

# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Verbum Dei High School Chooses eLibrary™ Web-friendly Database To Support Student Research and Learning**

*Remote access allows students and teachers to find articles  
and information from home*

Los Angeles, July 14, 2005 — Verbum Dei High School announced today the availability at school and home of a web-delivered reference and research tool – eLibrary – that can be used by students for homework, research assignments, and individual learning needs. eLibrary – an easy-to-master general reference resource – delivers essential reference materials for K-12 students.

Using keyword and natural language queries, students can search the database to locate reliable information and images from not only magazines and newspapers, but also from books, maps, images, and transcripts. The publications and images correlate closely with local curriculum, providing assistance in Business & Communications, Current Events, Geography, Government, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Technology.

eLibrary includes many unique titles: *National Geographic* and *The Hutchinson Dictionary*, and hundreds of full-text national, regional, and international newspapers, current and historic maps, health information, more than 190 reference books in full text, more than 500,000 photos and images, and much more. Most of these valuable resources are NOT available on the “free” web, much less in a single educational resource.

### **Educational research says that inquiry-based learning helps students succeed**

Information literacy skills such as those acquired through the use of research databases can help students succeed both in school and beyond. A much quoted educational report states:

- ☛ The ability to think and solve problems requires knowledge that is accessible and applied appropriately.
- ☛ Good learners articulate their own ideas, compare and contrast them with others, and provide factual reasons why they accept one point of view rather than another.

- ☛ Well-designed inquiry-based learning produces knowledge that can be widely applied and transferred to other problem-solving situations.

This information comes from the book How People Learn: Brain, Mind Experience, and School, John D. Bransford, et. al. National Research Council. 1999.

“A quality research tool such as eLibrary is a valuable service provided by the school library. It saves students time and frustration because it can provide much of the information needed for a research assignment in a single database: newspaper and magazine articles, reference books, pictures, maps, and radio and TV transcripts,” says Br. Jeff Allen, SJ , technology specialist.

### **Easy remote access for students (and others)**

This eLibrary license is available for use by 330 students and 25 teachers in the subscribing institution. And, at the school’s option, students may be able to access eLibrary from their homes or other remote locations. Users will simply log in to the eLibrary site and use a special username and password from their home computer. In addition, eLibrary resources are available for use by teachers, school administrators, and students to support independent study on various educational topics and issues.

“Because access is available offsite, Verbum Dei High School’s subscription is a valuable resource, open for use by lots of people with different information needs,” says Br. Jeff Allen, SJ. “The breadth and depth of coverage we’ve chosen ensures that searchers will find the information they need.”

###