



For more information, please contact
Jennifer Marshall-Higgins,
Communications Coordinator
At 254.297.1198 254.666.0823 Fax
jhiggins@esc12.net www.esc12.net

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(July 27, 2006)

REGION 12 EDUCATORS PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL COLLABORATION THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCING

WACO, TEXAS — Pam Hamilton, sixth-grade teacher from Hillsboro ISD, and Kim Pearce, sixth-grade teacher from Gatesville ISD, will present “Teacher Testimonials: Best Practice in Action” at this year’s JAZZ Project summer training July 31-Aug. 4, hosted at ESC Region 12, 2101 W. Loop 340, Waco, Texas.

This presentation is just one of the many sessions that will be offered during “JAZZing Up Your Curriculum with Videoconferencing,” a project created to enhance learning through the introduction of videoconferencing. This special event will be team taught by colleagues in four states who effectively use this integrative technology in the classroom.

Videoconference (VC) connections between classes open up a whole new world of collaborative learning for students. Teachers will learn how to create a curriculum-based project and find a videoconference partner to connect with to increase student interest and achievement. During the week-long event, teachers will also learn about and use other multimedia and emerging technologies such as Moodle, Inspiration, Blogging, Wikis, PowerPoint and more.

ESC Region 12 will team up with teachers from El Paso, Mt. Pleasant, Rosenberg and Temple, as well as sites in St. Louis, Mo., Berrien Springs, Mich., and New York City, N.Y., to learn about structures for projects and other educational uses of videoconferencing. Teachers from Gatesville, Groesbeck, Killeen, Moody, Star and Temple ISD will also participate in this unique training through ESC Region 12.

Each day will include a simulated student event, sample projects, guest speakers and group work time. Teachers will work in small groups with others via videoconference, chat and online forums. On Tuesday, Hamilton and

-more-

Pearce will present how teachers can use collaborative projects to enhance and enrich curriculum.

Partner sites:

Texas: Paris ISD, Lamar CISD, El Paso ISD, Temple ISD and ESC Region 12, Waco

Michigan: Berrien County ISD

Missouri: Cooperating School Districts, St. Louis, Mo.

New York: New York City Department of Education, Region 4, Queens, N.Y.

For more information, please contact Roxanne Glaser at rglasser@esc12.net or 254/297-1150 or visit <http://www.thejazzproject.org/>.

About ESC Region 12

One of 20 centers throughout Texas, the Education Service Center (ESC) Region 12 provides professional training and technical assistance for the purpose of improving student performance for all students. Based in Waco, with offices in Copperas Cove, Corsicana, Goldthwaite, Hillsboro, and Teague, the ESC Region 12's service area includes Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Freestone, Hamilton, Hill, Lampasas, Limestone, Mills, McLennan and Navarro counties.