspots and internet service for 50 families, in support of NCSD’s commitment to distance learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The Nye County School District is very grateful for the continued support from NNSS," said NCSD Superintendent Dr. Warren Shillingburg. "Their generous donation will help us make sure all of our students have access to their online curriculum and to the online support from their classroom teachers."

NCSD’s student enrollment is more than 5,500, and has had to overcome several challenges in ensuring students have access to the technology required for distance learning. Many district schools have implemented hybrid classroom environments, with in-person classes supported by online class periods, or mixtures of in-person and online instruction. The district was also required to provide a fully virtual option should parents choose that route, and when classes begin on Aug. 24, nearly a quarter of students will be enrolled in that fully remote option.

Based on district surveys, 200 individual students need internet access support. The NNSS’ donation will provide mobile hotspots with internet access for 12 months to 50 families who may have multiple students in the household.

"This donation allows us to make purchases immediately," said NCSD Director of Technology Robert Williams. "We have families with a great deal of anxiety because school starts next week, and we don’t have the devices. Being able to work directly with NNSS is enabling us to make purchases faster and into the hands of families sooner."

Regarding the \$34,000 donation, MSTS President Mark Martinez remarked, "The NNSS works to foster a passion for STEM in schools throughout the region. Until we can connect in person again, this is a way for us to directly support students and encourage them to continue their education."

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The NNSS is managed and operated by Mission Support and Test Services LLC (MSTS). MSTS is a limited liability company consisting of Honeywell International Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and HII Nuclear. The NNSS falls under the jurisdiction of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Energy. The Site's operations are government-controlled and contractor-operated, and are overseen by NNSA's Nevada Field Office, headquartered in North Las Vegas.

For more information on the NNSS, visit www.nnss.gov.

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