

Colorado's Academy District 20 Selects eCollege as Best Solution for New Online High School

DENVER, October 27, 2008—High school students across Colorado will soon have access to education anytime and anywhere, the result of a new partnership between eCollege and Academy District 20, the school district serving residents of the U.S. Air Force Academy and parts of northern Colorado Springs.

D20 Online, a diploma-granting online high school currently in its pilot phase, offers courses to allow students to earn their diplomas on a more flexible schedule than traditional schools. Since August, D20 Online has been serving local Academy District 20 students, including traditional, non-traditional and home-schooled students.

Academy District 20 selected eCollege, a Pearson company, as the best solution to help the new online high school grow quickly throughout Colorado. eCollege, based in Denver, offers a highly reliable and engaging teaching and learning environment, centered around world class service and technology that hosts and supports some of the largest colleges, universities and virtual schools.

“The goal of the district is to create a choice virtual high school that can award diplomas through fully online courses to students who come to us with unique academic and personal needs,” said Rick Tanski, D20 Online administrator and teacher. “With eCollege’s reliable online platform, we anticipate that D20 Online will serve students across the state by the 2009-2010 school year.”

Funded by an educational grant from the U.S. Department of Defense, the district originally envisioned a virtual high school that would target the students of military families who often transfer between schools. But Tanski and his team soon realized that D20 Online could benefit a wider range of students, including Colorado’s home-schooled students.

“We are committed to broadening access to education for all students, using the best online learning solution available,” said Matt Leavy, CEO of eCollege. “With eCollege, D20 Online will reach more students in an engaging environment that fully supports instructors and students, enabling more students to achieve their learning goals.”

About eCollege -- eCollege, a Pearson company (LSE: PSON, NYSE: PSO), is a leading provider of a comprehensive course management system and associated services to postsecondary institutions and K12 education. The company provides an on-demand eLearning solution that supports many of the most successful fully online degree, certificate/diploma and professional development programs in the country, and increasingly, around the world. Pearson, the international media company, is the global leader in educational publishing, assessment, information and services, helping people of all ages to learn at their own pace, in their own way. In addition to Education, Pearson’s primary operations include the Financial Times Group and the Penguin Group. For more information, visit www.ecollege.com or www.pearson.com.

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