

I am coming from Medical High School **Ante Kuzmanic** Zadar as a teacher of Croatian language and History of Art.

In this presentation, I will not be presenting our existing Web pages, but rather the process used to create them as well as the final benefits resulting from it. I created these pages from scratch without the assistance of a programmer for research purposes and wish to expose teachers and students to the possibilities of learning on the Internet.

During my 15 years of teaching High School, I have observed interests within the educational system, and amongst teachers, in respect to the acceptance of innovations, and especially towards new technologies and methods. I understand that upgrading of School's equipment, environment, seminars and presentations will be a worthless venture if the students and teachers are not interested in this.

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Reasons to start this project

1. In a Medical High School, as a professional school students have 1 1/2 Information Technology curriculum per week, in only one of their school years. Therefore student's computer and Internet skills are insufficient.
2. Student's ability to obtain future medical titles and positions are unthinkable with no computer and Internet skills.
3. The majority of students and teachers can't afford computer and Internet accesses at home, while computers in school are being under utilised.
4. Teachers have to motivate students to accept new technologies, however, their Internet skills are even worse than their students.
5. Since medical education is very specific, Internet is excellent tool for finding new educational contents, exchanging ideas, knowledge and educational programs of similar schools and institutions.

Twelve years ago, I began my self-education in computers, and later on enhanced my knowledge through seminars and courses. During this time, I came to realise the importance of setting in motion the extensive process of computer and Internet usage in school.

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First impulses to start project

1. When our school has got a new IT computer room, it was used at only 4-5% of its capacity.
2. Students showed an interest in the Internet but they had no means to access it.
3. After attending CUC 99, I began thinking about the possibilities of learning on the Internet in our environment.
4. Finally, demand to present our school, as a way good presentation because Zadar is town where there is deficient of several hundreds of students for registration in the first grads every year.

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Launching the Project

From all of this, idea has been crystallised and that is how to stimulate my colleagues, workers at School, for learning of basic computer skills.

First I trained a few ambitious colleagues on the usage of multi-media presentations. Their new method intrigued other teachers, and there was demand to organise computer and Internet courses.

In addition, I gathered a group of six students who were skilled in the use of computers and with them I processed students grades at the end of semester, published school magazine *Elija*, materials and research for SEMEP, scripts etc.

After I conferred my views from CUC 99 before the School Board, I presented the School's Web pages and CD-ROM project as the informatics education, with a focus on education on the Internet. The project was accepted with much enthusiasm.

Fortunately, the Principal was in favour of this project and he gave it priority in addition to offering full financial and moral support.

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Implementation

IDEA – To start up project through teaching and out of curriculum activities, where students, teachers and other would learn basic computer and Internet skills, and get knowledge on Internet through games, creation of WEB pages, where they could also be trained or they can learn themselves using the Internet.

There are **computer and Internet COURSES**, with objective need to introduce teachers and students with basic computer and Internet skills.

I created **Web's FRAME** using HTML and Java, and with small group of students I began to create pages, giving them full autonomy and let them use their creativity. Students and teachers interest for gathering data and creating material increased.

GROUPS OF INTEREST were created according to teachers and students professions and interest. Every group, led by teacher, were concentrated on their special areas (i.e. Biology teacher led creating of ecology pages, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physics and Biology teachers led SEMEP project pages, Coach has followed sport club pages, English teacher led students with translations etc.)

Student's pages were the culmination of the project's success because students from every class wanted to make their own WEB page. Unfortunately that part of Project started near to the end of the school year and only four classes made their WEB pages, still now.

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Positive experiences

1. Approximately 50% of teachers gathered basic computer skills and started using the Internet. They discovered innovations usable in classes. Some teachers are initiating some projects within their courses.
2. Students create Web pages; some of them learn new programs and share knowledge with other students.
3. Teachers and students induct co-operation with other schools and similar institutions, especially abroad. Sharing of knowledge, experiences and acquaintance become dominant in classes.

4. Access to new sources is now day-to-day and common and school facilitates free access to Internet in IT computer room.
5. Most of the teachers are using new technologies, especially multimedia CD-ROM presentations. It is very visible in Anatomy and some professional subjects, English and Geography classes. Croatian language teachers are preparing to create their classes Web pages during this school year.

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Negative experiences

There were no negative experiences because School accepted the Project, but I would like to separate:

1. It was a huge problem to initiate teacher's interest.
2. Gathering adequate literature and software.
3. Project required a lot of spare time, with questionable compensation.

Now I'm going to present you School WEB pages but only the basic part. That will be the pages created by students and teachers themselves.

SEVERAL WEB PAGES

Conclusion:

We realised the aim by this Project:

We succeeded relatively easy and amusing to move informatics education of students and teachers from "dead point",

We stimulated lot of innovations, what can be seen in average school education,
That's the way of new processes of learning using the Internet.