



Online News

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AESA Online News **February 25, 2008**

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1. AESA NEWS

TWO NEW AESA BUSINESS PARTNERS: COMOTIV AND TRANSACT

Two companies joined the AESA as Business Partners just prior to the 2007 Annual Conference at Tampa. Both companies, ComotivSystems and TransAct, had been AESA Business Members.

To become a Business Partner, a company undergoes a business review including a due diligence process completed by the AESA's national legal counsel, Patton and Boggs, an international law firm headquartered in Washington DC with extensive public policy experience. If accepted, each Business Partner then negotiates a contract with AESA for program deliverables, which also include AESA support and sponsorship of programs and the Annual Conference.

ComotivSystems provides the Comotiv Connect network of Internet-based point-to-point video and audio communications, along with document file sharing and other communications opportunities including desktop sharing sessions, text chats, or simply having the same up-to-date documents in a Collaboration Room's workspace, Comotiv Connect can be an invaluable tool for efficiently and effectively connecting administrators, teachers, students, and the community.

TransACT has developed the ActPoint K-12 Decision RoadMaps. ActPoint, co-marketed as an AESA branded product, allows federal, state, and local statutes, policies, and procedures to be mapped for ease of use, transforming the complex regulations into simple steps and action plans for better and consistent execution by front-line staff.

TransAct is well known nationally for its Translation Library of policy documents that provide a valuable service for school districts serving communities with diverse languages spoken at home, including the Parent Notification collections online libraries of legally-reviewed notices, forms and guidance, each designed to make parent communication consistent, accurate and affordable for districts of all sizes. These, and other documents, may be integrated into the ActPoint RoadMaps for instant access.

The websites of ComotivSystems and TransAct, along with other AESA Business Partners, are linked from the AESA website:

http://www.aesa.us/bus_members.html.

The direct connection to ComotivSystems is: www.comotiv.com .

The direct connection to the TransAct ActPoint is: www.actpoint.com .

ComotivSystems and TransAct join AESA's other Business Partners Catapult Online, <http://www.catapultlearning.com>;
eSchool Mall, <http://www.eschoolmall.com/>;
Laureate Education, <http://www.laureate-inc.com>;
Strategic Energy, <http://www.strategicenergy.com>;
Summit Energy, <http://www.summitenergy.com>;
and Trinity Education Group.

EIGHT NEW BUSINESS MEMBERS

Eight companies have joined the AESA as Business Members since the 2007 Annual Conference at Tampa. Those companies provide a variety of services for ESAs, and opportunities to integrate products or services into programs ESAs provide to their local school districts. The new Business Members are: AcademicBiz, Grace Global Corporation, LightSpeed Systems, McGraw-Hill, Scholar Centric, SchoolCity, Solution Tree, and The Conover Company. The website for each company is linked from the AESA website: www.aesa.us/bus_members.html.

SAVE THE DATE postcard now available on AESA's website:

http://www.aesa.us/Conference/AESA_Save_the_Date_2008.pdf

AESA Annual Conference

December 3 - 6, 2008

J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort

Phoenix, Arizona

2. New Job Posting

The Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) is seeking applications for the position of executive director to replace Dr. Nancy G. Allmon, who will be retiring September 30, 2008. The BCIU, with a staff of 1,100 employees, serves 18 school districts with student populations ranging from 1,100 to 17,500. The BCIU is located near Reading, Pennsylvania, about 60 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

The successful candidate will need to be a recognized leader demonstrating high energy, an open style, and unquestionable honesty and integrity. He or she must be an effective communicator and have a proven entrepreneurial approach to customer service. An earned doctorate and successful experience as a district and/or educational service agency administrator are preferred.

Deadline for application is April 4, 2008. Application and related materials can be found at www.berksiu.org. Please direct questions to Karen Gokay, Esq., director of human resources, at kargok@berksiu.org or 610-987-8470.

3. From our Members

NAMTC Leadership Summit Announced

The National Association of Media and Technology Centers (an institutional member of AESA) announces its 9th Leadership Summit to be held April 22-25, 2008 in Syracuse, NY. This is a unique national conference developed to cater to regional tech coordinators who provide technology and deliver content to individual schools. For further information please visit www.NAMTC.org

4. From the U.S. Department of Education

Bush Budget Proposes Level Funding of Education Dept.

On February 4, President Bush released his fiscal year 2009 budget request, including \$59.2 billion in discretionary funding for the U.S. Department of Education. The request is the same as last year's appropriation. Emphasis is on strengthening the *No Child Left Behind Act*, challenging high school students with rigorous coursework, and making college more affordable -- by reducing funding in other areas, eliminating 47 programs totaling \$3.3 billion, and eliminating 759 earmarks totaling \$328 million.

For more information go to:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget09/summary/>.

State-by-state tables are available at

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/>.

5. Recent Reports

Growing Up Online

This PBS Frontline Documentary covers the effect of the Internet on our youth. Ninety percent of today's teens are online and they represent the first generation to come of age in the virtual world.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/kidsonline/>