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DCP Today

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Welcome to DCP Today, CENIC's twice-monthly electronic newsletter detailing the latest news about the Digital California Project.

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PRE-RELEASE MEETING FOR PENDING DCP RFP

CENIC is preparing to release an RFP at the end of January 2001 for the acquisition and installation of telecommunications equipment at approximately 70-80 sites across the 58 counties of California. The RFP is related to the Digital California Project: K-12 Statewide Network (DCP).

We are hosting a pre-release briefing session on January 18, 2001 from 10am - noon at the CENIC Headquarters, 4665 Lampson Avenue, Los Alamitos CA 90720 (the WestEd building). The purpose of meeting will be to provide interested parties information about the DCP and the planning that has been completed to date.

A thumbnail summary of the efforts to date that might help in making a decision whether or not to attend the meeting and compete for the RFP can be found at <http://www.cenic.org/RFPRelease.html>.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ENDORSES USE OF INTERNET IN CLASSROOMS

A bipartisan commission formed by Congress gave a broad endorsement today to the growing use of the Internet in the nation's classrooms, calling on the federal government to do more to promote online learning from preschool to the workplace. The final report of the Web-based Education Commission boosted the prospects that federal emphasis on computer use in the classroom -- a priority of the Clinton administration -- will stay on the agenda once President-elect Bush and a new Congress take office next year. The panel, chaired by retiring Sen. Bob Kerrey (D-Neb.), made seven recommendations to involve states, colleges and businesses as well as the federal government in mobilizing the nation to capture the "extraordinary promise" of Web-based learning. The federal government was urged to upgrade school Internet access to broadband connections that have greater speed and capacity. The panel also urged more federal and state funding to support the expansion of educational technology. The commission urged Congress to boost funding for federal research and called for changes in federal regulations that limit financial aid for students who take college courses over the Web. [SOURCE: Washington Post (A02) AUTHOR: Kenneth J. Cooper]

In addition, separate contracts will be signed with Pacific Bell to lease over 70 circuits throughout California and with Verizon for 7 circuits in the state. At a later time, CENIC hopes to sign a contract with Williams Communications for an additional 18 circuits.

For the full text of a CNN article on this subject, visit <http://www.cnn.com/2000/TECH/computing/12/19/web.education.report/index.html>

CENIC WEB SITE UPDATED

A recent update of the CENIC web site added new content to the DCP area. New items include a rough map of potential DCP sites, an updated overview, links to the Program Steering Committee member sites, and new information about applications coordination.

Access the site by visiting <http://www.cenic.org/DCP.html>.

About CENIC

CENIC is a not-for-profit corporation formed by the California Institute of Technology, the California State University, Stanford University, the University of California, and the University of Southern California to facilitate and coordinate the deployment, development, and operation of a set of seamless and robust advanced network services. The CENIC Associates program offers qualified companies the opportunity to

collaborate with CENIC in pursuit of the goal of providing the most advanced network services for research and education. Cisco Systems, IBM, Pacific Bell and Sun Microsystems are CENIC's Founding Partner Associates.

About DCP

The Digital California Project is a project of CENIC. A multi-million dollar effort funded by the State of California, the DCP was designed to build the necessary network infrastructure needed to prepare California's schools to take advantage of tomorrow's advances in network technology. In essence, CENIC is developing an advanced-services network to serve the entire California K-20 education and research community.

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