Final Summary Report: FIPSE Subcontract for CREducation.org
Wayne State University

Bill Warters, Project Director

In October of 2007 the team at Wayne State University received the exciting news that we had been approved as a subcontractor for a FIPSE dissemination grant for the Temple University-based Conflict Resolution Education in Teacher Education (CRETE) project. We would be responsible for providing a web-based clearinghouse to share materials supporting conflict resolution in educational settings.

Our primary tasks were to develop a set of accessible learning modules based on core CRETE concepts, provide a library of full-text support resources that could be accessed at no cost, and produce a training manual to document the approach used in the CRETE 4-day basic training for preservice teachers.
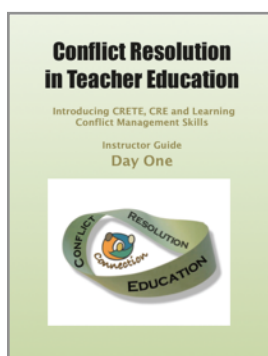
Our pilot website had been designed during the previous year with support from the JAMS Foundation after gathering input from a broad-based advisory group. Upon receipt of the FIPSE grant server hardware was purchased and in February 2008 the pilot site was successfully moved from an external temporary host onto the new dedicated Wayne State University server hardware.

We built our library resource catalog using an open source toolkit and early on began making our archive-quality records available for harvesting and indexing by other organizations around the globe. At the time this report was written, 640 full-text items had been made available via this system. Mid-way through 2009 OCLC began making our records findable via Worldcat.org and via the widely-used FirstSearch database collection available at college libraries worldwide.

In March of 2008 we released the first in our of CRE Learning Modules built using a customized open-source (and SCORM-compliant) module editor. The modules were designed from the beginning to be easily imported into learning management systems like Blackboard.

In the following pages we provide more background on the project and some summary statistics to illustrate the great progress that was made over the course of the 3+ year grant.

Online Catalog
The Conflict Resolution Education Connection's online catalog provides instant access to full-text reports, training manuals, teaching guides, powerpoint slide shows and more.

Learning Objects
Flexible learning modules on core topics can be viewed on our site or imported into Blackboard or Moodle or any other learning management system. Tools to edit modules for local use is also provided.
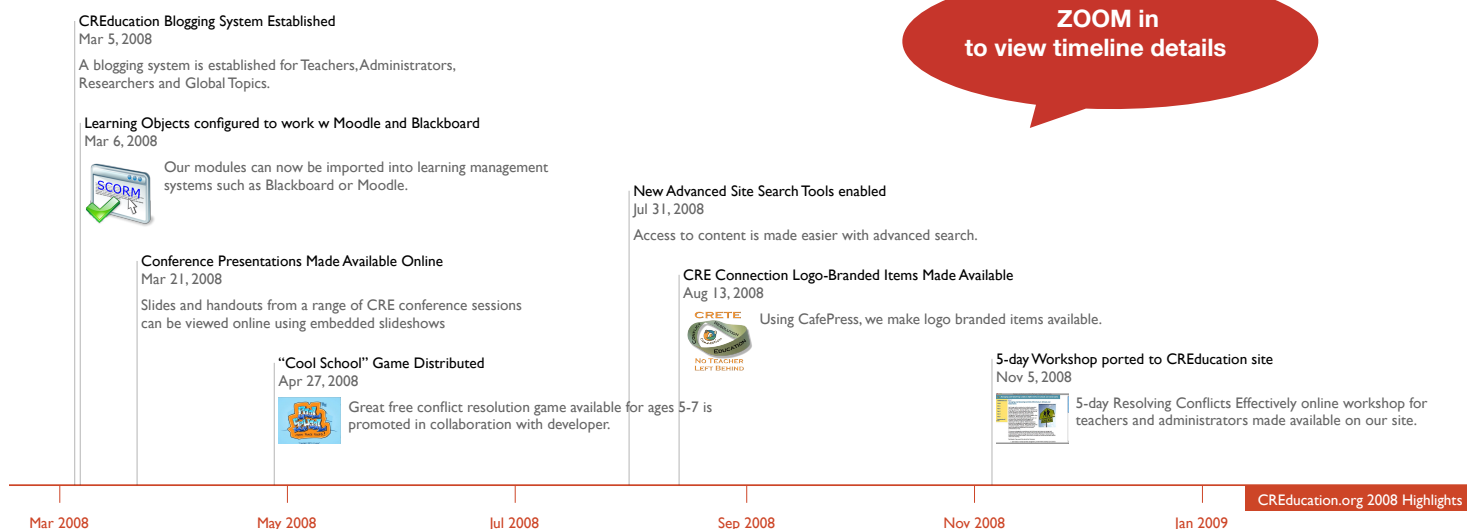
Trainer Support Site
A sophisticated "Trainers Dashboard" website was developed specifically for the growing cadre of CRETE-certified trainers.

