GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE AND AMERICA ONLINE ANNOUNCE INITIATIVE TO USE
AOL@SCHOOL STATEWIDE

Innovative Learning Program Will Expand Internet Resources For Mississippi Students and Teachers

Governor Musgrove Unveils Program at the Mississippi Association of Schools Superintendents Conference

Biloxi, Mississippi, July 17, 2002 Mississippi Governor Ronnie Musgrove and America Online, Inc., the world's leading interactive service, announced today a statewide initiative to provide school systems throughout Mississippi with AOL@SCHOOL, a unique online learning tool for K12 education.

AOL@SCHOOL is a free online service that harnesses the Internet's power in the classroom by offering six age appropriate learning portals featuring educational content, communications features and special safety tools. All of the online content available through AOL@SCHOOL has been selected by educational experts. Additionally, the service gives teachers and administrators the ability to offer students communications features such as email and instant messaging at their discretion. The initiative announced today also incorporates AOL@SCHOOL's new state focus feature, which will provide Mississippi's teachers and students with locally oriented information selected by state education officials.

Governor Ronnie Musgrove made the announcement at the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents Summer Conference in Biloxi. He was joined by Paul Russinoff, Director, External Relations, AOL Time Warner.

"We are thrilled that students across the state of Mississippi will have the opportunity to take advantage of the AOL@SCHOOL learning system to bolster their education with a world's worth of learning resources," said Governor Musgrove. "Our children need technology skills to succeed in the 21st century workforce, and the AOL@SCHOOL program offers the safest and most effective way for us to both give students more experience with interactive technology and harness the Web's power in the classroom. Both students and teachers will find this a very exciting and worthwhile addition to everyday classroom activity."

"At AOL, we see an extraordinary opportunity for the Internet to improve our educational system at every level," said Paul Russinoff. "We have developed AOL@SCHOOL to expand educational opportunities for children, provide teachers and administrators with the means to enhance their own skills, and ensure that the online medium is a safe and enriching environment for children of any age. We hope Mississippi's students and educators will find AOL@SCHOOL to be a vital resource in the classroom."

The AOL@SCHOOL software is being sent to all public schools in the state of Mississippi and will include the program's state focus feature, which provides locally oriented information selected by state education officials. The state focus feature offers states live content windows in each of AOL@SCHOOL's six learning portals, which can then be programmed to spotlight information targeted for different age groups of students, as well as teachers and administrators. All U.S. states are being offered the opportunity to take part by providing state focus content.

Mississippi will use the new feature to provide teachers and administrators with direct online access to the state's content standards, including instruction, training and assessment resources, as well as state planning calendars and other useful information. Mississippi's State Superintendent of Schools will work with AOL to provide AOL@SCHOOL to schools throughout the state, and will send a letter to Superintendents introducing the service.

With the state focus feature, AOL@SCHOOL provides valuable content on three important levels. Students and educators in Mississippi will be able to access the best of Web global and national educational content through the six learning portals, important state information through the state focus feature and local information through one click access to their school's home page from the AOL@SCHOOL tool bar.

They will also be able to access content from leading education companies including Apex Learning, Artsonia, Bartleby.com, Boxer Learning, Inc., BrainPOP, Children's eLibrary, Classroom Connect, CNN Student News, CountryWatch.com, Dell, Education World, EdVISION, Embark, ePALS Classroom Exchange, GoalView, iPicture books, KidsEdge, MerriamWebster, PC Teach It, Purdue Pharma, Riverdeep, Standard Deviants/Cerebellum, TestU, ThinkWave, TIME For Kids, Tom Snyder Productions, Tritone Music, Warner Brothers Publications, and Western Governors University.

About AOL@SCHOOL

AOL@SCHOOL is a free online learning service that America Online launched in May, 2000. Designed to help schools make the interactive medium a more effective part of the classroom experience, AOL@SCHOOL provides safe, age appropriate learning portals with the leading online educational material selected by educational experts. The service offers AOL's unique safety controls to protect kids from inappropriate content, optional features such as email and instant messaging for students and special resource portals for teachers and administrators. AOL@SCHOOL has been endorsed by the governors of six states including Virginia, Florida, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Colorado and Georgia as the premier online learning tool for K12 students, and the program is being widely used in schools across the country.

The AOL@SCHOOL software is available free to schools by calling 8883390767. The AOL@SCHOOL portals can also be accessed over the Internet at http://www.aolatschool.com, so that students, teachers, administrators and parents can view the content included as part of this learning tool from home.

About America Online, Inc.
America Online, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of AOL Time Warner Inc. Based in Dulles, Virginia, America Online is the world's leader in interactive services, Web brands, Internet technologies and ecommerce services.

