



MEDIA RELEASE

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TCCES Technology Implements Green Initiatives

NEENAH: This summer the Twin City Catholic Educational System (TCCES) began implementing a green initiative by completing several projects that position the school system for the future by significantly reducing energy, provide increased efficiency and lower the cost of hardware upgrades. "TCCES is constantly looking toward the future and working to proactively seek solutions that will position our school to educate the new generation of students – the digital natives," stated Eric Siems, TCCES Technology Director.

This summer the TCCES Technology Department built a redundant server solution and maximized the capabilities of system hardware by converting old hardware into virtual machines. In simple terms, the clustered server solution allows TCCES to run computers off of two servers as opposed to the five servers it had been using through software. There is a significant energy savings to the system by running and cooling fewer servers. In addition, this change provides ten times the storage space. The additional storage space will be required when St. Mary Central High School launches its One to One Laptop Program, which means each student will have a laptop as part of the schools curriculum, beginning in September 2010.

Planning for the future and implementing these changes will result in a 60% reduction in energy consumption by computers and a 47% savings in hardware cost in the next eight years.

"This was a huge summer project for our department. It is very exciting to implement changes of this magnitude and to know that we are positioning our schools to meet the future educational needs of our young students. Today's students are very comfortable with technology and TCCES is excited to foster an environment that prepares them for the future," stated Siems.

Twin City Catholic Educational System (TCCES) - which includes St. Gabriel, St. Margaret Mary and St. Mary Elementary Schools, Seton Catholic Middle School and St. Mary Central High School - strives to provide the highest quality education in a faith-filled environment for children in preschool through high school.

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