Conference Presentations
Slides from conference presentations on Conflict Resolution in Education can be viewed online at CREducation.org

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CREducation Blogging System Established
Mar 5, 2008

A blogging system is established for Teachers, Administrators, Researchers and Global Topics.

Learning Objects configured to work w Moodle and Blackboard
Mar 6, 2008

Our modules can now be imported into learning management systems such as Blackboard or Moodle.

Conference Presentations Made Available Online
Mar 21, 2008

Slides and handouts from a range of CRE conference sessions can be viewed online using embedded slideshows

"Cool School" Game Distributed
Apr 27, 2008

Great free conflict resolution game available for ages 5-7 is promoted in collaboration with developer.

**ZOOM in
to view timeline details**

New Advanced Site Search Tools enabled
Jul 31, 2008

Access to content is made easier with advanced search.

CRE Connection Logo-Branded Items Made Available
Aug 13, 2008

Using CafePress, we make logo branded items available.

5-day Workshop ported to CREducation site
Nov 5, 2008

5-day Resolving Conflicts Effectively online workshop for teachers and administrators made available on our site.

| Mar 2008 | May 2008 | Jul 2008 | Sep 2008 | Nov 2008 | Jan 2009 |

CREducation.org 2008 Highlights

2008 Project Highlights
Our core team builds out site features and content

The physical and organizational home for CREducation.org is the Technology Resource Center at Wayne State University, housed within the University Library system. The development project was headed up by Dr. William Warters from WSU's Department of Communication.

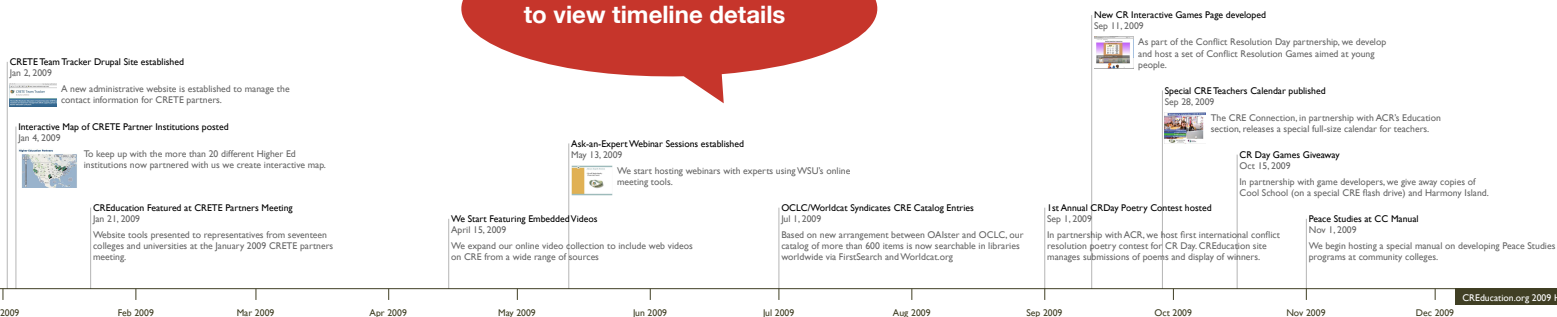**Core project team members included:**
- Bill Warters - Project Director for FIPSE Subcontract
- Nardina Mein - Director, New Media and Information Technology
- Matt Decker - IT Manager
- Adrienne Aluzzo - Metadata Librarian
- Anne-Marie Armstrong - Instructional Designer
- LaCesha Clark - Instructional Designer
- Joe Gajda - Server Manager
- Kathleen Doyle - Program Manager and Print Designer

The CREducation.org website was built based on a philosophy known as "progressive enhancement." The core site debuted in 2007 at the International CRE Summit hosted by the Global Issues Resource Center in Cleveland, Ohio with only a partial set of features. After moving to dedicated hardware at Wayne State in early 2008 we began building out additional features, releasing them over time. During our first year under the FIPSE grant we added numerous enhancements such as
- A blogging system serving Teachers, Administrators, Researchers and the International CRE community
- Custom-themed Learning Modules ready for import into various learning management systems
- Search tools that permitted quick access to specific types of resources
- A "view it online" feature that enabled people to view word docs and pdfs from the catalog without leaving their browser
- A photo gallery to share pictures from international conferences on CRE
- Discussion forums for global participants of INCREPE

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ZOOM in to view timeline details

New CR Interactive Games Page developed
Sep 11, 2009
As part of the Conflict Resolution Day partnership, we develop and host a set of Conflict Resolution Games aimed at young people.

