



Carl Sandburg College

October 21, 2005
Issue 7

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

Our alert readers will notice that this issue is not coming to you from the listserv as planned. This is because the CSC firewall is too strong for me to blast through from my home office... so far. Hopefully, we will have the firewall breached by next issue.

One might also notice that we have changed the capitalization scheme for the title of our program to include four lower case letters. This was a good suggestion from the CSC Marketing and Public Relations Department that we have embraced. We are now EduNet rather than EDUNET.

Just a reminder that our readers will occasionally, hopefully not often, find grammatical or spelling errors in *EduNet News*. All the blame is mine. Feel free to point them out to me.

Ok, forward ho!

PLEASE WELCOME SPOON RIVER CUSD #4

At its October meeting the Spoon River CUSD #4 Board of Education voted to join EduNet. Spoon River makes the tenth district to join EduNet this year. The other nine districts are Abingdon, Avon, Galesburg, Knoxville, Monmouth/Roseville, United, West Central, Williamsfield and Yorkwood. Our thanks to Nancy Beem and David Gilliland for their efforts in support of EduNet.

DESIGN AND LOGISTICS UPDATE

We last met on October 18 at Carl Sandburg College. As you can imagine, the technical talk was over this reporter's head; however, I was able to glean the following for my loyal readers:

1. Alan Derbyshire announced that Phase Two was now constructed and completely redundant. It

includes towers in Knoxville, Williamsfield, Farmington, Avon, Bushnell, and Roseville. Phase Two connects to Phase Three at Sciota. Phase Three is also close to completion.

2. Michael Dickson announced that Western Illinois University's membership in EduNet should be finalized within the next few weeks and that an announcement will be made at the CSC Board of Trustees' meeting in November. Michael told Alan that DerbyTech would be able to start its site survey sometime during the week of October 25.
3. Samuel Sudhakar announced that CSC will move its distance learning classes over to EduNet by October 20.
4. Samuel also announced that CSC plans to roll out Channel 22 on EduNet within the next month.
5. All of the districts in attendance gave positive reports on the speed and reliability of their EduNet wireless systems.
6. After the meeting, most of the participants hung around for more conversation and exchanging of ideas.

YOU ARE INVITED

The next monthly meeting to review EduNet's construction progress is set for **9:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 15**, 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.

WebCT

We have seen a great interest in WebCT of late with requests for training. We can help our participating EduNet partners in several ways.

1. We offer two full days of training for area faculty during our Cyber Camp in the summer.
2. We offer comprehensive on-site training for K-12 faculty. If a district were interested in this customized comprehensive training of 8 or 16 hours, there would be a cost of \$60 per instructional hour plus \$6 per student workbook fee. We can offer the class either in a CSC computer lab or at your site, whichever you prefer.
3. We also offer a brief overview to introduce faculty to the benefits of incorporating WebCT into their courses. CSC will have someone present a 60-90 minute overview for no charge at all.

Please contact Sherry Berg, Dean of Community and Extension Services, if you wish to pursue this training. Naturally, we would want to make such a presentation to a group (not just 2-3 people). Her contact information follows:

Carl Sandburg College
2400 Tom L. Wilson Blvd.
Galesburg, IL 61401
sberg@sandburg.edu
(309) 341-5250
(309) 344-1395 FAX

FORM 470

Scott Delawder came up the following for schools that will still file for T1 and EduNet. They will apply for the T1 as they have done in the past. They will also need to apply for Video Services and the connection will be Wireless 1.5 Mps. This is from the FCC web site:

VIDEO SERVICES (Telecommunications Priority 1)

“Description: Video services involve the transmission of visual images.

“Eligibility: Eligibility is limited to the telecommunications transmission services that enable video communication. Components such as scheduling, content creation, and storage are not eligible.

“Transmission services that provide video information are eligible for discount. However, services that include their own content are not eligible. See also the entry for Digital Transmission Services.”

If you have questions, please contact Scott Delawder, Network Specialist, at -
Area III Learning Technology Center
PO Box 56 - 10112 W. Dubois Road

Edwards, IL 61528
Phone: 309-680-5800
Fax: 309-680-5808

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT NUMBERS

Carl Sandburg College will assign its EDUNET partners a customer account number for billing purposes. We understand that districts will need this number for E-Rate documentation. Partners will see this number on their next bill. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at one of the numbers below.

