

Student Monitor Technology Program Benefits Brazilian Children



Partners in Learning Customer Reference

Computer labs provide a valuable learning environment for children. With the help of Partners in Learning, students in Brazil can become computer student monitors, learning useful technology and leadership skills that help them in school and the outside world.

Ayrton Senna Institute

Web site: <http://www.senna.com.br/>

Country: Brazil

Region: South America

Industry: Education

Partners in Learning Programs

Integrating ICT Skills into Teaching and Learning

Pathfinder

Deploying Student Technical Support Solutions using Microsoft Office XP for Learning Projects

Partners in Learning Manager

Ana Teresa Ralston, Adriana Manetti

E-mail: aralston@microsoft.com

E-mail: adrianam@microsoft.com

Customer Needs

The State of São Paulo wanted its school computer labs to be more productive and reliable for students, teachers, and the community at large. Recent studies had concluded that close to 85 percent of all downtime at the labs resulted from minor issues such as software downloading, reinstalling printers, and rebooting computers. With basic training, most of these issues could be resolved by on-site help. The state also felt that by engaging students in computer technology, it could help them build leadership skills and provide them with professional skills needed for the labor market.

Solution

The Ayrton Senna Institute, a non-governmental organization headquartered in São Paulo, works to improve educational development conditions for children and youth. Partnering with Microsoft, the institute created the "Your School at 2000 per Hour" program. The goal of the program is to restructure the state's curriculum to develop competencies and implement interactive learning methodologies and management that help students, teachers, and administrators.

The Microsoft Help Desk Student Program, a corporation agreement between Microsoft and the public sector, helps students acquire skills such as resolving computer issues or setting up equipment to support teachers in classroom projects. In 2004, close to 130 students and teachers attended multiple workshops, lectures, and group dynamic activities at a local technical research institute from UNESP (State University of São Paulo).

Partners in Learning

For more information about Partners in Learning, please visit: www.microsoft.com/resources/casestudies

Help-desk students during training.



"I am very happy with this opportunity. I feel as if there are several steps that I am now able to climb that I am sure will help me get ahead in life."

Yhasmani Barcelos Cabral
Student, Dom Otaviano de Albuquerque State School

"Besides bringing a possibility of digital inclusion, the knowledge acquired in the course resulted in a good performance in the selection. Not to mention that now the help-desk students have a monthly income obtained by their own efforts."

Viviane Barcelos Bastos
Director, Dom Otaviano de Albuquerque State School

In every location where the program meets, Ayrton Senna works at rethinking school curriculum, using Microsoft® resources, to engage students in the program and processes. The instruction places a high emphasis on student/teacher interaction and cooperation as a way to enhance learning processes at schools and improve the use of computer labs. The Microsoft Help Desk Student Program also has a Web site, supported by Partners In Learning to interact with the community.

Benefits

Programs within the Information and Communication Technology leadership training for students and teachers, such as the Microsoft Help Desk Student Program, do more than demystify technology for students and teachers. The skill-building programs and distance learning sessions help attendees become educators for their schools and communities. The state anticipates that the original 130 students will reach an additional 3,000 students this way.

Getting Off on the Right Foot

Yhasmani Barcelos Cabral, a 15-year-old student from Rio de Janeiro City, knew that participating in the Microsoft Help Desk Student Program would bring benefits to both his professional and personal life. What he did not imagine was that the results of his efforts would show so quickly. The young help-desk student was one of those selected by the Department of Education of Rio de Janeiro to manage the computer science lab at his school, Dom Otaviano de Albuquerque State School, in Campos de Goytacazes.

Cabral attended the department's initiative, called "State Program of Informatics Applied to Education," during August and September 2005. Cabral plans to use what he learned from the experience in the future. For example, when vacancies are filled, students with good marks on tests are sent to other teaching institutions in the same town. "I am very happy with this opportunity", says Cabral. "I feel as if there are several steps that I am now able to climb that will help me get ahead in life."

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