



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Annamarie Engelhard
Director of Advancement
Twin City Catholic Educational System
920-722-7796 ext. 201
aengelhard@tcces.k12.wi.us

ST. MARY CENTRAL TEACHERS PREPARE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NORTHEAST WISCONSIN'S FIRST ONE-TO-ONE PROGRAM

NEENAH: St. Mary Central High School (SMC) teachers are attending a three-day workshop with Education Collaborators, Inc. to prepare for the August 2010 launch of SMC's One-to-One Laptop Program. As part of their ongoing preparation for this transition, the teachers are learning how to integrate technology into the school's strong curriculum and to use technology as a teaching tool to better prepare our students for college and beyond.

The teachers will spend June 28-30 covering a variety of topics pertinent to the implementation of a one-to-one laptop program, including learning how to manage the new electronic workflow of delivering and obtaining school work and projects electronically and the best practices for teaching electronic research and information management, as well as ways to create projects and electronic collaboration such as blogs and wikis.

"This intensive three-day workshop will provide our teachers with great material and instruction to unlock the educational power of technology in their classrooms. Laptops and other technology tools will provide an excellent platform for many lessons and demonstrations, and we want to make sure that our teachers are able to creatively incorporate these tools as SMC implements the One-to-One Laptop Program," stated Mr. Patrick Batey, SMC principal.

In June 2009, SMC announced that it would become the first high school in northeast Wisconsin to implement a one-to-one program where each student has a laptop to use in school and at home. In August 2009, SMC inaugurated phase 1 of the program by building the wireless infrastructure and providing each teacher with a laptop. Phase 2 will take place this August when the incoming freshman class will receive their laptops at an orientation and laptop boot camp. The implementation of Phase 3 at the start of the second semester of the 2010-2011 school year will provide laptops to the sophomore and junior classes.

Educational Collaborators is a nationally recognized leader in educational technology integration and has developed many of the industry standards and best practices. The company has worked in educational institutions all over the world assimilating technology into curriculum and working with faculty, administration and staff to implement a multitude of technology initiatives.

St. Mary Central, a regional Catholic high school, is part of Twin City Catholic Educational System (TCCES). The system also includes St. Margaret Mary and St. Gabriel Elementary Schools in Neenah, as well as St. Mary Elementary and Seton Catholic Middle School in Menasha. TCCES is dedicated to the individual development of each student by providing an education focused on faith, academics and service.

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