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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARTNERS IN EDUCATION AND SBC'S NATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATIONS PARTNERSHIP AWARDS RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING
SOUTH JERSEY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP**
Atlantic ETTC Consortium Receives Prize

Washington DC, November 18, 2002 – SBC's National Telecommunications Partnership Awards program, sponsored by the SBC Foundation and the National Association of Partners in Education, this week recognizes the Atlantic ETTC Consortium based in southern New Jersey as a Honorable Mention Award-Winner in a competitive national program that recognizes exceptional educational partnerships that help teachers integrate telecommunications technology into classroom instruction. Atlantic ETTC Consortium was one of 13 organizations from across the country honored in the 2002 SBC National Telecommunications Partnership Award program.

Atlantic ETTC Consortium, which serves school districts and not-for-profit organizations in four counties in southern New Jersey, received a \$500 Cash Award. The partnership will be honored with other winners during the National Association of Partners in Education and International Partnership Network 2002 Global Partnership Summit on Learning, Employability and Citizenship which takes place in Washington, D.C., from November 20-23.

"Technology has changed the way we live, play, and learn," said Laura Sanford, president of the SBC Foundation. "Through the development of innovative partnership programs that integrate telecommunications technology into the classroom and curricula, community collaboratives are creatively and effectively reshaping the educational experience. "The SBC National Telecommunications Partnership Awards are important because they recognize those teachers and partnerships that effectively incorporate telecommunications technology into instructional activities," said Sanford. "It is extremely important to build new opportunities for learning through creativity and innovation in

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telecommunications. SBC recognizes and congratulates the Atlantic ETTTC Consortium for its achievements."

To win the award, Atlantic ETTTC Consortium demonstrated an exemplary history of collaboration among 56 school districts and not-for-profit organizations in Atlantic, Cape May, Ocean and Cumberland counties in southern New Jersey. The Consortium, managed by the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, has a strong six-year history of providing high-quality professional development for K-12 educators and the not-for-profit sector.

The SBC National Telecommunications Partnership Awards program was established in 1998 to recognize outstanding education partnerships that integrate telecommunications technology into classroom practice and document positive outcomes on student achievement and success. The awards support local efforts to improve teaching and learning by increasing access to information technologies and strengthening technology training programs.

***National Association of Partners in Education** is the only national education organization that focuses solely on developing and managing school partnerships. For more than 30 years, the organization has helped local leaders develop and manage business and community partnership programs for schools. Partners in Education and its diversified membership represent more than 7 million volunteers involved in more than 400,000 partnerships nationwide.*

***SBC Foundation** is the charitable giving arm of SBC Communications, Inc. and its family of companies. The SBC Foundation has supported the National Telecommunications Partnership Awards every year since 1998. Last year, SBC, through the SBC Foundation and other areas of corporate giving donated nearly \$99 million to support efforts that enrich and strengthen diverse communities nationwide. A significant percentage of SBC's philanthropic efforts help support innovative programs that emphasize the importance of integrating telecommunications in learning environments. The SBC Foundation also supports programs that increase access to information technologies, broaden technology training and professional skill development, and effectively integrate new technologies to enhance education and economic development -- especially among underserved populations.*

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