

*****MEDIA ALERT*****

**EL SEGUNDO TAKES CHARGE OF EDUCATION WITH \$300,000 PLEDGE
TO BRING THE INTERNET TO ALL ITS K-12 STUDENTS**

Businesses and residents of El Segundo, a city just south of LAX with about 16,000 residents, aren't waiting for the government to supply what the community's school kids need. Their El Segundo Educational Foundation is putting up \$300,000 to bring Internet capabilities to its nearly 3,000 K-12 students.

WHAT: The El Segundo Educational Foundation will make a donation of the first \$100,000 at its "Treasure Chest for Education" event.

WHEN: Monday, February 28, 2000 - from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. The presentation of the \$100,000 check to the El Segundo Unified School District will happen at 8:20 p.m.

WHERE: McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant, 2101 Rosecrans Avenue at Nash Street, El Segundo, 310/ 416-1123.

WHO: The El Segundo Educational Foundation will present the first of three annual checks for \$100,000 to El Segundo Unified School District's superintendent, Dr. Bill Watkins and vice president of the school board, Chris Powell, in front of hundreds of event attendees. The school district is aware of the \$300,000 pledge for the WAN, but it has not yet been announced to the public.

WHY: The donation will be used to install a Wide Area Network that will connect four El Segundo schools and district office to the Internet. This donation brings the Internet and inter-school connectivity to the 2,854 K-12 school kids in the El Segundo Unified School District. Bringing the Internet to the students will allow them to do research, take virtual field trips, and will give them the opportunity to learn essential technology skills.

WHY: There are no funds available from the state to pay for a Wide Area Network for El Segundo public school kids, so the El Segundo Educational Foundation has stepped up to the task, with the goal of making their schools as technologically advanced as any in the nation. Cash donations received to date from local companies include \$10,000 each from Chevron, Continental Development Corporation, Epson Electronics, and Hughes Space and Communications.

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