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LC benefits from new electronics recycling law

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LANSDALE — A few years ago, Lansdale Catholic High School's technology coordinator Lou Jurewicz realized he had to do something about the old electronics equipment that began piling up as the school upgraded its technology.

He forged a partnership with a Philadelphia-based electronics company, eForce Compliance, and the school became a community drop-off site for anything with a plug — used computers, televisions, printers, air conditioners and household appliances. As a result, LC is paid several thousand dollars per year, which benefit various school programs.

Now that a new mandatory recycling law has gone into effect in Pennsylvania on Jan. 24 making it illegal to dispose of computers and similar electronics with the household trash, Jurewicz is expecting more drop-offs from members of the public and, in turn, a bump in revenue.

"It's a good thing for us to do and it's the right thing to do," he said. "It's not only toxic to the environment to put these things in landfills, it's a fund raiser. It's a win-win."

EForce provided Lansdale Catholic with a trailer where it can collect the unwanted electronics. In March, the school is planning an electronics recycling event in which people can bring their unwanted items on a designated day.

EForce pays the school for the items it recycles, Jurewicz said. The school has used the funds to support its Future Business Leaders of America program, its environmental science program and to upgrade the technology on campus.

Joe Connors, spokesperson for eForce, said the old electronics are crushed and made into plastics and different types of metals.

"We follow the highest compliance with the law," he said. "People shouldn't worry about their personal information getting out there."

Anyone who needs to dispose of old electronics can do so by calling Lansdale Catholic at 215-362-6160 to make arrangements. The school is located at 700 Lansdale Ave.

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