



March 2006 Update

The Enhancing Education Through Technology grant was completed in Dec 2005. It was a grant, awarded by the state using federal funds, for \$500,000 to Region I (Moorhead), in partnership with NLLN. Between Dec 2004 and Dec 2005 we added 71 libraries, representing 36 school districts and special libraries, to the shared North Star Library Consortium *Destiny* system. Although we have no large districts in the consortium, we nonetheless have a very significant shared catalog that is very cost effective. In addition, the consortium model has created significant cost and management efficiencies due to economies of scale and centralized administration of the software. What no one district has been able to do on its own, has been accomplished through cooperation.

As of March 15, 2006,

- ❖ we had 352,927 titles in the catalog with 843,036 copies! (This is a very big library catalog).
- ❖ The value of the total collection is nearly \$16million (\$15, 909,551).
- ❖ We have 37,045 patrons on the system and
- ❖ 620,705 circulations have been recorded – the bulk of them since Sept 05.
- ❖ The average age of the collection remains 20 years old – this is not great, but it has been constant since we added the very first collections. The discouraging part of this is that the AVERAGE age of the collection is older than any student and I imagine that a fair part of the collection is older than some of the teachers. On the other hand, maybe the older titles include lovely editions of Shakespeare or Huckleberry Finn or The Little Engine That Could.

You can get specific information about your local use of *Destiny*; the size, value, and age of your collection; and other site specific information from reports in the *Destiny* backoffice.