REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PATENT APPLICATION

COPY OF COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Application No.	2019/08299
Filing Date	12 December 2019
Date of Grant	27 January 2021
Our Ref	P81023ZA00
Name of Applicant(s)	WESOLVE4X (PTY) LTD.
Name of Inventor(s)	NGOBESE, Tsietsi
Title of Invention	SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANAGING THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES TO STUDENTS
Based on	ZA 2018/03891

The fact that we have undertaken to file this application should NOT be interpreted as an indication or guarantee that a valid patent will be obtained for the invention.

If a patent based on this application is granted then its term will be 20 years commencing with the date of filing of the complete specification, subject to payment of renewal fees.

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FORM P1

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PATENTS ACT, 1978

APPLICATION FOR A PATENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

[Section 30 (1)-Regulation 22]

The granting of a patent is hereby requested by the undermentioned applicant on the basis of the present application.

Official Application No.			Applicant's or Agent's Reference
21	01	**2019/08299**	P81023ZA00

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54	Title of invention

SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANAGING THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES TO STUDENTS

The applicant claims priority as set out on the accompanying Form P.2. The earliest priority claimed is
COUNTRY: ZA NUMBER: 2018/03891 DATE: 2018/12/12

~~This application is for a patent of addition to patent application No.~~

21	01	

~~This application is a fresh application in terms of section 37 and based on Application No.~~

21	01	

This application is accompanied by:

X	1.	A single copy of a complete specification of 21 pages.
X	2.	Drawings of 28 sheet(s).
X	3.	Publication particulars and abstract(Form P8)
X	4.	A copy of a figure of the drawing (if any) for the abstract
X	5.	Assignment of invention
X	6.	Certified priority document(s)
	7.	Translation(s) of the priority document(s)
	8.	Assignment of priority rights
X	9.	A copy of the Form P.2 and the specification of S.A Patent Application (if applicable).
X	10.	A declaration and power of attorney on Form P3
X	11.	Statement on the use of indigenous Biological Resource, Genetic Resource, Traditional Knowledge or Use on Form P26

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Dated this 12th day of December 2019

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Signature of Applicant(s)

This is returned to the applicant's
address for service as proof of lodging.

RECEIVED
Official Date Stamp
..... Registrar of Patents

FORM P2

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA | REGISTER OF PATENTS | PATENTS ACT, 1978

Official application No.	Lodging date: Provisional	Acceptance date
21 01 **2019/08299**	22	47
International classification	**Lodging date: Complete**	**Granted date**
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Priority claimed:	Country	Number	Date
	33 ZA	31 2018/03891	32 2018/12/12

54 Title of invention

SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANAGING THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES TO STUDENTS

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SOUTH AFRICA
Reference No. P81023ZA00

61 Patent of addition No.	Date of any change
Fresh application based on.	Date of any change

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
PATENTS ACT, 1978
COMPLETE SPECIFICATION
[Section 30(1) – Regulation 28]

OFFICIAL APPLICATION NO.		LODGING DATE	
21 01	**2019/08299**	22	2019/12/12

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION	
51	G06Q

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TITLE OF INVENTION

54	**SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANAGING THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES TO STUDENTS**

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
PATENTS ACT, 1978

PUBLICATION PARTICULARS AND ABSTRACT
[Section 32(3)(a) – Regulation 2291)(g) AND 31]

OFFICIAL APPLICATION NO.		LODGING DATE		ACCEPTANCE DATE	
21	01 **2019/08299**	22	2019/12/12	47	

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION		NOT FOR PUBLICATION
51	G06Q	CLASSIFIED BY: Adams & Adams

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EARLIEST PRIORITY CLAIMED

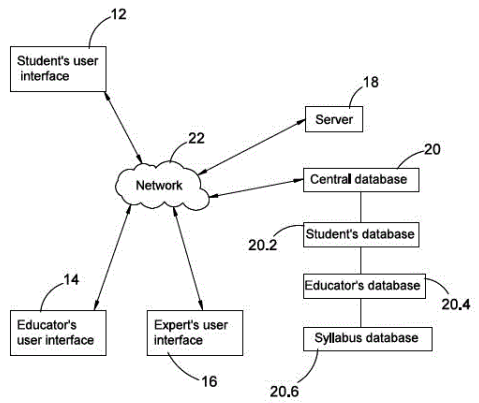
COUNTRY		NUMBER		DATE	
33	ZA	31	2018/03891	32	2018/12/12

