The increasing gap between the availability of computers, electronic networks, the Internet capabilities in schools across the nation, and the preparedness of teachers to effectively integrate new technologies, including the Internet, into their teaching demands that all levels of education join forces to promote teacher professional development!

Why should teachers use the Internet in their classrooms?
Compelling applications of this unique technology can vastly enrich the classroom environment. The Internet can provide invaluable resources and experiences that cannot be delivered using other technologies, books, or other school resources. This is the compelling reason that should motivate the educational community to invest the resources required to integrate the Internet into schools around the country!

The Alliance+ Model
The Alliance+ model uses the National Education Goal, Building a Nation of Learners, as a starting point: "All teachers will have continuing opportunities to acquire additional knowledge and skills needed to teach challenging subject matter and to use emerging new methods, forms of assessment,

and technologies." Alliance+ prepares teachers to integrate technology into the curriculum in innovative ways that enhance student learning and support higher levels of achievement.

(continued)
Alliance+ not only focuses on developing the abilities of classroom teachers, but also creates a training and support infrastructure designed to have a lasting, systemic impact. To accomplish its objectives, the model employs four discrete approaches in providing teachers with professional development:

- A local partnership involving community colleges and K-12 neighboring schools
- A train-the-trainer program to develop trainers within schools for staff development in the use of technologically supported curriculum applications
- Support from community colleges for local school system training activities and the expansion of ongoing relationships between colleges and schools
- Exemplary, standards-based curriculum materials, selected video documentaries of model lessons and best practices, and print and electronic support materials to guide users in the implementation of these materials

The role of community colleges

Since their inception, community colleges have been actively involved in teacher development — many prospective teachers receive their only college-level mathematics and science content courses at a community college. In addition, they are ideally suited to serve as conduits for training in the nation’s public schools, with over 1,200 community colleges located throughout the U.S., including every major city.

A common mission among institutional leaders is to use the collective thinking and resources of elementary, high school, community college, university, city, business, and community partners to ensure that students remain in school and reach their maximum potential. Alliance+ is a proven model for wide scale dissemination of teacher professional development in the use of technology in K-12 education. Alliance+ has been successfully implemented in Cleveland (OH), Phoenix (AZ), and Miami (FL), and through both on-site and online training activities, will reach approximately 9,000 K-12 classroom teachers from 19 school districts, having a direct impact on over a quarter million children!

The Alliance+ model is a demonstrated strategy for helping students be successful in school, while also creating a more competitive, technological work force better able to deal with complex challenges and take advantage of new opportunities.

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