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## Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Classroom Connect and HP Collaborate on Education Initiatives

Laptop learning programs benefit students and teachers

**BRISBANE, CA — May XX, 2005** — Classroom Connect, an educational technology division of Harcourt Education, and HP announced today the ongoing success of three large-scale laptop initiatives in Michigan, New Mexico, and South Carolina, providing some 24,000 students and teachers with comprehensive technology solutions and training.

“The strong results we are seeing in these programs is proof of the effectiveness of HP’s superior technology solutions along with Classroom Connect’s expertise in showing educators how to integrate technology into the curriculum to boost student achievement,” said Jim Bowler, President and CEO of Classroom Connect. “We look forward to working with HP on many more initiatives to provide premiere technology solutions for K-12 students and educators.”

The Classroom Connect and HP collaboration covers both state and district-wide programs, including Michigan’s Freedom to Learn initiative, New Mexico’s Laptop and Learning program, and Kershaw County, South Carolina’s district-wide technology integration project.

“Inventive technology programs like these are transforming both how students learn and how teachers teach. For more than 60 years, HP has been providing innovative technology solutions to our nation’s schools to improve learning and enhance student achievement,” said Cathy Martin, Director of Education and Government, HP. “HP’s technology solutions, combined with Classroom Connect’s professional development offering, help educators maximize the power of technology.”

The Michigan Department of Education’s Freedom to Learn initiative provides wireless HP notebook PCs to 20,357 of the state’s middle school students and 1,200 teachers across 95 school districts. HP enlisted Classroom Connect to provide *Connected Tech*, a K-8 student software package that teaches technology literacy skills and applications, as well as a series of workshops for Michigan’s teachers on integrating technology into their curriculum.

Similarly, the New Mexico Department of Education chose HP and Classroom Connect to implement its statewide Laptop and Learning program. In the first of this multi-year program, HP is providing 3,000 notebooks to seventh grade students throughout New Mexico. Classroom Connect is providing teachers with a combination of technology integration workshops and one-to-one coaching, utilizing HP notebooks in the instruction and learning process.



The HP and Classroom Connect solution was selected because the partnership delivered a customized, integrated technology and professional development package that met required state standards and objectives for the laptop project.

In Kershaw County, South Carolina, 1,200 HP notebooks are being distributed annually to all entering ninth grade students and their teachers. Classroom Connect is providing student software and technology professional development through its Laptop Institute. The Institute includes comprehensive workshops designed to integrate technology in classroom instruction and for online courses, mentoring for teachers, and an ongoing series of workshops for school leaders and administrators.

#### **About HP**

HP is a technology solutions provider to consumers, businesses and institutions globally. The company's offerings span IT infrastructure, global services, business and home computing, and imaging and printing. For the four fiscal quarters ended Jan. 31, 2005, HP revenue totaled \$81.8 billion. More information about HP (NYSE, Nasdaq: HPO) is available at [www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com).

#### **About Classroom Connect**

Classroom Connect is an award-winning provider of professional development programs and online instructional materials for K-12 education and is focused on two core areas: Technology Integration and Customized Professional Development. Classroom Connect's technology integration solutions consists of an optimal blending of face-to-face workshops, customized online professional development and print resources for K-12 educators. For more information, contact Classroom Connect by calling (800) 638-1639 or visit [www.classroom.com](http://www.classroom.com).

Headquartered in Brisbane, CA, Classroom Connect is part of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in PreK through grade 12, adult learners, and readers of all ages. Harcourt Education is part of Reed Elsevier Group plc ([www.reedelsevier.com](http://www.reedelsevier.com)), a world-leading publisher and information provider.

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