CRETE Team Tracker Drupal Site established
Jan 2, 2009
A new administrative website is established to manage the contact information for CRETE partners.

Interactive Map of CRETE Partner Institutions posted
Jan 4, 2009
To keep up with the more than 20 different Higher Ed institutions now partnered with us we create interactive map.

Special CRE Teachers Calendar published
Sep 28, 2009
The CRE Connection, in partnership with ACR's Education section, releases a special full-size calendar for teachers.

Ask-an-Expert Webinar Sessions established
May 13, 2009
We start hosting webinars with experts using WSU's online meeting tools.

CR Day Games Giveaway
Oct 15, 2009
In partnership with game developers, we give away copies of Cool School (on a special CRE flash drive) and Harmony Island.

CREducation Featured at CRETE Partners Meeting
Jan 21, 2009
Website tools presented to representatives from seventeen colleges and universities at the January 2009 CRETE partners meeting.

We Start Featuring Embedded Videos
April 15, 2009
We expand our online video collection to include web videos on CRE from a wide range of sources

OCLC/Worldcat Syndicates CRE Catalog Entries
Jul 1, 2009
Based on new arrangement between OAIster and OCLC, our catalog of more than 600 items is now searchable in libraries worldwide via FirstSearch and Worldcat.org

1st Annual CRDay Poetry Contest hosted
Sep 1, 2009
In partnership with ACR, we host first international conflict resolution poetry contest for CR Day. CREducation site manages submissions of poems and display of winners.

Peace Studies at CC Manual
Nov 1, 2009
We begin hosting a special manual on developing Peace Studies programs at community colleges.

Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009	Oct 2009	Nov 2009	Dec 2009

CREducation.org 2009 Highlights

2009 Project Highlights
New partnerships, enhanced software platforms and the first annual CRE Teachers Calendar
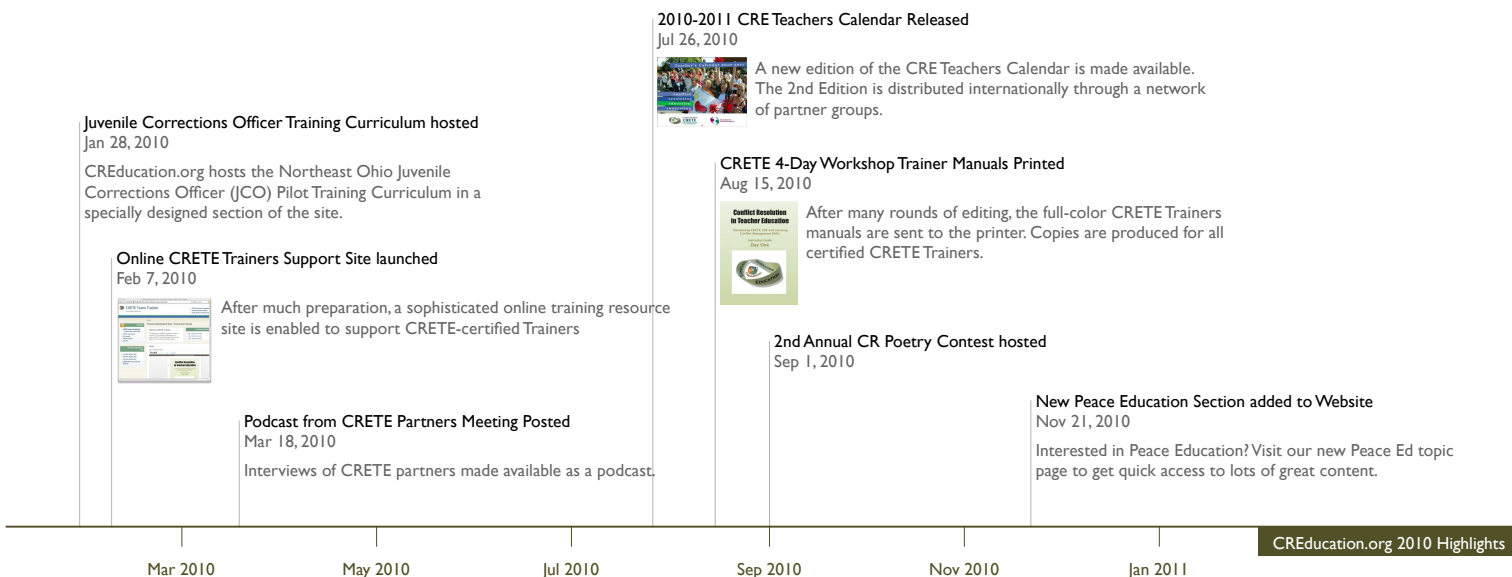
During 2009, based on consultations with the CRETE project Director and various CRETE partners, we went beyond the scope of the initial proposal and set up a new sub-site that provided Customer Relations Management features for the extended CRETE team, now spanning more than 20 institutions. This enabled us, among other things, to send personalized email newsletters to project team members, track the progress of CRETE-certified trainers, and manage enrollments for our new series of Ask-an-Expert webinars hosted during 2009.

