

Re: second week thoughts

St. Francis School (stfrancis@ntr.net)

Mon, 09 Sep 1996 13:59:25 -0700

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
 - **Next message:** St. Francis School: "Re: Universal Service"
 - **Previous message:** Marty Tennant: "Bona Fide Request Process"
-

Cal,

We all need to remember that curriculum drives technology, NOT vice versa. At our school we are still struggling with the concept of scheduling driving curriculum!!

Diane Seagle
St. Francis School
stfrancis@ntr.net

- **Next message:** St. Francis School: "Re: Universal Service"
- **Previous message:** Marty Tennant: "Bona Fide Request Process"

Re: Universal Service

St. Francis School (stfrancis@ntr.net)

Mon, 09 Sep 1996 15:22:13 -0700

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
 - **Next message:** Bob Carlitz: "Re: Link to article by Peter Huber"
 - **Previous message:** St. Francis School: "Re: second week thoughts"
-

Dear Maryanne,

The first "stake" in the ground is the most important thing!! We must have the courage to START. There may not be a perfectly defined goal or even well defined steps toward that goal, but it is very important to take those first steps. As we move along the ever e volving information highway, we learn more and make changes in our goals and our methods of accomplishing them.

Please encourage those in our educational/literary communities to make a start, to not be afraid to stumble, or even to fall. If they only realized how many of us have already made our faltering way along the path and how eager we would be to help, maybe they would lose their fears and join in.

Diane Seagle
St. Francis School
stfrancis@ntr.net

- **Next message:** Bob Carlitz: "Re: Link to article by Peter Huber"
- **Previous message:** St. Francis School: "Re: second week thoughts"

Re: Link to article by Peter Huber

Bob Carlitz (bob@info-ren.pitt.edu)
Mon, 9 Sep 1996 15:26:57 -0400 (EDT)

- Messages sorted by: [date] [thread] [subject] [author]
 - Next message: Jack McFadden: "Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's"
 - Previous message: St. Francis School: "Re: Universal Service"
-

On Sun, 8 Sep 1996, Marty Tennant wrote:

> At
>
> <http://www.teledot.com.com/0996/features/tdc0996huber.html>
>
> you will find an interesting article with Peter Huber.
>
> Keep reading and you will find some references to the
> Universal Service issues we are discussing.
>
> Marty Tennant

I read the interview with Peter Huber that Marty recommended to us and have one major criticism to make of Huber's outlook. Since it deals with topics of specific relevance to schools and libraries and of specific import for discussions about competition, I thought it might be worth responding in detail.

The specific comment that I wanted to highlight is the following:

"... the data traffic must pay traffic-sensitive costs.

JB: Why?

PH: Because it's economic reality. We can get on our local phone line when we get up in the morning and nail up a circuit to our packet network, and we can leave it on indefinitely. We can leave it on for a year. We're tying up a circuit in the local office. Unless you believe in the tooth fairy, you know that is, in fact, not a free service."

Huber is confusing two issues in the argument he is making. His first point (which was made in the remarks which precede this quote) is a valid one concerning the so-called "local loop." He argues that the local loop is a fixed cost, whether you use it 24 hours a day or not at all. I agree with this point.

But next Huber argues that there should be added charges for "nail[ing] up a circuit to our packet network." He apparently assumes that the traditional model of circuit-based telephony is the only way to configure data services for homes, schools or businesses. This ignores the architecture of the Internet, which is a packet-based network, not a circuit-based network.

This way of viewing the world - and the enormous constraints it places upon what we can do in that world - is not uncommon in different sectors of the industry. New technologies challenge the economic base of many services and offer opportunities for services with prices vastly different from those in the traditional marketplace.

The way in which the Telecom Act can accommodate these new activities is through the competitive possibilities that it opens up. The same wire that Huber wants to slap time charges on whenever it's connected into the telephone company's switching system could be connected to a port on a router and from there to a fast packet network maintained either by the telephone company or by some other group that might be more aggressive in the introduction of new technologies.

I'm confident that, given the right competitive impetus, there will be many players in this new market. On our school networking efforts in Pittsburgh we're using technologies which provide 1.5 megabit connections to school sites with monthly charges of only \$60. It should be possible to have similar services in the commercial market.

Today there is no incentive for this to take place, since there is no competitive alternative in our region and certainly no willingness to give up the revenues which accrue through circuit-based services such as ISDN. We use ISDN alongside of the newer technologies, and it's striking to see the cost disparities that exist in this system.

