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HEADLINE:

Parent Teacher Interviews using the Web

Parent teacher interview time is critical for parents wanting to understand their child's progress at school but all too often the current system for arranging interview times doesn't get the most out of this valuable process.

At last help is at hand via a web based system now being adopted by schools that allows parents to book interview time slots from home or work to suit their own availability.

Country Net Solutions has developed an easy to use system which gives parents a full picture of time slots available for all of their children's teachers and classes. Teachers can also highlight particular students whose parents they want to meet.

Security of information is maintained by password protected access for parents or guardians approved by the school. Parents can only see details for their own children.

Schools that have implemented this economical web based program called Parent Teacher Organiser (PTO), have seen significant increases in attendance by parents and a positive increase in communication with parents and students.

And for those parents who cannot access the web at home, work or the local library, schools are making computers available on site.

Positive outcomes have also flowed on to school staff because a majority of parents are taking advantage of being able to make bookings to suit themselves.

The time savings and convenience of the system has been a real positive for all parties, and through use of the web, the parent teacher interview process has at last moved into the 21st Century.

Supporting Information:

1. "Parents reported that they found the system easy to understand and much more flexible and convenient than our previous manual system for booking interviews. Teachers reported a much higher booking rate than has previously been the case."

-Gary Gannell, Principal, Nowra Christian School. 4th April, 2007

(Phone: 02 4422 1199)

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Supporting Information cont.

2. "...Parents can log onto this booking system using any computer that has internet access and on entering their surname and pin number see each of their children and their teachers and make their own bookings with the teachers they want to see at their own convenience.

Having used the system in our College I can heartily endorse it as an incredibly efficient, friendly and labour saving device for organizing parent/teacher interviews...."

-Peter E Victor-Gordon, Principal, Gosford Christian College (**now** known as St Philips Christian College). 1st August, 2006 (Phone: 02 4324 4744)

Information about Country Net Solutions

The Company : Country Net Solutions is a Gosford based company which has been working with schools for over 9 years supplying hardware, IT services , conducting network audits, IT staff audits and assisting IT staff in solving system problems. CEO, Simon Totonjian, has served on school boards for 15 years, including 10 years as chairman.

Country Net Solutions web site link is attached: www.countrynet.net.au

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Examples of other schools using the PTO software to improve parent teacher communications are :

All Saints Anglican School, Phone (07) 5587 0352. Contact Pat Varley

Maitland Christian School, Phone (02) 4933 7633. Contact Ruth Neville

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