

*Press Release
For Immediate Release*

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**Central Indiana Linux Users Group hosts
IN State Education Technology leader who will present on
the success of Open Source Software in Indiana Schools**

CINLUG, central Indiana's premier resource for Open Source Software information, education and advocacy, is pleased to announce that their speaker for the November 1st meeting will be Mr. Mike Huffman, Special Assistant to the Superintendent for Technology, Indiana Department of Education. The meeting will take place at the Ritz Charles Conference Center in Carmel, IN at 7pm. This event is free and open to the public.

Under the leadership of Dr. Suellen Reed, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mike Huffman and a team of technology focused educators, Indiana has led the nation in the introduction of Open Source Software into Indiana's High Schools. By the end of the 2006-2007 school year, 80 schools and 80,000 students will be participating in the 1:1 Computing Initiative he developed called Indiana ACCESS (Affordable Classroom Computers for Every Secondary Student).

The early focus of the 1:1 Computing Initiative has been high school language arts programs. There, students are able to spend more time reading and writing using computers because every student has a computer they can use. Formerly, students were forced to share computers, schedule their use and wait. That is no longer a problem.

The near term potential savings attributable to the use of Open Source Software in Indiana schools could exceed \$100 million. Open Source Software is freely available. Every student, regardless of economic circumstances, is able to use it without any cost whatsoever. Open Source Software empowers educators to deliver powerful computer training and experience to students for savings of up to 99% over the cost of closed source, proprietary systems.

Many Open Source Software products are compatible with expensive alternatives such as Microsoft Windows XP and Microsoft Office XP which includes Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint. Open Source Software keeps the familiar user interface with these other programs to reduce training problems and to prepare students to work in jobs after they graduate.

CINLUG is making CDs with Open Source Software available for free. Visit www.CINLUG.ORG for more information.

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About CINLUG, Inc.

The Central Indiana Linux Users Group, Inc. is central Indiana's premier organization dedicated to promoting the use of Open Source Software. Regular meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Visit www.CINLUG.org for topics, schedule and location. CINLUG is a tax-exempt/501(c)(3) charitable/educational corporation.