AOL@SCHOOL Fact Sheet

Making the Internet More Powerful For Educators and Students

A Safe, School Focused Online Learning Tool Available For Free Nationwide
AOL@SCHOOL applies America Online's hallmark focus on convenience and
ease of use to this dilemma, providing a variety of age appropriate
educational content, state of the art communications features and special
safety tools to make the Internet more powerful for teachers and students.
The AOL@SCHOOL software is available free to schools and can be accessed
over the Internet at http://www.school.aol.com, so that students, teachers,
administrators and parents can use the content included as part of this
learning tool from home.

THE AOL@SCHOOL PORTALS

Educator Approved Content Delivered Through Age Appropriate Portals

Primary
The AOL@SCHOOL Primary portal allows young users to become familiar with the
online medium as a study tool while also gaining basic computer skills that
will serve them well throughout their education.

Elementary
The AOL@SCHOOL Elementary Portal incorporates new features and content that
3rd through 5th grades students can use to develop the basic skills necessary
for academic growth as they progress through their education.

Middle School
As Students progress through the learning process, so will their knowledge of
computers and the online world. The AOL@SCHOOL Middle School portal
incorporates advanced features for the middle school student, providing
access to more advanced reference tools and the added freedom to explore the
online world.

High School
The High School portal on AOL@SCHOOL has been designed around the fact that
many students who have spent time online throughout their education are
fairly cyber savvy. This comprehensive portal features include new reference
materials, interactive tools for advanced curricula and extensive
postgraduation information.

Teachers
Teachers as well as students benefit from having access to relevant online information. The easy to use and navigate Teacher portal on AOL@SCHOOL allows teachers to access the tools necessary to search for effective lesson plans and other information making the learning process fun for students through the online medium.

Administrators
The role of the school administrator requires a myriad of unique skills, including an ability to have a finger on the pulse of just about everything happening in their school or district. The easy to use and navigate Administrators portal on AOL@SCHOOL provides the necessary tools and resources for Principals, Vice Principals and other school administrators to effectively manage resources insuring that they are online and in touch.

Widespread Usage Extends to More Than 36% of K12 Schools and Helps Bridge Digital Divide

Just two years after its launch, AOL@SCHOOL is now used by 36% of K12 schools and has a presence in all 50 states. Additionally, the service is successfully helping to bridge the Digital Divide, with research showing that schools in less affluent communities and smaller parochial schools are most likely to benefit from the free service.

Free and User Friendly Service Drive Adoption Across the Country
New surveys show that AOL@SCHOOL's free usage and ease of use are driving strong adoption of the product nationwide. America Online recently launched a completely new version AOL@SCHOOL that was based on extensive user feedback. A new, bold user interface and unique features, including a study kit, expanded teacher and administrator resources and new categories for students, make it even easier to integrate AOL@SCHOOL into the classroom and a more valuable service to teachers, administrators and students.

Designed For Education, By Educators
At every step of the design process, AOL has worked and will continue to work with education professionals from every level to create and refine a product that is useful in turning the Internet into a meaningful part of their students' classroom experience. And educators are taking note… product awareness is very high among professionals in the K12 education community. In fact, recent studies show that 84% of nonusers were aware of AOL@SCHOOL and nearly half of this group said it's likely they will use it in the future.

Age Appropriate Learning Portals Rate Among Most Popular Features
The heart of the AOL@SCHOOL system is a series of six online learning portals
designed for grades K2, 35, middle school, high school, teachers, and
administrators. The student portals provide an easy to navigate environment
in which students can access Web sites that have been chosen by educators as
the best educational content for that grade level. Additionally, the student
portals provide a suite of functional online tools such as encyclopedias,
dictionaries, a calculator, and many other research and collaboration tools.
The specially designed portals for teachers and administrators provide
professional development and administrative help and resources, as well as
the ability to search for subject and age specific lesson plans. According
to recent surveys, research and age appropriate content are the most popular
AOL@SCHOOL features.

Safety and Communications Features With Local Control
AOL@SCHOOL also comes with a version of AOL's special "parental controls" to
help ensure a safe, secure, age appropriate experience. In addition, school
officials decide if, and when, students are ready to constructively use
popular communications features such as email, chat and instant messaging
all controlled by local school officials.

Special Search Engine Designed for Educational Use
Ask students to search the Web for information on Abraham Lincoln using
traditional online tools, and they'll get a list of thousands of sites with
no guidance about the accuracy, reliability, or value of the information on
them. AOL@SCHOOL contains a specially configured search engine that returns
manageable lists of prescreened sites that have been selected by online
education experts. Additionally, all of the AOL@SCHOOL portals feature a
news search button, allowing students and teachers to access not only current
news stories, but also the archives of such sites as Time, CountryWire and
CNN.

"State Focus" Provides Key Local Information
AOL is offering every state education department the chance to make use of
its unique "State Focus" feature, a way to use AOL@SCHOOL to teach students
about local history, geography, environment, and more, as well as to provide
information to teachers and administrators about state testing programs and
other important initiatives. Virginia and Florida will be the first states
in the nation to take advantage of this feature, with many others expected to
follow suit.