Once there are cable companies offering high-bandwidth access to data at prices that individuals, schools and libraries can afford, it's likely that the telephone companies will respond with services of equal or better quality and value. This won't happen without a competitive environment at the level of the local loop, whether it's through multiple providers of that loop (such as telephone companies and cable companies) or through the unbundling of that loop (which would allow other companies to connect equipment at the telephone company's central office or cable company's head end).

Bob Carlitz

-
- **Next message: Jack McFadden: "Residential subsidy? - Was: The FCC's and State Commission's"**
 - **Previous message: St. Francis School: "Re: Universal Service"**

Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's

Jack McFadden (jmcfadden@mail.state.tn.us)
Mon, 09 Sep 1996 12:32:13 -0500

- Messages sorted by: [date || thread || subject || author]
- Next message: Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Bona Fide Request Process"
- Previous message: Bob Carlitz: "Re: Link to article by Peter Huber"
- Next in thread: Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's Role"

On 9/6 Marty Tennant wrote:

From: Marty Tennant <marty@sccoast.net>
Date: Fri, 06 Sep 1996 08:24:43 -0700
Subject: The FCC's and State Commission's Role

I'd like to provide a little background and a few predictions on the current and future state of universal service.

First of all, the current rate structure in the US has businesses paying from 2 to 3 times the rate paid by residential users. This has been part of the strategy of Universal Plain Old Telephone Service for as long as most people can remember. Business rates subsidize residential.

---[stuff deleted]---

I would observe that we should not take as a given the statement: *Business rates subsidize residential*. While I find the general thrust of Marty's comments regarding likely future trends in telco rates plausible, I have encountered cost studies by state regulators & others that show that residential service is not historically a net loss proposition for telcos. While there are certainly specific locations that cost more to serve than is charged - e.g. the most remote rural residence - in aggregate I would not assume that residential service requires a subsidy from business rates. (Telcos have their own cost studies that typically peg the cost of residential service at a higher rate than the cost studies to which I refer. Opposing cost studies are frequently presented to state regulatory commissions in proceedings which set rates.)

Business rates are indeed higher, implying either that business users put more load on the network and actually cost more to serve, or telcos make a better profit margin serving business customers, or both. The dilemma: this is a historical perspective. In a future competitive environment where no one provider is guaranteed all the residential phone service, the aggregate cost for a given provider of providing residential service will be a function of which subset of customers are being served, and the costs of serving those particular customers. In theory, a *carrier of last resort* could be stuck with all the high cost customers and not enough of the profitable ones to sustain affordable residential rates, unless

through some subsidy mechanism.

Of course, the other thing that could happen is that in a competitive environment the twin mechanisms of market forces and technology could combine to produce the deployment of more efficient (e.g. wireless local loops?) infrastructure that allows providers to offer stable residential rates and still make a profit. ...Now where is that crystal ball?

-Jack McFadden

-
- **Next message:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Bona Fide Request Process"
 - **Previous message:** Bob Carlitz: "Re: Link to article by Peter Huber"
 - **Next in thread:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Residential subsidy? -Was: The FCC's and State Commission's Role"

Re: Bona Fide Request Process

Betty Dawn Hamilton (bhamilt@tenet.edu)

Mon, 9 Sep 1996 19:30:36 -0500 (CDT)

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
 - **Next message:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's Role"
 - **Previous message:** Jack McFadden: "Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's"
 - **In reply to:** Marty Tennant: "Bona Fide Request Process"
-

On Mon, 9 Sep 1996, Marty Tennant wrote:

> Would the current county librarians on SCIway respond and make them-
> selves known? I believe you have an important calling before you.
> Also, does anyone keep up with email addresses for librarians
> in the State?

Marty, one of the problems with our county librarian's participation on the internet and this discussion is access. Until one month ago, everywhere we called was long distance. (My husband and I are *still* trying to figure out our personal \$130 charge from AOL for June 24 to July 24 when we opted to use the 800 number at \$4.95 per hour). However, we now have a direct dial-up to Lubbock for \$3.50 per line in the county, so at least the long distance problem has been alleviated for future billing.