TITLE OF INVENTION

54	**SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANAGING THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES TO STUDENTS**

57	**The invention relates to a computer-implemented method of managing the delivery of educational courses to students, the method comprising: providing an educational syllabus database having at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least one educational subject having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates; collecting, by at least one processor, details of a subject from at least one of the student's and educator's interface; collecting, by at least one processor, details of an educational level from at least one of the student's and educator's interface; selecting, from the syllabus database, at least one topic which is required to be taught in a predefined period for the subject of an educational level corresponding to the collected details of the subject and educational level specified by one of the student and educator, wherein the predefined period including at least one of a schooling date, a range of schooling dates, a schooling week, a schooling month, and at least one of the days of the weekend; and outputting, for displaying on at least one of a student's and educator's user interfaces, the at least one topic for the subject of the educational level which is required to be delivered in a predefined period. The invention also extends to a system and a memory device containing instructions for executing the method of the invention.**

PATENT IMAGE



SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANAGING THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES TO STUDENTS

FIELD OF INVENTION

THIS invention is in the field of systems and methods of managing the delivery of educational courses to students i.e. enabling the uniform delivery of educational courses.

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

The right to education is a basic right that is enshrined in most constitutions all over the world including the Constitution of South Africa. However, this right tends to be affected for example, when the educators go on strike against the government, which strike would inhibit learners from getting all the lessons they require to enable them to advance to the next educational level, or the strike would put pressure on the educators to rush through the lessons to make up for lost time which they spent while protesting. The right to education is also affected, albeit indirectly, when school teachers do not educate students on all topics which they need to help them to pass the national exams at the end of their schooling careers.

In South Africa, the Department of Education (DoE) issues a syllabus every year for each subject at each educational level that is required to be taught by educators to the learners. The syllabus typically has a list of topics and course content corresponding to each subject, which topics would need to be taught

on specific school days predefined by the DoE. The educators are required to follow the timetable/schedule for teaching specific topics related to each subject of a particular educational level, to ensure that learners can get the full experience of the subject and learn all the topics prescribed by the DoE for that particular educational level in that particular year.

Not all public schools in South Africa are the same, and most educators in public schools are not experienced enough to give lessons on every single topic for a subject they are employed to teach. In this regard the unskilled educators, especially those employed in underprivileged schools, end up not following the schedule provided to them by the DoE by spending more time on easier topics, and less or no time at all on the harder topics. The result of this conduct by educators from such schools is that the learners from those schools end up falling short on the skills and lessons they would need to enable them to sit for the national exams by the time they get to the last educational level of their high school career.

Accordingly, it is a primary object of the present invention to make the educational syllabus for each subject that is to be taught to learners transparent to both educators and learners, so that the learners can know what it is they need to be learning on specific calendar school days. In this regard the educators will also know what sort of topics they would need to prepare for before class, and can be held accountable by the learners or their parents for not following the timetable prescribed to them by the DoE.

It is a second object of the present invention to enable learners that are particularly from underprivileged schools to have access to educational centres which may be opened on weekends, so that they can get lessons based on the topic for each subject which was supposed to have been taught to them by the educators at their school on a particular week preceding the weekend of the lessons. The lessons delivered at the centre by an allocated educator, that may be a tutor, corresponds with the topic of that subject in

accordance with the schedule/timetable of that subject which was prescribed by the DoE.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

According to a first aspect of the invention, there is provided a system for managing the delivery of educational courses to students, the system comprising:

an educational syllabus database having at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least one educational subject having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates;

a processor; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory containing instructions which when executed causes the processor to:

collect details of a subject from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

collect details of an educational level from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

select, from the syllabus database, at least one topic which is required to be taught in a predefined period for the subject of an educational level corresponding to the collected details of the subject and educational level specified by one of the student and educator, wherein the predefined period including at least one of a schooling date, a range of schooling dates, a schooling week, a schooling month, and at least one of the days of the weekend; and

output, for displaying on at least one of a student's and educator's user interfaces, the at least one topic for the subject of the educational level which is required to be delivered in a predefined period.

In an embodiment, the system may comprise a student database having a list of students registered on the system, each student associated with at least one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each student is associated with a locality in which the student is based or a locality to which the student can easily travel to have access to the lessons associated with the topic of the predefined subject.

