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WFEE Grant Creates Digital Video Edit Suite at WHS

As a result of a generous grant from WFEE a new digital video edit suite has been established in the Technology Education Department at Winchester High School . The new facility benefits the students in the TV & Video Production classes taught by John Fusco as well as students throughout the high school as they create documentaries and special topic projects for their various classes. WinCAM also shares the facility to teach editing and production skills to adult members of the community. As part of this wonderful partnership, the students share access to WinCAM's television cable studio facility for class and independent production work.

Students use the new systems for a wide variety of production work for their classes, volunteer community affiliations, WinCAM productions, and PSAs (public service announcements). They have edited videos for several WHS sports teams and have shown them at banquets. Documentaries have been produced for such events as National History Day and the NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) accreditation. The WHS fall drama and spring musical productions have been shot, edited and aired in cooperation with WinCAM. Many shorter works have been entered in our TV & Video Production class video festival. Students may soon participate in regional video/film festivals and broadcast journalism competitions.

The new editing facility has been in operation for just over a year and it has revolutionized the often long and tedious editing process:

- Four Power Mac G4 dual processor computers make up the heart of the four editing stations and are enhanced with Lacie 200 Gigabyte external hard drives, Apple digital monitors, DVD burners and Sony video decks;
- The system is interconnected through a local router and an analog/digital converter;
- Two Panasonic 3CCD broadcast quality mini-DV video cameras were also made possible by the WFEE grant.

As a result, the school and the community now share access to state of the art editing facilities using some of the latest software available for beginner as well as professional production work, namely iMovie and Final Cut Pro. Additional software such as Photoshop, iPhoto, Livetype and iMusic run seamlessly to enhance the present system while High Definition (HD) editing is already on the horizon.

