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ADVANCED TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN U.S. PRIVATE SCHOOLS: 1998-1999
FAST RESPONSE SURVEY SYSTEM

FORM APPROVED
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Name of person completing form: _____ Telephone: _____

Title/position: _____ Number of years at this school: _____

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WESTAT
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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

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FRSS Form No. 68, 2/99

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN QUESTIONNAIRE

Advanced telecommunications - refers to modes of communication used to transmit information from one place to another including broadcast and interactive television, networked computers, etc.

Cable modem - provides greater bandwidth from Internet Service Providers that enables faster data transfer than is possible using a 33.6 kbps modem, 56 kbps modem, or 128 kbps ISDN connection. Cable networks are supplied by cable companies and generally use fiber-optic cabling to form connections, although some cable companies may rely on co-axial cabling.

DS1 - refers to a service with digital transmission speed of 1.544 Mega (million) bits per second.

DS3 - refers to a service with digital transmission speed of 45 Mega (million) bits per second.

Dedicated line - type of account available from an Internet Service Provider where the customer is connected to the Internet 24 hours a day on his/her own individual phone line. This connection is made without a modem.

Dial-up connection - customer is only connected to the Internet when his/her modem dials the Internet Service Provider's telephone number to establish the connection.

Distance learning - refers to the transmission of information from one geographic location to another via various modes of telecommunications technology. For example, an advanced high school math class in Richmond, Virginia, could receive a college-level math seminar from the University of Virginia via two-way video.

E-mail (Electronic mail) - refers to text messages transmitted across networks and usually accessible only by the addressee.

E-rate/Universal Service Schools and Libraries Telecommunication Discount Program - fund created as part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to ensure that all eligible schools (public and private) and libraries in the United States have affordable access to modern telecommunications and information services.

Schools and Libraries Discount Matrix		
Percent of students eligible for national school lunch program	Discount level	
	Urban discount percentage	Rural discount percentage
<1	20	25
1-19	40	50
20-34	50	60
35-49	60	70
50-74	80	80
75-100	90	90

56Kb - a digital transmission speed of 56 Kilo (thousand) bits per second.

Fractionalized T1 - T1 line that is split to allow for data communication and voice communication (as opposed to a T1 line used for data communication only).

Fractionalized T3 - T3 line that is split to allow for data communication and voice communication (as opposed to a T3 line used for data communication only).

Instructional rooms - refers to rooms in the school building used for any instructional purposes (includes classrooms, labs, library/media centers, art rooms, rooms used for vocational or special education, etc.).

Interactive television/computer with two-way audio/visual - television or computer having two-way audio and/or visual capabilities that can be used for distance learning or video conferencing.

Internet - refers to a collection of computer networks interconnected by TCP/IP protocols, sharing the same underlying network address space as well as the same domain name space, and interconnected into a network of information.

Intranet - internal network within a school or business that is based on the same technology as the Internet rather than traditional local area network (LAN) software.

ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network) - phone line that moves data digitally and integrates voice and data.

Local area network - refers to the linkage of computers and/or peripherals (e.g., printer) confined to a limited area that may consist of a room, building, or campus that allows users to communicate and share information.

Modem - refers to a device that connects between a computer and a phone line to translate between the digital signal of the computer and the analog signal required for telephone transmission.

Multimedia - refers to a computer using any combination of text, full color images and graphics, video, animation, and sound.

T1 - refers to a line with digital transmission speed of 1.544 Mega (million) bits per second.

T3 - refers to a line with digital transmission speed of 45 Mega (million) bits per second.

Technology Innovation Challenge Grant - program provides funding for teacher preparation and professional development activities that support the integration of educational technology into the curriculum.

Technology Literacy Challenge Fund - program provides funding to states to effectively increase the capacity of their schools to integrate educational technology into classrooms.

Title VI - program provides funding for the development of effective curriculum and instruction activities to meet the needs of public schools and participating private schools.

Video conferencing - conference between two or more participants at different locations over the Internet or a private network. Each user has a video camera, microphone, and speakers mounted on his/her computer. As the participants speak to one another, they hear each other's voices and see a video image of the other participant(s).

Wide area network - refers to a data communications linkage designed to connect computers over distances greater than the distance transmitted by local area networks (e.g., building to building, city to city, across the country, or internationally), that allows users to communicate and share information, such as the Internet, America Online, CompuServe, etc.

Wireless connection - refers to the connections to the Internet that do not use wire or cable.

World Wide Web (WWW) - refers to a system that allows access to information sites all over the world using a standard, common interface to organize and search for information. The WWW simplifies the location and retrieval of various forms of information including text, audio, and video files. It is the "multimedia" portion of the Internet.

I. Advanced Telecommunications

1. For what grade levels does this school offer academic instruction? From _____ (lowest grade) to _____ (highest grade)

2a. What is the total number of computers in this school? _____ Total computers

2b. How many of these computers are used for instructional purposes? _____ Computers for instructional use

3a. Does your school have access to the Internet? Yes 1 No 2 (If no, skip to question 3c.)

