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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Gaggle.Net Earns BESSIE Award Third Year in a Row**

**BLOOMINGTON, IL** – Gaggle.Net, the leading provider of safe student email to school districts across the country, is once again pleased to accept the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Best Educational Software Awards (BESSIE) in the Middle School Category for Best Communication Website. This is the third year running that *The ComputED Gazette* has honored Gaggle.Net with a BESSIE Award and the company is thrilled to extend this tradition.

The BESSIE Awards target innovative and content-rich programs and websites which provide parents and teachers with the technology to foster educational excellence. Winners are selected from titles submitted by publishers around the world. Gaggle.Net was selected because of its communication tools designed specifically for schools to provide safe, teacher-controlled email accounts for students.

Andrea Keith, Gaggle.Net On-site Training Manager was quoted saying, “Winning the BESSIE for a third year is a real honor. It really speaks to the need for technology to support and enhance learning. The educators I work with value how Gaggle.Net tools let them extend and enhance the classroom experience with 21<sup>st</sup> Century tools that motivate students. Gaggle allows for the level of communication and collaboration kids are becoming accustomed to, in a safe environment where teachers have control.”

In addition, Susan Kessler, Gaggle.Net Director of Customer Service was quoted saying “As we continue to improve communication in education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Gaggle.Net has stayed true to its basic philosophy: student safety. It’s exciting that more and more educators are using our tool for their students and seeing the curriculum benefits of safe on-line communication.”

#### **About Gaggle.Net**

Founded in 1998, Gaggle.Net is in its tenth year of providing safe, teacher-controlled email to K-12 students around the world. Currently, over 15,000 schools are using Gaggle.Net’s safe student email system.

More than just email, Gaggle.Net has expanded to include student-focused blogs, chat rooms, message boards, digital lockers, homework drop boxes, portal links and profile pages. All of these features are filtered for inappropriate content and images, and offer full monitoring capabilities to teachers. The Gaggle system is completely web-based so that learning and communication can be extended beyond the classroom. Students can access their Gaggle.Net accounts from any internet connection at all times.

In addition to safe student communications, Gaggle.Net recently released a new email archiving service to help school districts meet the federal requirements for eDiscovery and open records. The Gaggle solution works with Microsoft Exchange, Groupwise, Lotus Notes, Google Apps, NetMail, FirstClass, Zimbra, mDaemon, SunOne, SendMail, iMail, PostFix, AtMail and other email servers. It requires no hardware or software and can be implemented in one day.

For additional information, please contact Michael Kessler, Susan Heykamp or visit our websites:

<http://www.Gaggle.Net> - For student online communications tools

<http://www.GaggleMail.com> - Affordable email archiving solutions

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