

When will these computers be installed?

Installation has begun and will be in full-swing by the first week of March, 2001. As a matter of fact, Apple is installing computers today in Port Gibson at three schools as a part of this initiative.

In what schools will they be installed?

They are being installed in schools across the state. (A list will be included in the press release.) The selection of the schools was based on three criteria. Number one, they had to apply. Number two, the school was wired for Internet services, and number three, the teachers of each school agreed to participate in teacher training on the use of the Internet.

How were the vendors selected?

Under the direction of the task force, state agencies issued a request for proposals identifying the minimum standards required for Internet-accessible computers under this initiative in June 2000 for 6000 computers. The Task Force chose to offer six contracts for 1,000 computers to vendors from across Mississippi and the United States

How many computers are left to be purchased?

We are installing 6,325 computers now, which will give us a total of 6,277 to install before our reaching our goal of placing all computers by the end of 2002.

How did you determine that 12,602 classrooms did not have computers?

The Mississippi Department of Education surveyed local schools to determine the number of classrooms with computers and Internet connections.