3b. In what year did your school obtain access to the Internet? Year _____ (Skip to question 4a.)

3c. Does your school have plans to obtain access to the Internet? Yes 1 No 2 (If no, skip to question 5a.)

3d. By what year does your school expect to obtain access to the Internet? Year _____ (Skip to question 5a.)

4a. Of the total number of computers in your school (i.e., those in question 2a), how many currently have access to the Internet? _____ Computers with Internet access

4b. How many of the computers with Internet access (i.e., those in question 4a) are used for instructional purposes? _____ Instructional computers with Internet access

4c. How many computers in your school that do not currently have access to the Internet are capable of having access to the Internet? _____ Computers capable of having Internet access

5a. What is the total number of instructional rooms in your school? Include all rooms used for any instructional purposes (i.e., classrooms, computer and other labs, library/media centers, etc.). _____ Total instructional rooms

5b. How many of these instructional rooms have a computer that is used for instructional purposes? _____ Instructional rooms with computers for instructional use

5c. How many of these instructional rooms have a computer with access to the Internet? _____ Instructional rooms with a computer having Internet access (If none, skip to question 6.)

5d. How many of the instructional rooms with Internet access (i.e., those in question 5c) are: _____ Classrooms _____ Computer labs _____ Library/media centers _____ Other instructional rooms

6. Please indicate whether or not each type of equipment or service is available at your school, and where in the school it is located. (Circle yes or no in each column for each item.)

Equipment or service	1		2		3		4		5		6	
	Available at school?		Available in administrative offices?		Available in classrooms?		Available in computer labs?		Available in library/media centers?		Available in other instructional rooms?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Computer connected to a local area network.....	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
b. Computer with modem	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
c. Computer with connection or access to the Internet	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
d. Computer with connection or access to an Intranet	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
e. Stand-alone computer (i.e., not connected to any network)	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
f. Computer with multimedia capabilities (e.g., CD-ROM, speakers)	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
g. Interactive television/computer with two-way audio/visual	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2

7. How many teachers are there in your school? Include all full- and part-time teachers. _____ Teachers

8. Approximately what percent of the teachers in your school regularly use computers/advanced telecommunications for teaching? _____%

9. Does your school use computers/advanced telecommunications for distance learning? Yes..... 1 No..... 2

10. How does your school connect to the Internet? (Circle the corresponding numbers of all that apply.)
 Mark this box if your school does not have Internet and skip to question 14.
- | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|----|
| a. Dial-up connection | 1 | c. ISDN | 7 |
| b. Dedicated line (Indicate the specific connection(s) used.) | | d. Wireless connection..... | 8 |
| 56kb | 2 | e. Cable modem..... | 9 |
| T1/DS1 | 3 | f. Other (specify) _____ | 10 |
| Fractionalized T1 | 4 | | |
| T3/DS3 | 5 | | |
| Fractionalized T3 | 6 | | |

11. Please indicate who in your school has access to the following Internet resources or capabilities, and the extent to which they use these resources or capabilities while in the school. (Circle one response for each item.)

Resource/capability	Resource available		If resource available, extent of use			
	Yes	No	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent
a. E-mail						
1. Administrative staff	1	2	1	2	3	4
2. Teachers.....	1	2	1	2	3	4
3. Students	1	2	1	2	3	4
b. World Wide Web access						
1. Administrative staff	1	2	1	2	3	4
2. Teachers.....	1	2	1	2	3	4
3. Students	1	2	1	2	3	4

12. Does your school have its own web page on the World Wide Web? Yes 1 No 2
 13. Can students access the school's computer system from home? Yes 1 No 2

II. Support for Telecommunications

14. Does your school offer or participate in the following types of training for teachers?

	Yes	No
a. Use of computers.....	1	2
b. Use of the Internet	1	2
c. Use of other advanced telecommunications	1	2
d. Integration of technology into the curriculum	1	2

15. How does your school encourage computer/advanced telecommunications training for teachers? (Circle one.)

a. Mandated by the school, central administration, or diocese	1
b. Not mandated, but incentives provided to encourage participation	2
c. Left up to teachers to initiate participation	3
d. Other (specify) _____	4

16. Who is primarily responsible for supporting advanced telecommunications in your school? (Circle one.)

Full-time, paid technology director/coordinator.....	1	Teacher or other staff as part of formal responsibilities	4
Part-time, paid technology director/coordinator.....	2	Teacher or other staff as volunteers	5
Consultant/outside contractor.....	3	Other volunteers	6
		No one	7 (Skip to question 19.)
		Other (specify) _____	8

17. How many individuals are responsible for supporting advanced telecommunications in your school on a:
 Full-time basis? _____ Part-time basis? _____

18. To what extent does the technology coordinator and/or other person(s) supporting advanced telecommunications in your school... (Circle one response for each item.)

