

A Victorian Secondary College leads the teaching and learning innovation revolution!



A Year 10 Bentleigh Secondary College, "in class" at home on Sunday.

Bentleigh Secondary College made Victorian Government education history on Sunday 13th November when technology teachers Steve Sandford and Barb Duncan, along with several year 10 students, initiated an on-line class from their homes using the latest digital communication technology-Webex.

Webex communications Inc. delivers on line collaboration tools such as discussion forums, document sharing, on line meetings, web conferencing and video conferencing services.

Hosting a meeting through the on-line Webex Collaboration portal provided to the college by Re-Engineering Australia (REA), the teachers designed and customised the class and taught from their dining room tables!

At 1.30pm the students received a reminder via their email, they logged in using the password organised by the teachers and the class began.

Using the webex real-time collaborative portal, students can be given control of specific documents and applications which they can manipulate in real time, alter the content, add text, modify and save. They actually took

control of the host computer and the cursor on the teacher's screen!

On this Sunday the students looked at a CAD drawing of an F1 race car and modified the front aerofoil to bring the design into required specifications.

The car had been previously designed at school by students using CATIA software (computer aided three dimensional interactive application).

The students gained a great insight into Design and Technology and CAD application, as used in industry.

Having had REA Webex host privileges since mid August 2005, Mr. Sandford, Ms. Duncan, and students at Bentleigh Secondary College have instigated and set up collaborative sessions with the Concentric Engineering, REA, Parts on Demand (Rapid Prototyping and Selective Laser Sintering- SLS) and Trinity Grammar during Term 4, 2005.

Bentleigh Secondary College teachers and students have broken new ground in innovative teaching and learning and we expect to hear a lot more of them in the future!

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