

BCISD SouthwestNet Distance Learning

## How to Support Video Conferencing In Your District

By Janine Lim, Instructional Technology Consultant  
Berrien County Intermediate School District  
<http://www.remci1.k12.mi.us/dl/>  
jlim@remci1.k12.mi.us

Special Thanks to Ren Baldwin, St. Joseph Public Schools and Dan Vomastek, Portage Public Schools for their great ideas and support of videoconferencing in their districts.

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## What can you do with it?

- You share!
- Shared classes / dual enrollment
- Professional development
- Meetings
- Collaborative Projects
- Field Trips / Programs
- Visits with experts (ASK project from Macomb ISD)



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## What is Videoconferencing?

Two or more people at different locations who can see and hear each other in real time.  
It's like making a "video" phone call.



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## Shared Classes and Professional Development

- You Share!
- French and Spanish 2000-2001
- Technology for Administrators
- New Teachers Academy
- Teachers Helping Teachers
- Technology Planning Class
- Distance Learning Demos

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## What are the Benefits?

- Heightens motivation.
- Improves communication and presentation skills.
- Takes you where you can't go and allows you to interact with people you don't know.



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## Collaborative Projects

- Read Across America
- Underground Railroad
- Pen Pals
- Career Interviews
- Data sharing (weather)
- Spanish conversations
- Michigan Week

<http://www.macomb.k12.mi.us/ims/it/IL/DL/michecoll.htm>



**Field Trips or Short Programs**

- A visit with your representative or senator, U.S. Senate or House of Representatives
- Space, Center for Puppetry Arts
- Giant Pandas, Zoo Atlanta
- A Rare Underwater Adventure, Columbus Zoo
- Conversational French  
Indianapolis Museum of Art




**The Curriculum Connection**

- Correlation to Standard Example:
  - Career Content Standard 2: All students will acquire, organize, interpret, and evaluate information from career awareness and exploration activities, career assessment, and work-based experiences to identify and to pursue their career goals.
  - Meet the Artists, Children's Museum of Indianapolis
  - I Want to Work at a Zoo, Columbus Zoo


**Be the Evangelist for Distance Learning**

- Encourage administrators and teachers to participate in demonstrations.
- Encourage administrators to attend videoconferences.
- Work with principals to arrange for staff meeting demos.
- They have to SEE it!




**Communicate with ISD**

- If applicable
- Quick email response
- Calling when you have connection problems
- Turning on the equipment in time for the program/Testing the connection
- Partnering with us to train/support teachers
- Share your office/cell numbers with ISD and teacher



**Help Teachers Choose Programs**

- Searchable Field Trip Database
  - Over 400 programs
  - <http://www.remc11.k12.mi.us/dl/fieldtrips.htm>
- Searchable Site Database
  - Almost 100 sites
- Favorite Field Trips Page
  - <http://www.remc11.k12.mi.us/dl/fave/>
- Macomb ISD's Field Trip Evaluations
  - <http://www2.macomb.k12.mi.us:591/dleval/>



**Communicate with Teachers**


- Via Email - passing on email ads from ISD, confirmation of scheduling the room, etc.
- Instruction to the teacher and students before the program starts
  - how to speak and act
  - what to expect
  - occasional picture freezes
- Coach the teachers to respond quickly when they need to choose kids to answer.



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## Room Setup

- For example one of our schools has 3 room setups:
  - Tables and chairs for one high school or middle school class
  - Chairs in rows for two high school or middle school classes
  - Floor cleared for two or more elementary classes sitting on the floor
- Getting the students on camera, presets ready



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# Questions

Contact Info:  
Janine Lim, Instructional Technology Consultant  
Berrien County Intermediate School District  
<http://www.rem11.k12.mi.us/dl/>  
jlim@rem11.k12.mi.us

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## Programming

- Share good ideas and programming
- Commit yourself to providing programming as well as receiving it



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## TWICE

- Two-Way Interactive Connections in Education
- June 11, 2001
- 9:30-2:00 p.m.

