Distance Makes No Difference,

Using streaming video to enhance curriculum K-12

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Abstract: unitedstreaming™ is a video download and streaming system that instantly delivers over 2,000 educational core-curriculum digital videos and 20,000 clips. By simply searching the database, users are able to easily locate grade and subject specific content, and view the videos on their computers. This can be done by downloading it onto their desktops or a local server, or by live streaming. Each video has been indexed, which gives the option of viewing the entire program or watching a short clip. The extensive library of live-action media was designed specifically for use in the K-12 classroom. Programs align with national and state-level standards and include ancillary materials for teachers and students. The programs are meant to bring any core-curriculum subject alive in any educational environment. Programs are provided from award-winning producers including United Learning, Weston Woods, TV Ontario, Environmental Media, Rainbow Educational Media, and others.

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

An independent evaluation by the research firm, Cometrika, addresses the mandates of the NCLB, federal legislation enacted in January 2002. The legislation specifies that educational materials purchased with public funds must be scientifically proven to increase student achievement in the classroom. Cometrika’s evaluation on unitedstreaming “showed that the experimental groups’ test score improvement exceeded the control groups’ improvement by an average of 12.6%. These results were presented to the House of Representatives’ Committee on Education and the Workforce on September 19, 2002.

Examples of Teacher Usage:
For example, when doing a lesson on tree frogs of the Amazon, a teacher can access a short video clip and still photos on the subject directly from the classroom or media lab computer. The additional information makes the subjects more interesting and accessible to students, accommodating auditory as well as visual learners. Additionally, students can use ‘unitedstreaming’ for independent research, combining it with other software and incorporating it into multimedia projects.

Further, if students want to do independent research on the Civil War for a school project, they can easily obtain from the Web site information on the role that slaves, plantation owners and law officials played.

Streaming video is becoming more accessible in schools -- a recent study by Quality Education Data (QED) showed that video streaming is the number one technology being evaluated by schools this school year.

Conclusion:
I have worked with the teachers of the Lindbergh School District for two years with unitedstreaming with great success. I hope to show others how easy this product is to use and integrate into their curriculum.