

Virtual Teacher Jan 22, 2009

Shepard Smith, on the Fox Network (Sarasota, Fl, Ch 37-Bright house), televised a (2) minute segment, depicting (4) students, taking Spanish lessons, via a "Virtual Teacher".

Said segment, had Reporter Marianne Silber, discussing the network with School Superintendent Marti Rizzuto, in Tarrant, Alabama, the benefits derived from tying all High Schools in the State, together. This was done, via a dedicated Electronic line, (network) ... as taught by TTEC.

Because this school only had (4) students desiring to learn Spanish, the School could NOT hire, a full-time teacher. Naturally, these students did NOT have the benefit of an Adjunct Teacher. However, since ALL students were issued laptop computers, that gave each student the means, to type in questions, and E Mail them to the Virtual Teacher.

The Virtual Teacher would then respond by E Mail. It was NOT made clear, whether only the one student received the response, (via E Mail), or all students, from ALL schools, heard and saw the questions written, and the answers, thereto. As so often is the case, perhaps several, or many students, had the same question.

Note: This situation of only a few students to be taught, was envisioned by the author, in the Dominican Republic proposal, in (1978). More recently, (2007), such was also hypothesized/could occur, in the Philippines, by the Chinese mass educational initiative. The Cyber Educational Project, (C E P), as disclosed, is contained in the Addendum of the main TTEC document.

This foray, into the idea of educating students by a Virtual Teacher, (hopefully a top-notch teacher ... a Master Teacher), dealt mainly for educating the masses, (en masse). It also could apply to extremely small classes, [under (10) students], as well. It originally was also directed, to include, remote, sparsely-populated areas, (hence small schools).

Students studying, without the benefit of a classroom teacher (Adjunct Teacher), is NOT the ideal situation, NOR the main use, as envisioned by TTEC, but, it is far better than NO education at all, NOR an attempt to educate children, with a non-credentialed teacher!

Having said that, the fact that all schools are connected together, yields many of the benefits ascribed to TTEC, anyhow!