The next problem is that our county library is *very* poor. They have 2 Apple II+s (one is *my* former computer from 6 or 8 years ago), one PC for interlibrary loan, and a new PC purchased by Friends of the Library last month. I don't think they have figured out how to pay for another telephone line yet. The head librarian is a wonderful, accommodating, service-oriented lady, but she is not a degreed librarian. She is, in school terms, a paraprofessional. I don't know how much training she has had in telecomputing.

If it were not for people who were visionary enough to provide TENET (Texas Education NETwork), I doubt very seriously that I would have been on the internet for the past 4 years. I probably would just *now* be attempting to learn about it since we have just gained access via a local dial up. TENET provided the initiative for getting educators in Texas online and even with that, it has been slow going in rural areas.

With that little story.....you can see what public libraries may be up against. I agree that public library connectivity is a logical first step, but it may not be the best one in every case. If we can gain GUI connectivity at school, I will be *happy* to demonstrate and provide hands-on sessions at times for the community. I happen to enjoy text-only because I find it efficient for mail management and moderating educational discussion groups on Tenet. I also understand that text-only is not *glamorous* enough to get much attention from beginners.

I hope my personal experience sheds some light on what communities are experiencing.

Betty

Betty Hamilton, LRS
bhamilt@tenet.edu
Brownfield High School



701 Cub Drive
Brownfield TX 79316
(806) 637-4523

-
- **Next message:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Residential subsidy? -Was: The FCC's and State Commission's Role"
 - **Previous message:** Jack McFadden: "Residential subsidy? -Was: The FCC's and State Commission's"
 - **In reply to:** Marty Tennant: "Bona Fide Request Process"

Re: Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's Role

Betty Dawn Hamilton (bhamilt@tenet.edu)
Mon, 9 Sep 1996 19:43:23 -0500 (CDT)

- **Messages sorted by:** [date | thread | subject | author]
- **Next message:** Jan Bolluyt: "This weeks discussion"
- **Previous message:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Bona Fide Request Process"
- **In reply to:** Jack McFadden: "Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's"

Jack McFadden wrote:

> Business rates are indeed higher, implying either that business users put
> more load on the network and actually cost more to serve, or telcos make a
> better profit margin serving business customers, or both.

And aren't most schools charged as *businesses* and not as residential?
I am aware that lines which are used primarily for distance learning are
given a 25% discount (or they are in this state, anyway), but I don't
know if all people who ask for extra lines are aware of that.

I also know that different schools subscribe to different long distance
carriers -- and some of these carriers do not yet provide internet access
for their customers. We're working on it; although I consider \$19.95 for
100 hours as probably more than my library will be able to afford since
we will have 630 students needing to access information via the internet
at various times. I'm just not sure how far 100 hours will go. We can
have fundraising activities, but that doesn't guarantee a consistent
source of money to pay for connectivity.

Betty Hamilton, LRS
bhamilt@tenet.edu
Brownfield High School



701 Cub Drive
Brownfield TX 79316
(806) 637-4523

-
- **Next message:** Jan Bolluyt: "This weeks discussion"
 - **Previous message:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Bona Fide Request Process"
 - **In reply to:** Jack McFadden: "Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's"

This weeks discussion

Jan Bolluyt (jbolluyt@spirit-lake.k12.ia.us)
Mon, 09 Sep 1996 20:35:20 -0500

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
 - **Next message:** Marty Tennant: "Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS!"
 - **Previous message:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's Role"
 - **Next in thread:** Link Shadley: "Re: This weeks discussion"
-

* Should there be an "E-rate" for schools and libraries?

There is still to large a gap between the haves and havenots. There should be a minimum on-site configuration first perhaps followed by an "e-rate".

* Should there be a requirement for state-approved technology plans?

Yes, it is a non-cost item that anyone can do and makes each library and school focus on the need, the use, and the benefits to their situation.

* How should one define a bona fide request for services?

One that meets a basic set of requirements including;
Attending a state sponsored demonstration of use and planning seminar and yearly update seminars by a member of the request body.
A technology plan (configuration, use, layout, purpose, etc), costs, plan for upkeep, and evaluation tools (form sent via Internet to evaluating body?)

* Should Universal Service subsidies apply to groups which provide materials and services to schools and libraries as well as to the schools and libraries themselves?

They should be compensated, either directly or billed through the library or school. The second method would make them accountable to the library and school and be a simpler monster to control, but I am seeing it from the school side of the issue.

All of these fall in the category of IMHO!

