



01/16/2008

## Farragut school a computer trail-blazer

By TESS GRUBER NELSON

Staff Writer

The Farragut Community School District realizes the important role computers play in everyday lives and how much they are used on a daily basis to pay bills, communicate and look up valuable information.

That's why they implemented the Simplified Online Communication System, or SOCS, within their school.

"We are actually one of the oldest schools in the state of Iowa to have implemented SOCS. We implemented it four years ago," said Farragut Superintendent Jay Lutt. "It allows the school to have a website without maintenance, server storage and the confusion that often comes along with having a website."

SOCS provides school districts the ability to create and maintain an interactive Web presence with easy to use directions. SOCS is a fully functional website that needs no prior experience or lessons to operate.

"It is a very simple program. It is just so easy to use. Any teacher or staff member can do a web page in a matter of minutes."

Lutt said SOCS provided Farragut with the basic template and it was their task to fill in the blanks.

"We have everything from menus, activities, newsletters, school board minutes, photos, email, school forms, attendance records, grades and even podcasts on line."

Lutt said this website makes it easier for anyone involved in the district on all levels.

"The teachers are able to easily type up a newsletter about what is occurring in their classroom and parents can check to see what their children are doing at school as well as how well they are doing."

The site is even able to automatically translate information from English to a foreign language such as Spanish or French.

"It is just a really neat system. We have been very happy with it."

---

### Check it out

Those interested in checking out Farragut school's SOCS system can long on at this address:

[www.farragutschools.org](http://www.farragutschools.org)