



For Immediate Release: Monday, June 21, 2010

**Indiana Department of Education Partners with
BuildYourOwnCurriculum on Strategic Initiative to Address
Common Core Standards**

(St. Louis, MO) – Education Technology Partners and School Software Group today announce their partnership with the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) in utilizing BuildYourOwnCurriculum (BYOC) to create statewide English/Language Arts and Mathematics Curriculum Maps.

In preparation for adoption of and transition to the Common Core State Standards for English/Language Arts and Mathematics, the IDOE will work with 66 teachers and content experts from Indiana school districts and universities this summer to develop curriculum maps in the BuildYourOwnCurriculum program. The curriculum maps will be available online and accessible to Indiana teachers and administrators for use as a starting point to plan their instruction. The first set of maps, which will be available this August, will contain the current Indiana Standards. The second set of maps will be released in the spring of 2011 and will include both the Indiana Standards and the Common Core State Standards. The maps will allow teachers to smoothly transition from one set of standards to the other while ensuring any existing content gaps between the standards are addressed. The third set of maps will include only the Common Core State Standards. Training on curriculum mapping and on the Common Core Standards will be part of the rollout process.

Dr. Schauna Findlay, Director of Curriculum and Instruction for IDOE, indicated that BYOC was recognized for its ease of use for educators and conversion-friendly format for other providers of curriculum mapping tools. More information will be made available on the IDOE Learning Connection website (<https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov>) BuildYourOwnCurriculum Community.

“As the exclusive distribution partner for BYOC in the state of Indiana, we’re excited and honored to partner with IDOE on the important effort” Randy Jennings, founder and president of Education Technology Partners, said. “It’s truly a ‘best-of-breed’ solution and will prove to be the perfect curriculum development tool for the IDOE to utilize as they create state curriculum models that will benefit every school in Indiana.”

BYOC offers a unique approach to the process of curriculum mapping by providing impactful instructional delivery, inter-school and intra-district communication, as well as, logical, common sense processes. At the heart of the solution is the ability to provide every member of a district's learning community with on-demand curriculum information. Fully customizable, BYOC can be configured to follow the philosophy of Understanding by Design, Bloom's Taxonomy or other district specific curriculum development, alignment and implementation approaches.

About Education Technology Partners

Founded by a former educator in 2003 and headquartered in St. Louis, MO, Education Technology Partners was started with one goal in mind: to bring to schools the most effective educational technology available in the market. Applying rigorous standards based on our own experience in the classroom, knowledge of the needs of our education clients and input from fellow educators, we research the ever-changing and sometimes overwhelming array of educational technology. This rigorous process allows us to identify "Best of Breed" technology solutions – solutions that stand apart from the rest due to their proven ability to improve student learning and teacher effectiveness. Additional information can be found at www.edtechpartners.com or request at solutions@edtechpartners.com.

About School Software Group

The School Software Group (SSG) is an educational technology products and services organization headquartered in Appleton, WI. Since 2004, SSG has partnered directly with school districts and state education agencies to develop innovative, web-based curriculum development and assessment solutions. The combination of SSG's technical skills and the educational expertise of the company's partner districts support solutions that are practical, effective, and focused on the real-world needs of teachers and students. Additional information about School Software Group and its products can be found at www.schoolssoftwaregroup.com.

###

For press inquires please contact:
Leslie Olsen, President
Olsen Communications Consultants, LLC
www.olsencc.net
317-508-6065