In an embodiment, the system may comprise an educators database having a list of educators, such as tutors, each educator associated with at least one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each educator is associated with a locality in which the educator is based or can travel to, to deliver or teach the topic of that subject, and wherein each educator is ranked in the educators database according to his/her the level of experience and/or qualifications.

In an embodiment, the educators in the database may be ranked in either a first ranked class, second ranked class, third ranked class, and subsequent ranked classes, and each ranked class may represent a predefined number of educators, for example five educators in each ranked class, and wherein the educators are ranked according to the level of experience and/or qualifications of the educators and/or rating which the educator receives from his/her students after the educator has delivered a lesson to his/her students. For example, the educators in the first ranked class would be the most preferred educators for educating students of a particular subject of a particular educational level, in that they have the experience and qualifications required for delivering the lessons to the students. The educators in the first class are also ranked from the most preferred educator to the least preferred educator to deliver the class in accordance with predefined criteria, again which may be based on the educators' experience, past academic achievements, past experience with the learners, etc. The educators in the second ranked class would be the second preferred educators and the educators in this class

would also be ranked from the most preferred to the least preferred educators, and so on and so forth.

In an embodiment, the system may comprise a facilities database comprising a list of facilities associated with various localities predefined by the students and/or educators, wherein the facilities include educational centres at which the students and educator can meet to have face to face contact sessions, or videoconferencing centres where the educator can connect remotely with students that may be located in another location.

In an embodiment, the memory may contain instructions which when executed causes the processor to match the student to at least one educator on factors including corresponding subject and educational level for which the student and educator registered for, and the corresponding localities of the student and educator.

In an embodiment, the memory may contain instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to allocate the student that is matched with at least one educator to a facility that corresponds with the predefined localities of the student and at least one educator, which facility defines the place where the topic for a particular subject that is associated with the predefined period will be delivered.

In an embodiment, the memory may have instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to compile a request comprising information including: the topic and course content corresponding to a particular subject with which the educator is associated; the predefined period allocated for the lesson; the identity of the student allocated to the educator; and the allocated facility.

In an embodiment, the memory may contain instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to (i) submit the compiled request to at least one of the educators previously matched with the student, the request being first submitted to the educator occupying the highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the educator, the processor is arranged to (ii) submit the request to a second educator occupying the second highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the second educator in the first ranked class, the processor is arranged to (iii) submit the request to another educator in the first ranked class of educators, and when the last educator in the first ranked class of educators does not accept the request, the processor is arranged to (iv) submit the request to the educators from a subsequently ranked class in accordance with steps (i) to (iv).

In an embodiment, the memory may contain instructions which when executed causes the processor to collect an approval notification of the submitted request from the educator and accordingly allocate the educator that responded to the submitted request to the student.

In an embodiment, the memory may have instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to submit a confirmation report to the student and the educator that accepted the request, typically the report may be accessible through the student’s and educator’s user interfaces, in which the confirmation report has information including the identities of the student and educator and the facility where the topic of the particular subject associated with the predefined period will be delivered or taught.

In an embodiment, the memory may have instructions which when executed causes the processor to collect a report from the student’s user interface

indicating whether the student consumed the topic of the subject which was required to be delivered in the predefined period.

A computer-implemented method of managing the delivery of educational courses to students, the method comprising:

providing an educational syllabus database having at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least one educational subject having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of a subject from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of an educational level from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

selecting, from the syllabus database, at least one topic which is required to be taught in a predefined period for the subject of an educational level corresponding to the collected details of the subject and educational level specified by one of the student and educator, wherein the predefined period including at least one of a schooling date, a range of schooling dates, a schooling week, a schooling month, and at least one of the days of the weekend; and

outputting, for displaying on at least one of a student's and educator's user interfaces, the at least one topic for the subject of the educational level which is required to be delivered in a predefined period.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise providing a student database having a list of students registered on the system, each student associated with at least one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each student is associated with a locality in which the student is based or a locality which the student can easily travel to have access to the lessons associated with the topic of the predefined subject.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise providing an educators database having a list of educators, such as tutors, each educator associated with at least one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each educator is associated with a locality in which the educator is based or can travel to deliver or teach the topic of that subject, and wherein each educator is ranked in the educators database according to his/her the level of experience and/or qualifications.

