

NECC - 1994 - Proposal for a Presentation in the Revolutionary Classrooms

BBS's

- Teacher Empowerment, Student Enrichment, Community Extension, and Administrative Revenues -

We propose to demonstrate how computers can be used in a classroom environment to: improve communication and learning with students and parents; deliver curriculum that is personalized by the teacher; and maintain curriculum objectives / goals in a cost efficient system. In addition we will discuss the potential application of this technology for generating future revenue to deter the rising cost of education.

We propose to demonstrate how the classroom environment can be extended beyond the school walls via telecommunications and into the home environment. Additionally, discussion will also focus on the links that our system can establish with other systems, providing a gateway for students to access global learning resources.

We intend to show that this method requires only a small upfront capital outlay and a manageable teacher commitment to training and education in the technology.

We propose to demonstrate how we have separated the pedagogy from the hardware and software upgrade treadmill. Stabilizing the technology permits teachers to focus on developing courses in an efficient manner. In addition, administrators will appreciate the ease of management and the potential of a fiscally self-sustaining operation.

We propose to demonstrate how a teacher can be available to students and parents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, yet control their own destiny. We will demonstrate the security of such a system and the freedom with which such a system can be customized and updated with curricular changes, progress reports for parents, student assessments, and school announcements.

Finally, we propose to demonstrate that this system can be established by any group having access to a computer, a modem, communication software, and a telephone line. We consider that there is not a single system, but an almost infinite variety of systems that are capable of operating as BBS platforms, each system can be made as unique as each classroom in an educational environment.

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