

SUGAR ON A STICK

COMPUTING FOR ALL STUDENTS AT THE GARDNER SCHOOL
A K-5 PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) project created the award-winning Sugar learning platform and invented a new way for computers to be used for education. Sugar Labs, now a separate nonprofit developing Sugar for all computers, and the Gardner Pilot Academy (GPA) seek a small donation to create and bring Sugar to urban school children for little more than the cost of a 1GB USB stick (\$5). Our project focuses on providing each student at GPA with ubiquitous access to Sugar both in the classroom and at home. By providing each student with a bootable Sugar USB device, we will ensure that all students can access Sugar on all the computers in their home, school and after-school environments.

Sugar on a Stick is a bootable version of Sugar, the free open source software that is the core of the OLPC XO, configured to boot on existing computers without touching the hard disk at the school and in student's homes. The school currently has a 10:1 computer ratio; to make this project successful we are seeking **donations of used computers, screens and keyboards** and a sponsor to provide **USB sticks**. We are also seeking **financial support** for miscellaneous extra equipment and to support teacher training and program implementation and evaluation.

The Gardner School:

Located in one of the most culturally and linguistically diverse sections of Boston, the Gardner Pilot Academy serves a very diverse student population in grades K-5. The GPA's 336 students and their families speak over 13 languages ranging from Spanish to Khmer. Demographically, 15.2% are African American, 59.1% are Hispanic, 10.7% are white and 13.1% are Asian. Over 85% of the students meet the federal poverty guidelines to participate in the Free or Reduced Price Lunch Program. Fifty-two percent of GPA's student body is English Language Learners, while 18% of the GPA students have special learning needs, including those students enrolled in GPA's two substantially separate classrooms. The majority of GPA's students fall within a group of students considered to be academically at-risk.



About Sugar Labs: Sugar Labs, a volunteer-driven, nonprofit organization, is a member project of the Software Freedom Conservancy (conservancy.softwarefreedom.org). Originally part of the One Laptop Per Child project (www.laptop.org), Sugar Labs coordinates volunteers around the world passionate about providing educational opportunities to children through the Sugar Learning Platform. Sugar Labs is supported by donations and is seeking funding to accelerate development. For more information, please visit www.sugarlabs.org."

Why should you support this project?

- Help great kids at an urban Boston school get access to the best in educational computing.
- Support Innovation! This is a new idea; this pilot will be a blueprint other schools can follow for inexpensive, easy to maintain, student computing.

How can you help?

- Donations of computer equipment and places to store it until Oct '09
- Donations of USB Sticks
- Expert help with computer repair and Linux skills.
- Financial Support

Contact Information:

Caroline Meeks
Anurag Goel

CMeeks@sugarlabs.org
agoel23@gmail.com

617-500-3488
703-362-9873