In an embodiment, the educators in the database may be ranked in either a first ranked class, second ranked class, third ranked class, and subsequent ranked classes, and each ranked class may represent a predefined number of educators, for example five educators in each ranked class, and wherein the educators are ranked according to the level of experience and/or qualifications of the educators and/or rating which the educator receives from his/her students after the educator has delivered a lesson to his/her students. For example, the educators in the first ranked class would be the most preferred educators for educating students of a particular subject of a particular educational level, in that they have the experience and qualifications required for delivering the lessons to the students. The educators in the first class are also ranked from the most preferred educator to the least preferred educator to deliver the class in accordance with predefined criteria, again which may be based on the educators' experience, past academic achievements, past experience with the learners, etc. The educators in the second ranked class would be the second preferred educators and the educators in this class would also be ranked from the most preferred to the least preferred educators, and so on and so forth.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise providing a facilities database comprising a list of facilities associated with various localities predefined by the students and/or educators, wherein the facilities include educational centres at which the students and educator can meet to have face to face

contact sessions, or videoconferencing centres where the educator can connect remotely with students that may be located in another location.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise matching the student to at least one educator on factors including corresponding subject and educational level for which the student and educator registered for, and the corresponding localities of the student and educator.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise compiling a request comprising information including: the topic and course content corresponding to a particular subject with which the educator is associated; the predefined period allocated for the lesson; the identity of the student allocated to the educator; and the allocated facility.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise the step of (i) submitting the compiled request to at least one of the educators previously matched with the student, the request being first submitted to the educator occupying the highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the educator, the method comprising the step of (ii) submitting the request to a second educator occupying the second highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the second educator in the first ranked class, the method comprising the step of (iii) submitting the request to another educator in the first ranked class of educators, and when the last educator in the first ranked class of educators does not accept the request, the method comprising the step of (iv) submitting the request to the educators from a subsequent ranked class in accordance with steps (i) to (iv).

In an embodiment, the method may comprise collecting an approval notification of the submitted request from the educator and accordingly allocating the educator that responded to the submitted request to the student.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise submitting a confirmation report to the student and the educator that accepted the request, the report being accessible through the student's and educator's user interfaces, and wherein the confirmation report has information including the identities of the student and educator and the facility where the topic of the particular subject associated with the predefined period will be delivered or taught.

In an embodiment, the method may comprise collecting a report from the student's user interface indicating whether the student consumed the topic of the subject which was required to be delivered in the predefined period.

According to a third aspect of the invention there is provided one or more non-transitory computer readable devices including instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause performance of operations that include:

providing an educational syllabus database having at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least one educational subject having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of a subject from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of an educational level from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

selecting, from the syllabus database, at least one topic which is required to be taught in a predefined period for the subject of an educational level corresponding to the collected details of the subject and educational level specified by one of the student and educator, wherein the predefined

period including at least one of a schooling date, a range of schooling dates, a schooling week, a schooling month, and at least one of the days of the weekend; and

outputting, for displaying on at least one of a student's and educator's user interfaces, the at least one topic for the subject of the educational level which is required to be delivered in a predefined period.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The invention will now be further described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 shows an architectural overview of a system in accordance with the invention;

FIG. 2 shows an example embodiment of the computer hardware of a server of the method and/or system of the present invention;

FIGS. 3-11 show screenshots of a student's user interface of the system in accordance with the invention; and

FIGS. 12-21 show screenshots of an educator's user interface of the system in accordance with the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF AN EXAMPLE EMBODIMENT

The following description of the invention is provided as an enabling teaching of the invention. Those skilled in the relevant art will recognise that many changes can be made to the embodiment described, while still attaining the beneficial results of the present invention. It will also be apparent that some of the desired benefits of the present invention can be attained by selecting

some of the features of the present invention without utilising other features. Accordingly, those skilled in the art will recognise that modifications and adaptations to the present invention are possible and can even be desirable in certain circumstances, and are a part of the present invention. Thus, the following description is provided as illustrative of the principles of the present invention and not a limitation thereof.

According to the invention there is provided a system for managing the delivery of educational courses to students, i.e. a system for enabling the uniform delivery or teaching of educational courses which are to be taught or delivered to student(s) by educators on a predefined date, the system being designated generally by reference numeral 10 as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings.

The system 10 comprises a student's interface 12, educators interface 14, expert's interface 16, a server 18 and a central database 20 which are in communication with each other or one another via a network 22.

