

PRESS RELEASE - December 13, 1999

PPS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN ISTE NATIONAL FORUM ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS

Washington, DC - Warren Wagner, of PPS Systems, Inc., traveled to Washington, DC to participate in The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), National Forum on Educational Technology Standards (NETS) for Teachers, December 8-9, 1999 in Washington, D.C. The Forum was designed to refine and develop national educational technology standards for teacher preparation.

The forum attracted participants from 44 states including representatives from universities, colleges, K-12 schools, corporations, foundations, state departments of education, and US Department of Education. Wagner also serves on the Computer Education Advisory Panel for the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing whose recent teacher computer competency recommendations were adapted into law by the commission as directed by California AB1023.

The activities included two panel discussions by distinguished educators. The first focused on the need for developing educational technology standards for teachers that would be aligned with the recently released National Educational Technology Standards for all students. Participating in the first panel discussion were:

- Dr. Linda Roberts, Director of the Office of Educational Technology and Special Adviser to the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Education.
- Dr. Lajeane Thomas, Professor, Louisiana Tech University and NETS Project Director, Chair of ISTE's Accreditation and Standards Committee
- Dr. James Pellegrino, Professor, Learning Technology Center, Vanderbilt University.
- Ms. Cheryl Lemke, Executive Director of Milken Exchange of Educational Technology and Vice President for Education Technology for the Milken Family Foundation.
- Dr. Majorie DeWert, Professor, School of Education, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

A second panel discussion focused on visions for technology in teacher preparation programs. Panelists for this discussion were:

- Dr. Art Wise, President of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Preparation (NCATE)
- Dr. Tom Carroll, Director, Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology (PTTT), U. S. Department of Education.

Participants worked throughout the day in small groups led by Dr. Peggy Kelly, California State University San Marcos and ISTE NETS Document Development Coordinator, to produce draft materials to be used in developing a comprehensive set of teacher preparation standards for educational technology. Standard categories included:

Basic Computer/Technology Operations and Concepts

- Personal and Professional Use of Technology

- Application of Technology in Instruction
- Essential Conditions that must be met for implementation of these standards.

The information gathered from the participants will be used as the initial draft of the NETS Standards for teachers used in the next phase of the development process to be completed by a writing team meeting and additional national forums next year.

For further information on the NETS Project contact: Lajeane Thomas, Louisiana Tech University, P.O. Box 3161, Ruston, LA 71272; tel: 318 257-3923; email: lthomas@latech.edu

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