A number of new partnerships were established in 2009 as CREducation.org began serving as a co-sponsor of the international event known as Conflict Resolution Day. CRDay was established in 2005 by the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR). Working with the CRDay planning committee we developed tools to host the submissions and judging of an annual conflict resolution poetry contest for youth. We also created a special set of youth-oriented online Conflict Resolution Interactives that featured games and puzzles reinforcing conflict resolution concepts. We partnered with video-game developers to host a give-away of custom flash drives loaded with Cool School (a K-3 video game focused on peacemaking in schools) and other CREducation resources, and a give-away of 10 full sets of the middle-school focused Harmony Island video-game and training DVDs. Teachers were encouraged to share these fun and educational resources with students during their Conflict Resolution Day celebrations. We also continued to work closely with the Global Issues Resource Center at Cuyahoga Community College to support their international CRE conference series and develop related web resources of interest to global audiences.

Another major initiative involved the creation of a **printed wall calendar for educators** that provided instructions for activities related to conflict resolution for use across the school year. The calendar was "crowd-sourced," presenting activities that were contributed from a broad-based group of experienced conflict resolution educators who were willing to share their tips and activities with others at no cost. The calendar was so popular that we ended up doing an expanded 2nd edition for the 2010-2011 school year in partnership with ACR's Education Section and the Conflict Resolution Day planning committee. Both editions were available both in print and in white-board friendly versions that featured weblinks to information on special calendar dates and links to videos and related learning materials on the CREducation.org website.

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2010-2011 CRE Teachers Calendar Released
Jul 26, 2010

A new edition of the CRE Teachers Calendar is made available. The 2nd Edition is distributed internationally through a network of partner groups.

Juvenile Corrections Officer Training Curriculum hosted
Jan 28, 2010

CREducation.org hosts the Northeast Ohio Juvenile Corrections Officer (JCO) Pilot Training Curriculum in a specially designed section of the site.

CRETE 4-Day Workshop Trainer Manuals Printed
Aug 15, 2010

After many rounds of editing, the full-color CRETE Trainers manuals are sent to the printer. Copies are produced for all certified CRETE Trainers.

Online CRETE Trainers Support Site launched
Feb 7, 2010

After much preparation, a sophisticated online training resource site is enabled to support CRETE-certified Trainers

2nd Annual CR Poetry Contest hosted
Sep 1, 2010

New Peace Education Section added to Website
Nov 21, 2010

Interested in Peace Education? Visit our new Peace Ed topic page to get quick access to lots of great content.

Podcast from CRETE Partners Meeting Posted
Mar 18, 2010

Interviews of CRETE partners made available as a podcast.

Mar 2010   May 2010   Jul 2010   Sep 2010   Nov 2010   Jan 2011
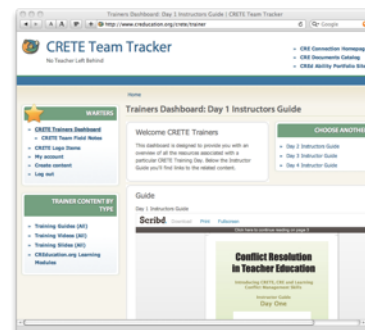
CREducation.org 2010 Highlights

2010 Project Highlights
CRETE Trainer manuals and an online support site

One of the major goals for 2010 was completion of the printed Instructors Guides and Participant Guides that we designed for use in the basic 4-day CRETE trainings. The resulting full-color guides, printed in October 2010, include all the instructions needed to help new CRETE instructors get up and running quickly during their mentorship as a CRETE trainer in training.

