



## *Online Subject Reference Databases*

*Executive Summary*

4/30/03

### **Where do we want to be?**

SAISD wants to continue providing students and teachers quality, dependable online reference databases that:

- Provide primary content areas with continued filtered access to quality resources.
- Enable the district to be cost-effective
- Allow the district to remain in compliance with the requirements of the state technology applications curriculum and the state-sponsored Texas Library Connection (TLC)

### **Where have we been?**

For the last few years, SAISD has subscribed to ESC-20's Facts on File service, a component of the Educational Resources & Media Cooperative membership. This service provides teachers and students access to interdisciplinary, interactive databases on a wide range of subjects, such as American history, science, multicultural studies, women's studies, geography, and careers.

It also gives librarians, teachers, students, and researchers fast, instant access to the binder content they've come to rely on. SAISD students have access to eight main databases: Science, History, Curriculum Resource Centers, Multicultural, Geography, Health, Career Guidance, and Forms. Due to staffing shortages in Library Services, adequate professional development has not been provided for district staff. As a result, this resource has been under-utilized.

### **Where are we?**

ESC 20 continues to include Facts On File in its package to SAISD. In researching services provided by the ESC 20, Facts On File usage statistics did not satisfactorily reflect academic level usage or which databases are most used by district students and teachers.

### **How are we going to get there?**

- Contract with an independent source—aside from ESC-20—to provide the same or similar electronic reference databases to support the SAISD curriculum for students and teachers at lower cost.
- Develop an RFP for these services by May 1, 2003 and seek Board approval by July 2003, and implement by August, 2003.
- Include database usage in the CMS Scope & Sequence by teachers and students. .

**How will we know if we are getting there?**

- Evaluate the product each grading period.
- Compile an annual summative usage report of each database and its implementation within the curriculum. Include database usage in the CMS Scope & Sequence by teachers and students.
- Expect accurate reporting by the contracted source for this product.

**When should we be there?**

- By 2003-2004 school year.

**What are the resources needs/issues?**

- Funding for initiative.
- Providing professional development to ITLS staff, C&I staff, Campus CICs and Library Media Specialist.
- Unlimited Access and Remote Access
- Continues Tech support from vendor

**POLICY CITATION**

**BACKGROUND  
INFORMATION AND  
SIGNIFICANT ISSUES;  
PREVIOUS BOARD OR  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
ACTION**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**FISCAL IMPACT**

**PROCEDURAL AND  
REPORTING  
IMPLICATIONS**

**EXECUTIVE/CABINET  
TEAM MEMBER(S)  
RESPONSIBLE**

**SAISD Accountability, Technology and Management Information Services Department**

***Technology Project Information Form***

<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	Online Subject Reference Databases			
<b>ATMIS DEPARTMENT SPONSOR</b>	Miguel Guhlin, Director, Instructional Services			
<b>ATMIS PROJECT SPONSOR</b>	Thelma Celestino, Director, Library Media Services Miguel Guhlin, Director, Instructional Services			
<b>POST-IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT OWNER</b>	Thelma Celestino, Director, Library Media Services Miguel Guhlin, Director, Instructional Services			
<b>VISION 2005 REFERENCE</b>	<p><b>Vision 2005 Technology:</b>  <b>Strategy 1:</b> Enable the students, teachers, and administrators of SAISD to effectively integrate technology into the teaching and learning in the District.  <b>Strategy 4:</b> Create a seamless integration of feedback loops among parent, community, and schools where parents and community interact to create content with students and learning takes place continuously at school and at home.</p>			
<b>ATMIS STAFF AFFECTED</b>	Instructional Technology and Library Services Network Services HelpDesk District Initiatives and Special Projects			
<b>OTHER SAISD DEPARTMENT(S) AFFECTED</b>	Curriculum & Instruction			
<b>PROJECT COST ESTIMATE</b>				
<b>ONE-TIME</b>	Facts on File Grades 1-12 \$36,490 per year Month of August is free and contract would start on September.			
<b>RECURRING</b>				
<b>ADDITIONAL STAFFING REQUIRED</b>	Vendor			
<b>CRITICAL DEADLINE</b>	August, 2003			
<b>FACILITY REQUIREMENTS</b>	<u>none</u>			
<b>SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b>
<b>VENDOR NAME</b>				
<b>BUDGETED FUNDS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET CODE</b>				
<b>EXISTING PROJECTS RELATED TO</b>	<u>none</u>			

**CONSEQUENCE OF  
NON-APPROVAL**

- Students, of all levels, will not learn to use technology and practice the research skills as required at the district and state levels and fail to achieve technology literacy as outlined in *No Child Left Behind* legislation.
  - The Technology Applications, as do Language Arts & Reading, TEKS require students to learn and have accessibility to online databases for research purposes.
  - The Texas Library Connection requires each participating library, which is all of the district libraries, to offer electronic and/or online databases.
  - The district would be out of compliance with the TLC and with the state technology curriculum.
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