



e-Vermont is a new \$4 million initiative to help rural Vermont towns take full advantage of the Internet and advance a wide variety of local needs including economic development, school innovation, job creation, downtown marketing, community engagement, and e-commerce. Moretown was selected in December 2010 as one of the 12 second-round communities to work with the e-Vermont Partnership in a comprehensive effort combining online services, training, access, awareness, and planning.

By reaching the bedrocks of Vermont communities – schools, businesses, municipal governments, libraries, health, and social services groups – e-Vermont will promote new collaborative efforts for identifying and implementing previously untapped resources and help our towns fully realize the potential of the digital age.

What does this mean for Moretown Elementary School? We will be the beneficiaries of 50 Dell netbook computers, bundled with a printer for every 4-6th grader, including extensive teacher training to imbed technology in our curriculum. Digital Wish, an educational non-profit based in Vermont, will be working closely with our 4-6th grade classrooms every step of the way, from netbook set-up and introduction to podcasting and Flip video projects, providing training to teachers and students with the latest Web 2.0 technology, while still remaining within the daily classroom curriculum and national standards.

This grant also provides Moretown Elementary School with the resources and consultants to upgrade our wireless infrastructure to make it robust enough to grow with our influx of netbooks.

This program allows our educators to prepare our students for an increasingly technological future. Best of all, this initiative has an e-Vermont school-to-home connection that directly ties families to these opportunities. With this initiative, our school community can become a leading force in preparing for our children's future.

To read more about the e-Vermont project, please visit the Vermont Council on Rural Development at www.vtrural.org. To find out more about Digital Wish, please visit www.digitalwish.org.