Also developed during this period was a sophisticated online sub-site just for the training team that makes it possible for a CRETE Trainer with an internet connection and the appropriate passwords to access all the tools they need for conducting a workshop. This "Trainers Dashboard" includes online slides and video clips, handouts, and background materials organized by day or topic.
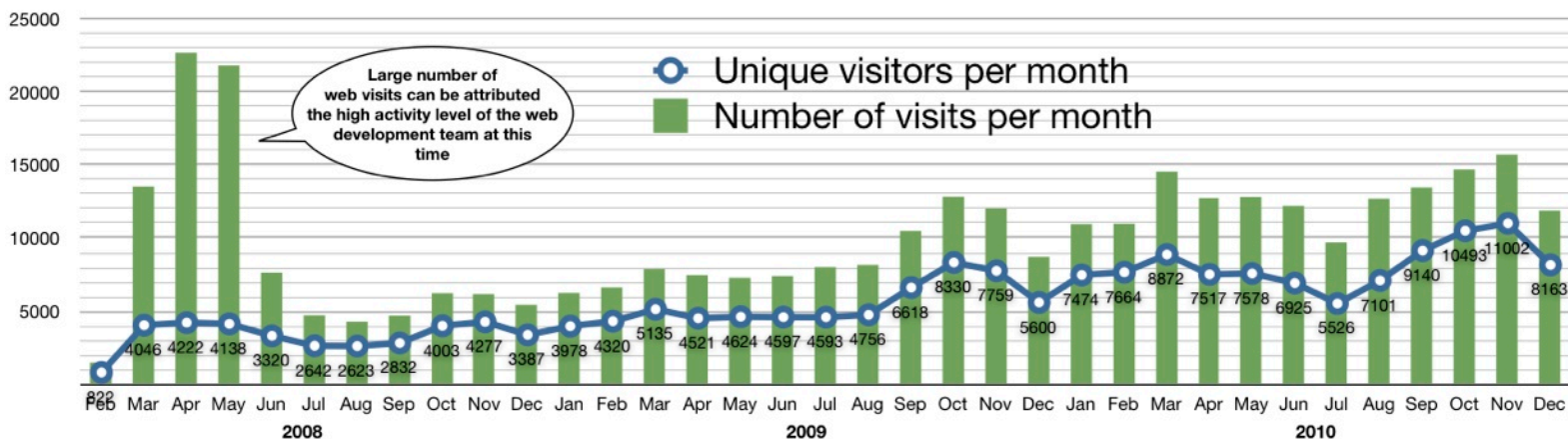
The CREducation.org main website continues to be developed and enhanced with new content, making it the most valuable web asset available for people interested in Conflict Resolution in K-12 environments. **As of the date of this report, our open access assets include:**
- 640 full-text, fully indexed catalog items
- 16 formal Learning Modules that can be edited and repurposed by users
- 57 online videos focusing on CRE topics
- 110 online sets of slides from various CRE conference presentations
- Reports and archived materials from 4 International CRE conferences
- 76 organizations profiled in our International CRE Organizations Directory
- Blogs, news alerts and other timely content

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CREducation.org Web Stats Feb 2008 - Dec 2010

Large number of web visits can be attributed the high activity level of the web development team at this time

Unique visitors per month
Number of visits per month

Steady Growth in Website Traffic
builds to 11,000 unique visits monthly

One key indicator of a useful web resource is the number of **unique visitors** that browse to the site in a given month. This statistic is a good measure of site growth because it filters out repeat visits by the same user IP address during that month so as not to overweight visits by one very eager visitor or busy staff member. As the above graph indicates, CREducation.org has experienced steady growth since launch, reaching a monthly high of more than **11,000 unique visits in November of 2010**. In terms of overall content delivered, another useful measure is the number of full pages (featuring combined text and graphics, not just server "hits") served. The Conflict Resolution in Education clearinghouse passed a milestone in December of 2010 when it served up its **Six Millionth page**. As this report is being compiled **the site is being moved onto a brand-new server** that will provide faster access speeds and real-time redundant backup to ensure that CREducation.org can continue to serve the CRETE project and the broader CRE community well into the future.

Individual Web Pages Served Each Month

Number of Pages Served

We reached more than ore than 6 Million pages served in December of 2010.

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