The IT dept has used Learning Lapse Funding to improve some of the technology Encore uses to provide remote learning and to prepare for when students eventually return to campus. As you know Encore's teaching staff host Zoom meetings every day. Encore averages 175 meeting with approximately 5500 attendees per day. Running a Zoom meeting puts a heavy demand on a computer and sometimes the resources are not there that teachers need for presentations. Some teachers prerecord their presentations and post them to Google Classrooms, but that removes participation from the teachers control. When students do watch a prerecorded presentation in Google Classroom it still lacks the personal touch a teacher provides while giving the same presentation live. Using PowerPoint or a second webcam for live demonstrations will often not work in a Zoom meeting. Lagging or stuttering video is not always the fault of slow Internet. Sometimes it depends on processing power and what other applications are running at the same time. Buying better computers with more capabilities will improve staff's ability to stream classes while running required applications.

We also purchased more Chromebooks to replace old and failing Chromebooks. We purchased components to upgrade existing desktop computers and to expand the capabilities of newly purchased computers. We purchased new PCs for the eSports class and multi-media teachers.

Here is a more detailed list.

4 – IT / Multimedia teacher / ESport teacher Desktop PCs

16 - Esports class student desktop PCs

60 - Staff Hewlett Packard Laptops

70 - 110 degree FOV Web Cam

10 -  Solid state hard drive upgrades for staff desktops

1 - 13 inch MacBook Pro for Production manager

1 – 16 inch MacBook Pro for Film class

2 - 4k 27" Media PC's Monitors for Film and eSports

100 HP Chromebooks

1 – HP All-In-One PC for Exec. Assistant / HR / Enrollment / Office Manager