- **Next message:** Marty Tennant: "Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS!"
- **Previous message:** Betty Dawn Hamilton: "Re: Residential subsidy? -Was:The FCC's and State Commission's Role"
- **Next in thread:** Link Shadley: "Re: This weeks discussion"

[Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]

Marty Tennant (marty@sccoast.net)
Mon, 09 Sep 1996 21:27:34 -0700

- Messages sorted by: [date] [thread] [subject] [author]
- Next message: Preuss, Paul: "This Week's Questions"
- Previous message: Jan Bolluyt: "This weeks discussion"
- Next in thread: Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----5E49319F7E06
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm not sure what to make of this.

It is obviously something schools need - and so does BellSouth.

What I start thinking about is the buying of business. Is it investing, or purchasing?

How long do the services "given" away last?

After that, is there a commitment?

How many people would be so ungrateful as to do what many people do in the long distance area? Cash the \$100 check from AT&T and then go to someone else - or in this case the Internet equivalent.

I'm sorry I'm so cynical about this, but the size of BellSouth that lets them do this is a powerful tool that can be use for long term good, or bad.

What does the group think?

Marty Tennant

-----5E49319F7E06
Content-Type: message/rfc822
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

Received: from www.bellsouthcorp.com by ns1.sccoast.net; (5.65v3.2/1.1.8.2/29Feb96-C id AA28056; Mon, 9 Sep 1996 16:42:49 -0400
Received: (from daemon@localhost) by bellsouthcorp.com (8.7.5/eal-viaduct) id PAA055
Received: (from press@localhost) by bellsouthcorp.com (8.7.5/eal-viaduct) id PAA0552
Date: Mon, 9 Sep 1996 15:45:10 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <199609091945.PAA05528@bellsouthcorp.com>

To: bellsouth@www.bellsouthcorp.com
From: BellSouth <press@www.bellsouthcorp.com>
Subject: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS
Sender: owner-bellsouth@www.bellsouthcorp.com
Precedence: bulk
Reply-To: press@www.bellsouthcorp.com
X-UIDL: ecfd7502160b8dca72786183a53ccfd1
X-Mozilla-Status: 0001

BellSouth September 9, 1996

BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS

NetDay Gets Largest Private Technology Offering

Worldwide telecommunications leader BellSouth announced today an unprecedented education commitment to provide Internet access and training to 4,000 schools throughout the Southeast. The company made the announcement in conjunction with NetDay, a national grassroots initiative.

BellSouth will provide to the schools a complete package that addresses every requirement for offering service--from school infrastructure, to technology, to curriculum, to teacher training. The program--which is being made to schools across the company's nine-state operating region--will provide inside wiring kits with volunteer support for installation, equipment, staff, Internet accounts and training videos for the nation's first turn-key multi-state NetDay solution.

With Internet access, students can tap invaluable up-to-the-minute information and communication from libraries, peers and experts from around the world. BellSouth is one partner along with thousands of employees, parents administrators, teachers and students coming together to execute the NetDay project. NetDay is a national volunteer initiative to achieve a wiring plan allowing schools to take advantage of technology.

"The technological links that are being forged on the information superhighway are creating unsurpassed learning opportunities and a means of ensuring equitable and affordable access to knowledge and a lifetime of learning," said U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley.

"I am pleased that BellSouth is demonstrating leadership and a strong commitment to students, schools and communities by helping to make sure that every child is part of this new education era."

BellSouth's NetDay commitment will touch two million students and 172,000 educators across the region. The offering includes \$25 million worth of free BellSouth services, \$600,000 in BellSouth Foundation support and 5,400 employee volunteers. Specifically, BellSouth will provide: inside wiring kits and volunteer installation, free Internet accounts for classrooms, media centers and teacher's homes. BellSouth Foundation will offer small grants to schools to support other educational materials or training that will improve instructional effectiveness.

"Today's telecommunications technology brings new resources into the classroom. It links learners together in new ways. It supports teachers. It brings the community to the school and the school to the community," said Linda Roberts, director of the office of educational technology and special advisor to the secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

Teachers have an excellent resource in the Internet in that they can obtain current information from global experts and resources, and can even share notes with peers on successful teaching methods for use in lesson planning. "The Internet as a teaching tool was unthinkable a decade ago -- and at long last, it is reality and in our own classrooms. The opportunities it provides us are infinite, but we excitedly are taking on the challenge of exploring all its offerings," said Dr. Adelia Hall, principal of metro Atlanta Mary Lin Elementary School. With access to the Internet, a fifth-grade student studying weather in science class can examine current weather maps and patterns on-line, and even communicate with other fifth-graders around the world to compare their climates.