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent
a. Help teachers integrate technology into the curriculum?.....	1	2	3	4
b. Provide network technical support?.....	1	2	3	4
c. Involve students in the maintenance of telecommunication systems?.....	1	2	3	4

19. Did your school apply for the Universal Service Schools and Libraries Telecommunications Discount Program (E-rate) during the 1998 program year? Yes..... 1 (If yes, skip to question 21.) No..... 2
20. For which of the following reasons did your school not apply for the E-rate discount? (Circle all that apply and skip to question 24.)
- | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Discount too low..... | 1 | Opposed to program in principle..... | 4 |
| Application process too complicated..... | 2 | Other (specify) _____ | 5 |
| Never heard of program..... | 3 | | |
21. What E-rate percentage discount was your school eligible to receive for the 1998 program year? (See discount matrix on p. 2.) _____%
22. Has your school received a funding commitment letter for the 1998 E-rate discount program?
Yes..... 1 No..... 2 Have not received notification..... 3
23. Please indicate which telecommunications services, if any, your school applied for under the 1998 E-rate discount program, and whether the E-rate discount program helped or will help your school acquire the service(s) for the first time.

Telecommunications service	Was service requested?		Was service received?		Was or will be able to receive service for first time because of E-rate?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
	a. Basic telephone service.....	1	2	1	2	1
b. Internal connections.....	1	2	1	2	1	2
c. Internet access.....	1	2	1	2	1	2
d. Other telecommunications services (specify) _____	1	2	1	2	1	2

24. Has your school applied or does it plan to apply for the E-rate discount during the 1999-2000 program year?
Yes..... 1 No..... 2
25. What programs, organizations, or individuals, aside from the school budget, are supporting advanced telecommunications in your school with funds, hardware, or software, or by providing or sponsoring training, technical assistance, or network access? (Circle all that apply.)

Program/organization/individual	Funds	Hardware	Software	Training	Technical assistance	Network access
a. Technology Literacy Challenge Fund	1	2	3	4	5	6
b. Technology Innovation Challenge Grant.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
c. E-rate under Telecommunications Act.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
d. Title VI.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
e. Other state or federal government programs	1	2	3	4	5	6
f. College or university	1	2	3	4	5	6
g. Business or industry.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
h. Other community nonprofit organizations (e.g., libraries, museums)	1	2	3	4	5	6
i. Central administration/diocese.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
j. Teachers	1	2	3	4	5	6
k. Students.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
l. Parents or other community members.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
m. Other (specify) _____	1	2	3	4	5	6

III. Barriers

26. Please indicate to what extent, if any, each of the following are barriers to your school's acquisition or usage of computers/advanced telecommunications capabilities. If your school is currently using computers/advanced telecommunications, please indicate to what extent each of the following are barriers to upgrading or maximizing your school's telecommunications usage. (Circle one response for each item.)

	Not a barrier	Minor barrier	Moderate barrier	Major barrier
a. Lack of or poor equipment.....	1	2	3	4
b. Outdated physical plant or inadequate facilities	1	2	3	4
c. Insufficient budget for hardware/software purchases	1	2	3	4
d. Lack of quality software for instructional purposes	1	2	3	4
e. Insufficient level of E-rate discount.....	1	2	3	4
f. Problems with telecommunications providers.....	1	2	3	4
g. Administrative/teacher resistance or lack of interest	1	2	3	4
h. Lack of technical support or advice	1	2	3	4
i. Lack of teacher training	1	2	3	4
j. Concern about student access to inappropriate materials	1	2	3	4

27. In what year was your school's main instructional building constructed? _____

THANK YOU!

Table B-38a.—Standard errors of the ratio of students to instructional computer and ratio of students to instructional computer with Internet access, by school sector, affiliation, and level: School year 1998-99

School characteristic	Number of students per instructional computer	Number of students per instructional computer with Internet access
All public schools.....	0.1	0.6
Level		
Elementary.....	0.2	0.9
Secondary.....	0.1	0.4
Combined.....	*	*
All private schools		
Affiliation and level		
Catholic.....	0.2	1.6
Elementary.....	0.3	2.9
Secondary.....	0.3	0.9
Combined.....	2.5	10.3
Other religious.....	0.3	1.9
Elementary.....	0.5	4.1
Secondary.....	0.9	2.1
Combined.....	0.7	3.6
Nonsectarian	0.4	0.7
Elementary.....	1.2	4.3
Secondary.....	0.6	0.8
Combined.....	0.4	0.6

* Standard error could not be derived because there are too few cases to report the data.

NOTE: Private schools were surveyed during the school year 1998-99. Public schools were surveyed in Fall 1998.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Fast Response Survey System, "Survey on Advanced Telecommunications in U.S. Private Schools: 1998-99," FRSS 68, 1999.