Case Study: Hoover High School

CCTE Program Teaches Students Video Production and Information Technologies.

Challenge:

The mission of the San Diego Unified School District's College, Career & Technical Education (CCTE) program is to prepare students for their future — " to improve student achievement by integrating core academic subjects with relevant, challenging technical and occupational knowledge."

Hoover High School in San Diego, CA, in conjunction with CCTE, established the Academy of Information Technology in 2003. This award winning program brings together local businesses and community leaders with students and teachers to create curriculums which develop advanced technology skills to help students with both college and career goals.

Although Hoover High School students were entering competitions and winning national honors for their film making, they were hampered by the lack of a studio production facility. Their instructor was limited to teaching classes using consumer cameras and outdated editing systems.

Solution:

PAC Engineering, as part of the team put together by Mesquite Architects, met with teacher John Michener and CCTE Program Specialist Mike Reynolds to address the needs and goals of the students at Hoover High. The objective was to design a production studio, editing suites and classrooms.

The new facility, which used existing classrooms, was redesigned from wall-to-wall and ceiling-to-floor to create a state-of-the-art facility. The remodel features a new High Definition system which includes a 3-camera studio engineered to eliminate exterior noise, and a control room big enough to allow all of the students to be involved in the production process. There are also 6 video editing stations and an audio suite running ProTools software.

Next to the video production classroom is an Information Technology lab, where IT students will work hand-in-hand with their production classmates, learning to stream video and set up sophisticated video networks.

The students shoot stories on their new HD field cameras and audio recorders, transfer the files to a shared storage system and edit them on the new Apple MacPro computers using the latest version of Final Cut. Edited programs are then sent back to the storage server, where the video server can playback the files for live or recorded programming broadcast over MATV, streaming networks and via an X20 billboard system.

Hoover High students are no longer limited by their old technology. This new system has improved the value of education, sharing of knowledge and collaboration using professional broadcast equipment.

Technologies:

- Ross Video Switcher
- EditShare Shared Storage
- Geevs Video Server
- Yamaha Mixer
- Apple Mac Pro Edit Work Stations
- Compix Character Generator
- RTS Intercom System
- Cobalt Distribution and Processing System
- AJA Frame Sync and Processing
- Sony Field Cameras