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## GSA, Rep. Velázquez Join For Computer Donation to Brooklyn High School

### *Computers For Learning Program Helps Put Technology in Classrooms*

BROOKLYN, N.Y. – Congresswoman Nydia M. Velázquez (D-NY) joined GSA Northeast and Caribbean Regional Administrator Denise Pease today as the agency donated excess federal computer equipment to the Progress High School for Professional Careers in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, N.Y. This donation of eight complete workstations along with six laptop computers, ten docking ports and a fax machine was made possible by the government's Computers For Learning Program which is celebrating its fifteenth anniversary this April 17th.

"Providing students access to computers and the Internet can unlock a whole new world of learning and knowledge," said Velázquez. "The 'Computers for Learning' initiative is helping close our nation's digital divide by providing schools updated technology for the classroom, and I'm delighted to see Progress High School benefit from this program."

The Computers for Learning Program is one of several federal initiatives that help to support President Barack Obama's commitment to education by allowing government agencies to donate surplus computers and related equipment to schools and qualifying nonprofit educational organizations. The program, established by former President Bill Clinton under Executive Order 12999, helps make computer technology an integral part of every classroom and encourages the use of innovative educational software.

"In this era of ever decreasing budgets, this is one way schools and other qualifying organizations can help keep up to date with today's technology without having to expend precious resources," said Pease. "I am very proud of GSA's role in supporting this program and we will be making the effort to get the word out to school districts in our regional area so that they may take advantage of it."

While federal agencies are able to donate the equipment directly to schools, GSA helps facilitate the process by sponsoring the Computers for Learning website ([www.computersforlearning.gov](http://www.computersforlearning.gov)). Schools and eligible organizations are able to register at the site and can then browse through the available equipment that is posted there.

Since it was established the Computers for Learning Program has provided tens of thousands of excess computer equipment to thousands of eligible schools and organizations across the United States. In addition to supporting innovation and technology in education, the program also helps support sustainability initiatives by helping to reuse equipment and reduce electronic waste.

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- Leveraging the government's buying power through responsible acquisition of products and services making up approximately 14 percent of the government's total procurement dollars;
- Providing innovative technology solutions to enhance government efficiency and increase citizen engagement; and,
- Promoting responsible use of federal resources through development of governmentwide policies ranging from federal travel to property and management practices.