"BellSouth's commitment to improving the depth of education in our schools is a priority. This commitment reflects a strong belief that business and education are part of a mutually beneficial system," said John Clendenin, chairman and CEO of BellSouth. "BellSouth's NetDay is an opportunity for our community to join together to make a better environment for the children, teachers and parents of our nine-state region. By concentrating substantial amounts of technology in a school, over a full year, we believe we'll see positive results in students' achievements."

BellSouth is a \$17.9 billion communications service company providing telecommunications, wireless communication, directory advertising and publishing, and information services to more than 25 million customers throughout the United States and 17 foreign countries. For more information, visit BellSouth's Web site at <http://www.BellSouth.com>.

BellSouth Foundation is an endowed trust of BellSouth Corporation. Its mission is to improve education in the South by stimulating fundamental change in primary and secondary education that will result in active learning and improved outcomes for all students. Since the foundation was created in 1986, it has awarded over \$25 million in grants throughout nine southeastern states.

#

-----5E49319F7E06--

-
- Next message: Preuss, Paul: "This Week's Questions"**
 - Previous message: Jan Bolluyt: "This weeks discussion"**
 - Next in thread: Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"**

This Week's Questions

Preuss, Paul (PPREUSS@Herkimer-BOCES.moric.org)

Tue, 10 Sep 1996 08:13:48 +5 EST

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
 - **Next message:** Preuss, Paul: "(Fwd) Cooperation among Schools/Libraries"
 - **Previous message:** Marty Tennant: "[Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"
-

Should there be cash grants or vouchers available directly to school districts or schools?

No. I think the funding should come as a "rebate" to the service provider. Schools will pay a reduced rate for service and the service provider can collect the rebate.

Should there be an "E-rate" (educational rate) defining special discounts for schools and libraries?

Yes. There must be an "E-Rate" if rebate system suggested above is to be used.

Should school districts have to complete state-approved technology plans in order to qualify for Universal Service subsidies?

NO! In a perfect world I suppose it would be nice. But after more than 30 years in public education I know how such plans are developed (and not followed) and how they are "approved". Such a requirement would provide one more large obstacle to getting students on-line and would cost additional unwarranted expense. In New York for example - who at the state level will approve plans from over 700 school districts - especially now that our SED has been downsized three times? One last point. Many times school administration is indifferent and it is a teacher or librarian who has "caught the fire" that makes things happen. Heaping the requirement of a school plan on top of them would be enough to snuff the fire out.

How should one define a bona fide request for telecommunications services?

It seems to me that all a school district need do is contact a service provider of its choice and request services it requires at the "E-Rate". Perhaps, as mentioned in a previous post, the "E-Rate" may be modified for each school district depending upon wealth to help satisfy the equity issue.

Should Universal Service subsidies extend to groups which provide educational materials or support for educational organizations, such as universities and colleges or community centers?

NO! Again - in a perfect world this would be nice. But the world is not Willie Wonka's Chocolate Factory. We are dealing with limited resources which should be focused for the specific

intent of the legislation. We will have difficulty enough spreading the thin glaze of subsidies around schools and libraries without having to spread it any further.

Paul Preuss
PPreuss@Herkimer-BOCES.moric.org
Phone: 315 867 2007 FAX: 315 867 2024

-
- **Next message: Preuss, Paul: "(Fwd) Cooperation among Schools/Libraries"**
 - **Previous message: Marty Tennant: "[Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"**

(Fwd) Cooperation among Schools/Libraries

Preuss, Paul (PPREUSS@Herkimer-BOCES.moric.org)
Tue, 10 Sep 1996 08:29:54 +5 EST

- Messages sorted by: [date || thread || subject || author]
 - Next message: Link Shadley: "Re: This weeks discussion"
 - Previous message: Preuss, Paul: "This Week's Questions"
-

After having worked 28 years in two local school districts I am now serving at our regional BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services). Perhaps in some state our type of organization is known as an intermediate unit of some sort. Our mission is to provide services to school districts (many of which are small and rural) which they can not provide for themselves.

