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Lake Forest High School Foundation Funds Algebra Calculators

The Lake Forest High School Foundation continues to be excited about assisting the high school in adding new educational technology to the teaching arsenal. Recently, we told you that we funded the purchase of a state-of-the-art 3D printer for use in courses teaching graphic arts and architecture.

Last semester, we are happy to tell you that we have funded the purchase of 25 TI-Nspire™ algebra calculators as a pilot program in the mathematics department. TI-Nspire™ is the latest development in hand-held and computer based computing for students in pre-algebra through calculus, also with use in geometry, statistics and physics.

TI-Nspire™ CAS technology makes it possible to recognize, simplify and calculate math expressions, preserving the symbols including variables and terms such as e and π

This ability to enter and view equations and expressions on screen as they appear in textbooks may be especially useful for step-by-step, arithmetic, algebraic and calculus calculations:

- Learn to solve equations step-by-step while avoiding common arithmetic errors.
- Spend more time on specific math topics, from algebra through calculus.
- Factor and expand expressions and solve common denominators.
- See patterns and grasp the math behind the formulas.
- Find common denominators

The TI-Nspire™ handheld comes with the interchangeable TI-84 Plus Keypad* that provides compatibility with the TI-83 Plus and TI-84 Plus families of graphing calculators. By inserting the TI-84 Plus Keypad, educators and students can continue using the TI-Nspire™ handheld alongside TI-83 Plus, TI-84 Plus and TI-84 Plus Silver Edition graphing calculator models.

The Foundation is extremely pleased to make this pilot program possible. If successful, the calculator will be adopted department wide as the de facto computing solution in mathematics.

