

RUS Grant End of Grant Goals Report

Prepared August 5, 2008

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Goal: Student achievement in core subject areas will be measurably impacted.

- Objective: Through the motivation and use of videoconference technology, students will read more books and practice speaking skills with peers around the nation.

Indicators of success:

1. Number of classes participating in ASK programs.

2006-2007: 84

2007-2008: 83

2. Number of classes participating in Read Across America.

2006-2007: 66

2007-2008: 68

3. Total books read by students in connection with Read Across America and ASK.

2006-2007: 150

2007-2008: 151

4. Number of classes presenting information in a connection to another class.

2006-2007: 162

2007-2008: 184

- Objective: Students will practice geography skills through participation in MysteryQuest videoconferences.

Indicators of success:

1. Teacher evaluation of MysteryQuest programs.

Evaluations attached

2. Number of classes participating in grades 3-8 MysteryQuest programs.

2006-2007: 24

2007-2008: 11

- Objective: Students will increase their knowledge of science and social studies topics by connecting to experts outside the county area.

Indicators of success:

1. Teacher evaluation of videoconference programs.

Evaluations attached

2. Number of classes participating in videoconference programs.

2006-2007: 144

2007-2008: 264

Goal: All elementary and middle school students in the SouthwestNet Videoconference Network will have access to videoconference technology.

- Objective: Every student will have access to videoconference technology in their school building.

Indicators of success:

1. Percentage of students in each building experiencing a videoconference program.

- **Note:** We counted the number of students total who participated in videoconferences.

2006-2007: 14,922

2007-2008: 18,460

2. Student and teacher evaluation of events.

Evaluations attached

- Objective: Students will connect to global and diverse communities to share products, collaborate on curriculum, and investigate issues.

Indicators of success:

1. Number of classes presenting products or investigating issues in a connection to another class.

2006-2007: 30

2007-2008: 38

2. Number of classes connecting to diverse communities outside of the United States.

2006-2007: 15 (Canada, England, Uganda)

2007-2008: 36 (Canada, Wales, Namibia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, England, Scotland)

Goal: Berrien and Cass County teachers will learn and demonstrate best practices in the use of videoconferencing technology.

- Objective: All core area teachers will be trained in the use of videoconference technology in the curriculum.

Indicators of success:

1. Number of buildings participating in staff demonstrations.

2006-2007: During the first year of the grant, all the schools participated in a staff meeting demonstration.

2. Number of building level contacts trained.

2006-2008: 54 (several buildings have two coordinators)

3. Number of teachers participating in our online course, "Planning Interactive Curriculum Connections."

2006-2008: 31

- Objective: Teachers will create curriculum projects that use videoconference technology to connect to other students around the world.

Indicators of success:

1. Project narratives posted on our distance learning web site.

<http://bcisdvcs.wordpress.com/category/rus-grant/>

<http://www.remc11.k12.mi.us/dl/proj.htm>

<http://collaborativevcs.pbwiki.com/>

2. Teacher and student evaluation of events and projects.

Evaluations attached

Goal: Berrien and Cass County teachers participate in professional development and meetings via videoconferencing.

- Objective: Teachers will receive professional development via videoconferencing.

Indicators of success:

1. Number of buildings participating in professional development via videoconferencing.

2006-2007: 35

2007-2008: 21

2. Number of buildings participating in study groups and other informal professional development.

2006-2007: 2

2007-2008: 2

3. Number of buildings participating in Tech Talk professional development activity offered on integrating various technologies in the curriculum.

2006-2007: 8

2007-2008: 1

Objective: County-wide meetings and activities will be conducted via videoconferencing when appropriate.

Indicators of success:

1. Number of buildings participating in meetings via videoconferencing.

2006-2007: 81

2007-2008: 130

2. Travel costs saved due to meetings via videoconferencing.

2006-2007: \$7,900
2007-2008: \$12,675

Two Sample MysteryQuest Evaluations

1. District/School Name (Optional)

2. Your position (teacher, tech coordinator, etc.)

Tech coordinator

3. Were the preparation materials and pre-conference activities useful? Did you have enough information to prepare your students? How was the sign up process and registration?

Yes. Everything was clear and simple. The video helped a lot to show staff and students what to expect. Janine helped by answering any questions.

4. How were the required questions and clues for the presentation? Did they match your curriculum? Were they appropriate for your students? Suggestions?

From what I saw, everything was perfect.

5. How was the length of the connection and each segment? How did your students handle the length of the project? Any suggestions for next year?

Students were on task almost the entire time. Length of each segment seemed appropriate.

6. Would you recommend this project to another teacher?

Yes, I certainly will.

7. Any other comments or suggestions?

I was very pleased with the program. This was our first time and there were a lot of nervous students and staff members! I was actually surprised how simply it all came together. Thanks for helping us give the students a very enjoyable day!

1. District/School Name (Optional)

2. Your position (teacher, tech coordinator, etc.)

teacher

3. Were the preparation materials and pre-conference activities useful? Did you have enough information to prepare your students? How was the sign up process and registration?

The preparation materials were great, everything was laid out and easy to follow. The organization of the 5 Themes of Geography made it very user friendly for the students during the research portion as well as the day of the MysteryQuest.

4. How were the required questions and clues for the presentation? Did they match your curriculum? Were they appropriate for your students? Suggestions?

The required questions were very helpful for the most part the other classrooms provided clues that were not too easy and not hard for the students. The clues for the city portion tended to be a little more difficult --especially if the other classrooms were vague in their clue presentation.

5. How was the length of the connection and each segment? How did your students handle the length of the project? Any suggestions for next year?

I think the length is perfect and the students seemed to handle it just fine. Some students found their mystery location faster than others but then helped out the other teams which was fine.

6. Would you recommend this project to another teacher?

I would absolutely recommend this project to another teacher- it is so easy to do because of the set up. We get a little better every year with our presentations.

7. Any other comments or suggestions?

Just at least give it a try-- it is a different way of teaching and learning that the kids seem to enjoy!