Among these services are: regional computer services
distance learning
staff development

In New York - a local school district receives state aid for its purchase of BOCES services.

For example: If a school district purchases \$1000 of staff training through BOCES, and its aid ratio is .68 it will receive \$680 back the following year from the state.

Regardless of New York's state aid formula - it seems to me that most, if not all, states have some form of intermediate school district which should be utilized for technical support, staff training and the other ancillary issues mentioned. If they do not - isn't it time that they consider supporting such cooperation?

Also - one of our significant BOCES services is the "School Library System" which in fact is a "library for librarians". The SLS not only electronically connects all of our school libraries but also connects our school library system with the public library system. No one school district could attempt such a thing but by working together in a cooperative (consortium) we can do so and spread out the administrative costs among many participating districts.

We already have small models for what we need to do with Internet access. I think it would be wise to learn from them.

Paul Preuss
PPreuss@Herkimer-BOCES.moric.org
Phone: 315 867 2007 FAX: 315 867 2024

- Next message: Link Shadley: "Re: This weeks discussion"
- Previous message: Preuss, Paul: "This Week's Questions"

Re: This weeks discussion

Link Shadley (lshadley@seasurf.com)
Tue, 10 Sep 1996 07:53:30 +0000

- **Messages sorted by:** [date] [thread] [subject] [author]
- **Next message:** Bob Carlitz: "Please complete the on-line survey on the SCOPE of Universal Service"
- **Previous message:** Preuss, Paul: "(Fwd) Cooperation among Schools/Libraries"
- **Maybe in reply to:** Jan Bolluyt: "This weeks discussion"

Noticed this on the 'scout report'...

The 1996 National Survey of Public Libraries and the Internet: Progress and Issues: Final Report

http://listweb.syr.edu/Project/Faculty/McClure-NSPL96/NSPL96_T.html This report, by John Carlo Bertot (University of Maryland Baltimore County), Charles R. McClure (Syracuse University), and Douglas L. Zweizig (University of Wisconsin), is now available on the web. Major findings include: "Between 1994 and 1996 public library Internet connectivity increased 113% from 20.9% to 44.6%"; "Public libraries in communities under 5,000 are significantly (58.6%) less likely to use the Internet than those serving populations of 100,000+"; and "There are significant disparities in connectivity, service provision, and budget for Internet activities by region and population served." The study is divided into two major sections: "Study Results," and "Progress and Issues." Issues discussed include "Factors Affecting Public Library Involvement with the Internet," "The Current State of Public Library Internet Connectivity," "Identified Public Library Benefits to Connecting to the Internet," and "Connectivity Versus Services," among many others. In addition, there is much information on the survey instrument and methodology.

Jan Bolluyt wrote:

- >
- > * Should there be an "E-rate" for schools and libraries?
- >
- > There is still to large a gap between the haves and havenots.

--

```
* * * * *
* In Balance, Link Shadley *
* LANCE - Ecotrust - Clatsop Community College *
* (503) 325-9657 lshadley@orednet.org *
* lshadley@seasurf.com *
* * * * *
```

-
- **Next message:** Bob Carlitz: "Please complete the on-line survey on the SCOPE of Universal Service"
 - **Previous message:** Preuss, Paul: "(Fwd) Cooperation among Schools/Libraries"

- **Maybe in reply to: Jan Bolluyt: "This weeks discussion"**

Please complete the on-line survey on the SCOPE of Universal Service

Bob Carlitz (bob@info-ren.pitt.edu)
Tue, 10 Sep 1996 17:07:39 -0400 (EDT)

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
- **Next message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"
- **Previous message:** Link Shadley: "Re: This weeks discussion"

This is a reminder about the on-line survey that was posted this week to gather information on the views of seminar participants with regard to the SCOPE of Universal Service subsidies. The on-line survey is meant as a mechanism to enable a higher percentage of people registered for the seminar to be able to express their opinions on important topics in the seminar. It shouldn't take you more than 2 or 3 minutes to fill out the survey. You can reach it directly at <http://info-ren.pitt.edu/universal-service/survey.html> or can you find a pointer to it on the Universal Service/Network Democracy home page.

Please let us know if you have any problems filling out the survey form or any suggestions as to style or content for future on-line surveys. We will keep this survey up until a significant fraction of the seminar participants have had a chance to fill it out, after which results will be tabulated and posted to the group as a whole.

