



Carl Sandburg College

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Issue 6

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE COORDINATOR

“Have Program; Will Travel.” We have a short EDUNET PowerPoint Presentation available. Let me know if you would like me to speak to your Board or another group. Be sure to contact me with all your EDUNET questions. Forward ho!

DESIGN AND LOGISTICS UPDATE

The next monthly meeting to review EDUNET’s construction progress is set for **9:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 18**, in the Carl Sandburg College Board Room (Building E). On the agenda: 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. This is a great time to network with other districts.

COLLABORATING FOR EDUCATION: A WIN-WIN-WIN SITUATION

Thank you for the great turnout! For those who could not attend, here is what you missed. Participants were welcomed by CSC’s President, Tom Schmidt; heard a brief EDUNET update; learned about both occupational and transfer dual credit opportunities; observed a distance learning and WebCT demonstration; and participated in a roundtable discussion on the new high school graduation requirements and the possibility of course and teacher sharing among districts, led by Ralph Grimm, West Central Superintendent. Ralph and Jim Rich will put together a survey this fall to ascertain district needs regarding the latter.

E-RATE NOTICE

At a recent design and logistics meeting, Scott Delawder reported that the government is becoming

more concerned about district accountability. Rather than ten Illinois school districts being audited in the coming year, Scott heard that one hundred districts could be audited. This means that it will be extremely important that those responsible for E-Rate paperwork attend at least one workshop this fall to learn about changes to the program that were recently enacted. For workshop information, contact Scott Delawder, Network Specialist, Area III Learning Technology Center, 309-680-5800, sdelauder@lth3.k12.il.us.

MEETING WITH RICHARD REEDY

Samuel Sudhakar and Jim Rich recently met with the new Illinois E-Rate Consultant, Richard Reedy, when he paid a visit to the Carl Sandburg College campus to hear a presentation on EDUNET. Mr. Reedy reported that he is in the process of learning the E-Rate rules, but will be happy to help answer our partner’s E-Rate questions. He stated he will be working closely with the various State technology hubs to distribute information and hopes to be present for the Area III LTC workshops later this fall.

DISTANCE LEARNING EQUIPMENT

At some point your district might be interested in purchasing distance learning equipment. We are recommending districts contact Scott Delawder when that time comes. Scott is the Network Specialist at Area III Learning Technology Center. The cost of setting up a distance learning classroom is in the \$7,000-11,000 range, depending on quality and amount of equipment purchased. We are saying the following would set up an excellent distance learning classroom. Some of the equipment you might already have, and some wouldn’t be absolutely necessary and could be added later.

1 - video conferencing unit (includes microphone and accessories)

- 4 – televisions (most start with one)
- 1 - VCR/DVD unit
- 1 - Document camera
- 1 - Computer work station
- 1 – Podium

WHAT IS CHANNEL 22?

Channel 22, ETC-TV, is an educational access channel provided in cooperation with Carl Sandburg College, the City of Galesburg, Insight Communications and the Educational Technology Center, AND it is available to our EDUNET partners. For a summary of current Channel 22 offerings, see the next article.

For more information about Channel 22, contact Gwen Koehler, Dean of Adult and Developmental Education, Carl Sandburg College, gkoehler@sandburg.edu, (309) 344-2518 – Ext. 5296.

CHANNEL 22 PROGRAM SUMMARY

Classic Arts Showcase is a cable television program that provides a broad range of classic arts experiences through video clips. The spectrum of classic arts disciplines includes samplings of animation, architectural art, ballet, chamber and choral music, dance, folk art, museum art, musical theater, opera, orchestral, recital, vocal and theatrical performances as well as classic film.

The **Bulletin Board** is a listing of announcements about upcoming classes, programs and activities from ETC consortium members.

Illinois Channel, modeled after C-SPAN, provides a look at key governmental events throughout the state of Illinois. Timely topics and events are made available to citizens through weekly coverage.

NASA provides educational programs that focus on NASA research for three different audiences: grades 3-5, grades 6-8, and older learners. Both NASA SCI Files (grades 3-5) and NASA CONNECT (grades 6-8) provide companion educator's guide and interactive web activities to accompany broadcasts. Emphasizing research and standards-based instruction, problem-based learning and scientific inquiry, these series encourage students to become critical thinkers and active problem solvers.

Education News Parents Can Use from the Department of Education provides parents with the tools and information they need to be effectively involved in their children's learning.

Literacy Programming provides a variety of instructional programs that address English as a Second Language, GED preparation, basic literacy skills for adults, and essential workplace skills.

Local Programming airs programs, events, activities or lectures produced by an ETC consortium member, including Carl Sandburg College.

OUR GRATITUDE

We are very grateful for the community support we have received to be able to construct our EDUNET wireless backbone. We also appreciate how so many superintendents stepped forward to endorse the project within their communities to help us move forward. The following communities/ institutions have permitted DerbyTech to install antennas on top of their water towers, etc.

Abingdon, Avon, Biggsville, Bushnell, Carthage, Farmington, Knoxville, LaHarpe, Monmouth, Roseville Grain Elevator, Sciota Grain Elevator (Williams), Stronghurst, Warsaw, Williamsfield, and Yorkwood (Twomey).

PCs AVAILABLE

Carl Sandburg College has made available to our K-12 partners some used PC's. Included are Pentium II and III computers (Dell Dimension XPS T450, Compaq, DeskPro, DTK and Missing Link). All these PCs come with 17" Monitors and are \$30.00 each. They will be sold on a first come first serve basis without any warranties or support. School districts will need to install their own operating systems using the Microsoft Fresh Start for Computers program. (Found at <http://www.microsoft.com/education/freshstart/freshstart.asp>). Please call Samuel Sudhakar's office, (309) 341-5286, if you are interested in these PC's for your school district.

EDUNET CONTACT INFORMATION

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