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Partnership for 21st Century Skills Launches Enhanced Website

Resource Database and Interactive Assessment Tool Assist Educators in Creating a 21st Century Education Environment

WASHINGTON (February 2, 2004) – The Partnership for 21st Century Skills, an alliance of education, business and government leaders working to fully address the education needs and challenges of work and life in the 21st century, today launched an enhanced Website that includes a comprehensive resource database and hands-on assessment tool to help educators create a 21st century education environment.

“The Partnership is committed to promoting a national dialogue about 21st century skills and incorporating them into standards, curricula and assessments,” said Ameila Maurizio, chairman of the Partnership for 21st Century Skills and director of Higher Learning Initiatives at SAP America, Inc. “Our new tools will be invaluable resources for educators and administrators as they work to prepare students for the 21st century.”

The Resource Database is a free, online tool that searches the Partnership’s comprehensive database of materials related to 21st Century Skills, ICT Literacy and Professional Development. The resources were compiled during extensive outreach to the education, business and government communities as part of the development of the Partnership’s 2003 report, *Learning for the 21st Century*.

The enhanced Website also features the refined MILE Guide Online Assessment designed to help schools and districts assess where they stand in defining, teaching and assessing 21st century skills. As a result of the assessment, education stakeholders can begin to articulate a vision for how to bring 21st century skills into the classroom.

“Our new Research Database compiles our extensive research efforts into one searchable database,” said Diny Golder-Dardis, director of research and development and education liaison for the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. “Educators can now search our comprehensive library of resources that include highlighted examples; content and performance standards collections; classroom materials; education and technology organizations; books; journals and Websites.”

The Resource Database and MILE Guide Online Assessment can be accessed on the Partnership’s Website at www.21stcenturyskills.org.

(More)

About the Partnership for 21st Century Skills

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills is a unique alliance of education, business and government leaders working to fully address the education needs and challenges of work and life in the 21st century. The Partnership currently has eight member organizations: Apple Computer, Inc., Cable in the Classroom, Cisco Systems, Inc., Dell Computer Corporation, Microsoft Corporation, National Education Association, SAP and Time Warner Foundation. The effort is supported by the U.S. Department of Education. The Partnership has issued a free report, *Learning in the 21st Century*, and companion *Milestones for Improving Learning and Education (MILE) Guide for 21st Century Skills* to articulate a collective vision for learning in the 21st century and make recommendations on how to define and integrate 21st century skills into K-12 curricula.

Based in Washington, DC and Tucson, Arizona, the Partnership for 21st Century Skills is a joint project developed and administered cooperatively by Infotech Strategies and JES & Co. The Partnership for 21st Century Skills is a tax-exempt 501 (c) 3 organization. More information can be found at www.21stcenturyskills.org.

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