
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: BOYD
SUBJECT: COMPUTERS IN THE CLASSROOM UPDATE <FINAL 6 WEEKS>
DATE: NOVEMBER 24, 2002
CC: RENICK

OK, here's the good news:

- As of today, 97.4% of classrooms are wired. 846 classrooms are not wired. However, we do have commitments from school districts to wire 425 classrooms by 12/30/02.
- Of the 421 classrooms that we do NOT have their status CONFIRMED, here's what we do know:
 - 108 classrooms in question are in the Aberdeen School District from whom we have NOT RECEIVED A RESPONSE.
 - 40 classrooms in Clinton Public School District are cost prohibitive to wire the building for Internet access. *I have suggested using a wireless network. ITS is pricing one.*
 - 18 classrooms located at Wick Elementary will be closed next school year.
 - 8 classrooms are at the Marion County Vocational Center.
 - 6 classrooms are band classrooms (Alcorn County and Scott County).
 - 5 classrooms in Louisville Municipal School District are in the Agricultural Building where it is cost prohibitive to add to the computer network.
 - 1 classroom is used as suspension hall in Pontotoc County School District.
 - We are awaiting responses on the remaining 235 classrooms that are not wired.

COMPUTERS

- We contracted with Explornet for 5,952 computers to be produced by 12/31/02. Of these, we have allocated 3,603 during the summer and 671 during the recent BlitzBuilds for a total of 4,274. This leaves 1,678 computers for further allocation. We will be conferring with Explornet to ensure that this is accurate.

Other interesting facts:

- Mississippi has 32,517 classrooms for approximately 500,000 students yielding an average class size of 15 students per class.
- We have increased the number of total classrooms from 30,033 in March 2000 to 32,517 in November 2002, an increase of 2,484 classrooms or 8.3%.
- The number of unwired classrooms has decreased significantly. Since March 2000, 6,871 classrooms were not wired. Today, only 421 are in question.