The form is set up so that you can view your own results to be sure you are sending in what you thought you wanted, but we will use the submitted forms to gather statistical information on the questions being asked, not to distribute individual answers.

Thanks for your help in moving the seminar forward. If you have suggestions on other activities which you think we should undertake in the remaining two and a half weeks, please let me know.

Thanks,
Bob Carlitz
Moderator

-
- **Next message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"
 - **Previous message:** Link Shadley: "Re: This weeks discussion"

Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]

Diane Midness (dmidness@nando.net)
Tue, 10 Sep 1996 20:53:43 +0200

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
- **Next message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"
- **Previous message:** Bob Carlitz: "Please complete the on-line survey on the SCOPE of Universal Service"
- **Maybe in reply to:** Marty Tennant: "[Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"

I have not quoted the message that I am responding to. I just want to say how our local BellSouth representatives have helped us. In 1995 our school district won a grant from the Nortel Education in Excellence Program. The main benefit of the grant was to spend a week at their National Institute. We spent the week with the likes of Bill Daggert, Alan November, and David Thornberg. Nortel sent a representative from our local telecommunications (telco) program with us. Our project included our high school, a middle school and Exploris (a new museum opening in our city). One of the biggest benefits we had was from this was the excitement of our telco rep from BellSouth. She convinced BellSouth to test a prototype for a Wide Area Network for our school system using those of us participating in the project, including the nonprofit museum that has no official connection with the school system. In the process, North Carolina State University also became one of our partners. What a wonderful relationship this has formed that will profit the whole school system. Just today I received a call from our telco saying she was trying to get internet accounts for the teachers that are in our local Telecommunications in Education (TIE) user group. We did not have to ask for any of this. They are eager to help us. In turn I continually harp that we need to be able to help ourselves.

--
Diane Midness dmidness@nando.net
Media Coordinator <http://www.webbuild.com/~dmidness/>
Enloe High School <http://www1.enloe.wake.k12.nc.us/enloe/enloe.html>
Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

-
- **Next message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"
 - **Previous message:** Bob Carlitz: "Please complete the on-line survey on the SCOPE of Universal Service"
 - **Maybe in reply to:** Marty Tennant: "[Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"

Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]

Diane Midness (dmidness@nando.net)

Tue, 10 Sep 1996 20:53:43 +0200

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
- **Next message:** Marty Tennant: "New Wireless Technologies"
- **Previous message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"

[Moderator's Note: Some of you will view this as a duplicate posting; others as a posting which replaces a previous empty message. What happened is that I sent out a message with an erroneous header, which confused the mail readers that some of our subscribers are using. Sorry for the mixup.]

I have not quoted the message that I am responding to. I just want to say how our local BellSouth representatives have helped us. In 1995 our school district won a grant from the Nortel Education in Excellence Program. The main benefit of the grant was to spend a week at their National Institute. We spent the week with the likes of Bill Daggert, Alan November, and David Thornberg. Nortel sent a representative from our local telecommunications (telco) program with us. Our project included our high school, a middle school and Exploris (a new museum opening in our city). One of the biggest benefits we had was from this was the excitement of our telco rep from BellSouth. She convinced BellSouth to test a prototype for a Wide Area Network for our school system using those of us participating in the project, including the nonprofit museum that has no official connection with the school system. In the process, North Carolina State University also became one of our partners. What a wonderful relationship this has formed that will profit the whole school system. Just today I received a call from our telco saying she was trying to get internet accounts for the teachers that are in our local Telecommunications in Education (TIE) user group. We did not have to ask for any of this. They are eager to help us. In turn I continually harp that we need to be able to help ourselves.

—
Diane Midness dmidness@nando.net
Media Coordinator <http://www.webbuild.com/~dmidness/>
Enloe High School <http://www1.enloe.wake.k12.nc.us/enloe/enloe.html>
Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

-
- **Next message:** Marty Tennant: "New Wireless Technologies"
 - **Previous message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"

New Wireless Technologies

Marty Tennant (*marty@sccoast.net*)

Wed, 11 Sep 1996 06:10:05 -0700

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
 - **Next message:** Jack McFadden: "New Wireless Technologies -Reply"
 - **Previous message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"
-

Jack McFadden wrote:

big snip

> Of course, the other thing that could happen is that in a competitive
> environment the twin mechanisms of market forces and technology could
> combine to produce the deployment of more efficient (e.g. wireless local
> loops?) infrastructure that allows providers to offer stable residential
> rates and still make a profit. ...Now where is that crystal ball?
>
> -Jack McFadden

That is exactly what I am counting on. New inexpensive wireless technologies, unregulated, with very high bandwidth. It's gonna knock the telcos and cable tv companies for a loop (no pun intended). Because it will use a unique unregulated part of the spectrum, it will make a lot of the new spectrum owners wondering if they bought too soon.