DCEO HIGH TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL TO WORK PROGRAM - NOTICE OF GRANT OPPORTUNITY AND WORKSHOPS

Summary:

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity is announcing the release of the Fiscal Year 2006 Request for Application (RFA) for the High Technology School to Work Grant Program. The goal of the High Technology School to Work Program is to improve education and to prepare Illinois' students to transition from school to high skilled, high paying jobs in the areas of science, mathematics, and advanced technology. Increasing the number of trained students entering technology occupations will help meet the workforce demand of Illinois' high technology businesses. The High Technology School-to-Work Program (20 ILCS 701/) provides grants to consortia of high technology businesses and local schools. Projects are designed by partnerships among employers, employer associations, and schools to provide youth with work experience in high technology occupations, combined with closely related classroom instruction.

Eligible Applicants:

As a means of ensuring that businesses play a central role in the identification of skill requirements and curricula design, the Department will only accept applications from private sector employers, or employer-based intermediary organizations. Employer-based intermediary organizations include industry associations and chambers of commerce. The application must demonstrate that a strong and cooperative relationship exists between the grantee and the school(s) that represent the educational side of the partnership. The partnership must be employer-led and designed to respond to the high technology skill requirements of participating employers.

Eligible Costs:

Grant funds may be used for any reasonable and necessary expense related to the successful completion of the School to Work Program. To be an allowable grant cost, expenses must be for extraordinary costs incurred due to the High Technology School-to-Work Program. Grant funds

may only be used to pay teachers for the hours worked on the program beyond their normal working hours. The maximum grant award under the Fiscal Year 2006 High Technology School-to-Work Program is \$75,000.

FY 2006 Program Competition:

One grant competition will be held under the High Technology School to Work Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2006. Proposals must be received by DCEO by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2005. Awards made in response to this RFA will be contingent upon the availability of state funds appropriated and released only for the purposes authorized by Law.

Information Sessions:

Two information sessions will be held to discuss the RFA. Attendance is not required but is recommended. The informational sessions will be held in Chicago on November 2, 2005 and will be video-conferenced to the DCEO Springfield office on November 3, 2005.

November 2, 2005

State of Illinois Building
160 North LaSalle
5th Floor, Conference Area C-500
Chicago, IL 60601
1:00PM – 3:00PM

November 3, 2005 (Video Conference)

DCEO Springfield
620 East Adams Street
Springfield, IL 62701
1:00PM – 3:00PM

For Further Information:

Copies of the funding application may be obtained via download on the Department's web site at

<http://www.illinoisbiz.biz/dceo/Bureaus/Technology/Technology+Grants+Programs/3-High+Technology+School-To-Work.htm>

Printed copies of the application are available upon request. Questions and requests pertaining to this program should be directed to John Barr, Bureau of Technology and Industrial Competitiveness, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, 100 West Randolph Suite 3-400, Chicago, IL 60601, Telephone: (312) 814-2259 or via e-mail: <jbarr@ildceo.net>.

FROM E-RATE CENTRAL NEWS

If you don't receive the free weekly *E-Rate Central News*, you should. Contact Glenda Bequette at the Illinois State Board of Education to get on the mailing list. Tel: (217) 557-7323. E-mail: gbequett@isbe.net. A good example of the timely information it dispenses follows.

“WARNING: Little more than one week remains before the October 28th deadline to invoice the SLD for FY 2004 recurring service discounts.

Applicants, who have been paying in full for monthly telecom, Internet, or other eligible services, must submit BEAR (Form 472) forms by this deadline or lose all retroactive funding. Vendors, who have been discounting bills for their customers, must file final Form 474 Service Provider Invoice ("SPI") forms by the same date.

“Both applicants and service providers should remember that the SLD will not pay FY 2004 invoices for any vendors who have not submitted their Service Provider Annual Certification forms (Form 473 or "SPAC") for the last funding year. Before submitting any BEAR, an applicant would be well advised to check the associated vendor's SPAC status using the SLD's online SPIN Search tool which is available at [SPIN Search](#). The last column of the search result lists the funding years for which a SPAC has been filed. If the list doesn't include "2004," we would recommend calling the vendor's E-rate contact to urge that the SPAC be filed ASAP. Even if the vendor does not file a SPAC on time, however, it is still important for the applicant to file the BEAR on time. In the worst case, this will give the applicant a strong basis for requesting an invoice extension request if the initial BEAR is rejected.

“Applicants should also remember that all BEAR forms must be acknowledged and signed by the service providers before they can be submitted. Please don't wait until the last few days before the deadline to seek vendor signoff.”

EduNet CONTACT INFORMATION

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