



Carl Sandburg College

December 20, 2005
Issue 10

EduNet NEWS

EduNet, a broadband wireless wide area communication network designed for the purpose of transmitting/receiving data, Internet, audio, and video traffic. EduNet is owned and operated by Carl Sandburg College in partnership with the K-12 school districts within the CSC district.

FROM THE COORDINATOR

The December issue of the League of Innovation's publication, *Innovation Express*, contained an excellent article entitled, "EduNet: A Wireless Broadband Infrastructure Bringing Opportunities for West Central Illinois."

Its introduction reads: "In keeping with its mission to provide accessible quality education to its district, Carl Sandburg College (IL) sought to wire the entire region for broadband. Read about how using existing infrastructures saved costs, provided education access, and won the college awards..."

So, it was bound to happen. EduNet made its entry into the nation's consciousness! Well, maybe it isn't a household word yet, but Vice President Sudhakar's phone has been ringing off the hook with inquiries from across the country! EduNet is a simple design that could be replicated by other community colleges across the country ... and most likely will!

Best wishes for a peaceful and happy holiday season with your family.

FEDS ISSUE NEW ERATE FUNDING GUIDELINES

Information is available at
<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryts.cfm?ArticleID=5990>

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION JOINS ETC

More good news for EduNet members! The Knox County University of Illinois Extension Office recently signed to become a member of the Education Technology Center in Galesburg, a joint endeavor by Galesburg CUSD #205, Knox College and Carl

Sandburg College. By joining the ETC, the Extension will boost the programming of our Channel 22 Network since it owns a large library of educational videos to service the K-16 spectrum. Welcome aboard, U of I Extension!

DECEMBER EDUNET PROGRESS REPORT

* Ten out of the twenty-one school districts within Carl Sandburg College District 518 have signed on to EduNet. More are expected to join in spring.

* Carl Sandburg College has become an authorized eRate service provider. So, school districts can eRate their EduNet fees.

* Last month, at the CSC regular Board meeting, Dr. Al Goldfarb, president of Western Illinois University signed a formal agreement with Carl Sandburg College to join EduNet and bring junior and senior level coursework, Masters and Doctoral programs to all the EduNet delivery locations within West Central Illinois. This is a significant milestone in the project.

* The EduNet project won the Illinois Community College Administrators (ICCCA) Innovation Award for 2005.

* Phase III – the final phase of EduNet project has been completed.

* Western Illinois University will serve as the second peering point for EduNet in addition to the Abingdon Mediacom circuit back to Carbondale ICN POP.

YOU ARE INVITED

The next monthly meeting to review EduNet's progress is set for **9:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 17**, in the Carl Sandburg College Board Room (Building E). On the agenda for the "Design and Logistics"

meeting: 1) DerbyTech Update; 2) WIU Update; 3) Questions from Districts; 4) Next Steps. All participating and prospective superintendents are welcome to attend and/or send their technology staff. We have had many positive reports from district technology staff about the value of this meeting. Many like to network with each other after the meeting to discuss the common educational challenges of their field.

PERHAPS YOU WERE WONDERING?

Question: With WIU joining will there be “a traffic concern or other technological problem that would impact public school districts’ use of the Internet through EduNet?”

Answer: No. WIU is not using EduNet for Internet service. It will only use EduNet to deliver upper level courses to Carl Sandburg’s EduNet members. WIU will not use the network for any other reason.

Question: What was the cost to WIU? Does the signing on of WIU in this situation create additional dollars that could pass down savings to the original school districts that signed on?

Answer: CSC and our K-12 school districts are neither subsidizing WIU joining EduNet nor will we receive a win-fall either. WIU is providing a second peering point on its campus to give our system more redundancy as a protection for all of us. Since they are providing this service for Edunet, there is no fee for WIU to broadcast its courses to our school districts.

The intergovernmental agreement between WIU and CSC is on the CSC web site. It can be found under “Board of Trustees”, “November 15 agenda”, “Attachment 1”.

http://docushare.sandburg.edu/dscgi/ds.py/Get/File-17896/CSC-WIU_EDUNET_Agreement.pdf

EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATION MEETINGS REPORT

Carl Sandburg Community College District #518 was pleased to facilitate three regional meetings on course and teacher sharing among our public school administrators. These meetings explored ways to expand high school curriculum and dual credit opportunities for our member districts.

From last year’s meeting in Bushnell, area school districts were able to share foreign language classes, industrial arts, and dual credit offerings through Carl Sandburg College. Some courses were offered via interactive compressed video. Hopefully, we can work together to further expand these offerings for the 2006-07 school year.

SLD SETS APPLICATION WINDOW FOR FY 2006

(From *E-Rate Central News* for the Week of November 28, 2005)

“Following close on the heels of the FCC’s release of the Eligible Services List, which waived the 60-day waiting period, the SLD announced that the Form 471 application window for FY 2006 will open at noon EST on Tuesday, **December 6, 2005** and close at 11:59 pm EST on Thursday, **February 16, 2006**—two days earlier than last year ... We strongly recommend that all applicants file their Form 470s as soon as possible or at least before the December holidays.”

Note: The *E-Rate Central News for the Week* is prepared by E-Rate Central. E-Rate Central specializes in providing consulting, compliance, and forms processing services to E-rate applicants and service providers. To learn more, contact us by phone (516-832-2880) or [e-mail](mailto:info@e-ratecentral.com). Additional eRate information is located on the [E-Rate Central Web site](http://www.e-ratecentral.com), <http://www.e-ratecentral.com>. If you are not receiving this free weekly email newsletter, you are missing important eRate information.

USED PC’S AVAILABLE

Carl Sandburg College will make available to our K-12 partners the attached list of PCs. All these PCs come with 17" Monitors and are \$40.00 ea. They will be sold on a first come first served basis without any warranties or support. Also, school districts will need to install their own operating systems using the Microsoft Fresh Start for Computers program.

<http://www.microsoft.com/education/freshstart/freshstart.asp>)

Please let the college know if you are interested in these PCs for your school district.

EDUNET CONTACT INFORMATION

Jim Rich
EduNet Coordinator
574 N. Prairie Street
Galesburg, IL 61401
hockey@insightbb.com
jrich@sandburg.edu
309-344-6760 Home
309-368-5516 Cell