There is a new networking world coming folks. It will not resemble anything we've seen before. Whoopie!!!

Marty Tennant

- **Next message:** Jack McFadden: "New Wireless Technologies -Reply"
- **Previous message:** Diane Midness: "Re: [Fwd: BELLSOUTH TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS IN SCHOOLS]"

New Wireless Technologies -Reply

Jack McFadden (jmcfadden@mail.state.tn.us)

Wed, 11 Sep 1996 09:59:28 -0500

- **Messages sorted by:** [date || thread || subject || author]
 - **Next message:** calvin branche: "another view"
 - **Previous message:** Marty Tennant: "New Wireless Technologies"
-

Marty et al,

I've read with interest of Dave Hughes' efforts out west with wireless connections between schools using unlicensed spectrum, and the NII/Supernet filings at the FCC. I presume that's at least a part of the coming wireless technologies to which you refer. Sounds real promising; but my planning mode of constructive pessimism causes me to wonder two things:

- 1) I'm not a radio (i.e. wireless) technologist, but folks I've worked with who are give me the impression that installing and managing radio technologies can be a bit of a black art, with subtle idiosyncracies not encountered in commodity wireline technologies - perhaps especially for new wireless technologies, and
- 2) I'm not convinced that K12 school systems are the right place to provide the test bed for a new technology that may require some hard to come by radio/wireless expertise and that will in effect be used for mission-critical activities.

I'm not from Missouri, but I need the NII/Supernet advocates to "show me" that a school system without a Dave Hughes to lean on can introduce this stuff effectively as the Wide Area Networking method before I can feel real comfortable about the technology's application to K12.

If all we were talking about was theoretical long-term prospects I wouldn't even bother bringing this up - I believe you're right about this in the long-term, but I suspect we're talking about a "fix" that could become a significant part of the near-term picture in resolving the Telecom Act's requirements for K12/library connectivity. It looks real appealing to say we've got a new low-cost technology that will save us from having to bulk up the Universal Service fund to cover the subsidies for all those phone lines and T1's the schools are going to need.

Anything other than a stable, commodity technology platform has a thing or two to prove before I'd recommend it to a customer like a school system as their near-term solution.

-Jack McFadden

>>> Marty Tennant <marty@sccoast.net> 09/11/96 08:10am >>>

---snip snip

...New inexpensive wireless technologies, unregulated, with very high bandwidth. It's gonna knock the telcos and cable tv companies for a loop (no pun intended). Because it will use a unique unregulated part of the spectrum, it will make a lot of the new spectrum owners wondering if they bought too soon.

There is a new networking world coming folks. It will not resemble anything we've seen before. Whoopie!!!

Marty Tennant

- **Next message:** calvin branche: "another view"
- **Previous message:** Marty Tennant: "New Wireless Technologies"

another view

calvin branche (cbranche@innet.com)

Wed, 11 Sep 1996 11:31:58 -0400

- **Messages sorted by:** [date | thread | subject | author]
 - **Next message:** Gene Hastings: "Re: New Wireless Technologies"
 - **Previous message:** Jack McFadden: "New Wireless Technologies -Reply"
-

The business community, especially Telecommunications Providers of all stripes, should look upon the Universal Service Fund from the point of view that it will ultimately benefit the funders.

To increase the knowledge and productivity of the high school and college graduate; to improve work skills or to add new skills for the person now working; and to improve the ability for people to become more sophisticated in their knowledge of society makes a better workplace since it is then populated by more intelligent people makes the our nation stronger.

As telecommunications companies attempt to find a comfortable bottom-line contribution amount, with an eye towards its net profit justifying the least amount contributed, where does that myopic view lead the nation?

The two conflicting views of "serving the public" clash and recent experience tends to the notion that business will prevail. But at what cost to them, and to us?

- **Next message:** Gene Hastings: "Re: New Wireless Technologies"
- **Previous message:** Jack McFadden: "New Wireless Technologies -Reply"