The student's interface 12, as shown in Figures 3 to 11, shows a student's registration page 100 on which the student can insert her personal information and details of the school the student currently attends, as shown in Figure 3 of the drawings. In particular on Figure 3 at field box 100.2, the student will enter the details of the subject for which she requires assistance. The registration details of the student are submitted to the central server 18 which will accordingly save the student's details on the central database 20 under the student's database 20.2. The student may be required to make payment to have access to the services provided on the system 10, and in this regard the student may approach a local bank to make payment to an account associated with the system 10 using a unique reference associated with the system 10. Once the payment has been received, the student will be approved to have access to the services of the system 10.

Upon registration, the student will be directed to the login page 102, as shown on Figure 4, on which the student will login using the credentials she previously registered on the system 10. Once logged in, the student by the fictitious name of Nokuthula Nyathi will be directed to the students' dashboard having several icons/tabs which the student can engage to establish details associated with each tab/icon. In this case, the student is automatically directed to the My Classes page 104 of Figure 5 of the drawings which corresponds with the My Classes icon 104.2. The My Classes page 104 will enable the student to see the details of the classes/subjects (e.g. grade 9 Maths) for which she has registered, along with the name of the facility she has been allocated to, in this case a school (i.e. Mpontsheng Secondary School), at which a topic associated with the class/subject (i.e. grade 9 Maths) will be taught. The students dashboard 104 also indicates the date on, and time at, which the topic of the subject (i.e. grade 9 Maths) will be delivered at the school by an educator (e.g. a tutor) that has been allocated to the student, as will be described in more detail below. The My Classes page 104 has a view icon 104.4 associated with the tutor allocated to the student. In this case, selection of the view icon 104.4 will indicate the name of the tutor allocated to the student along with the tutor's biography, as can be seen on page 106 of Figure 6 of the drawings.

The student is provided with an option of rating the tutor at the end of the class, by enabling the student to select the add ratings icon 104.6 on Figure 5, which will lead the student to page 108 of Figure 7 to enable the student to rate the tutor by engaging the rating icon 108.2. The rating is accordingly reported to the server 18 via the network 22 for updating the tutor's rank or preference by the students.

Any forms of assessments, such as tests given to the student to complete and which are eventually marked by the tutor and posted back on the system 10, can be viewed by the student by selecting the Results icon 110.2 on page 110

of Figure 8. The test number (or test details) and score/mark attained by the student will be displayed on the page 110.

The student can also access the notifications icon 112.2 on page 112 of Figure 9 to access any notifications posted on the students dashboard, to enable the student to see the topics which will be taught to the student by the tutor in a predefined period (i.e. on 23 April 2018) for the lessons/subject which the student registered for. The student can also access the homework icon 114.2 on page 114 shown on Figure 10, to see the homework which has been allocated to the student by the system 10. The homework is related to the topic which will be taught in a predefined period (i.e. on 23 April 2018). The student would be required to complete the assessment and post it back on the system 10 on a predefined date after the lesson has been delivered. The assessment will be posted to the tutor's or subject expert's interface for viewing and marking by the allocated tutor or expert.

As can be seen in Figures 3 to 10, there is also provided a WeLibrary icon 115 which has a list of learning material (such as notes, videos, audiotapes) associated with the lesson to be delivered in the predefined period arranged for the lesson. There is also provided a Chatroom icon 117 which the student can access to chat with other students that are registered on the system 10 on the topic delivered in the predefined period (i.e. 23 April 2018) or previously delivered by the tutor. There is also provided a profile icon 118 which shows the student's profile and the details of the package which the student has registered for, as shown on page 118 of Figure 11.

Now turning our attention to the educator's interface 14, as shown on page 120 of Figure 12, the educator (i.e. tutor) would also need to register on the system 10. The tutor's details will be communicated to the server 18 via the network 22, which server 18 will store the tutor's details on the tutor's database 20.4.

Once registered, the tutor will log onto the system 10 through the educator's user interface 14 and will be directed to the Teachers dashboard 140 as shown on Figure 13. As indicated previously when discussing the students' dashboard, the fictitious name of the tutor is indicated as Kenny Abby. The tutor can access the profile icon 142.2 on page 142 of Figure 14 to provide the details of the grade and subjects he would like to tutor. The tutor will also be required to indicate the name of the province in which he is located; provide details of the centres/schools to which he can travel to deliver the lessons on predefined dates (i.e. in the predefined period); and attach and submit to the server 18 copies of his identity document and qualifications, as shown on page 144 in Figure 15. The tutor's qualifications, centres of preference, subjects, and grades he is willing to tutor are submitted to the server 18 and consequently stored in the tutors database 20.4 wherein they are associated with the tutor's name.

The tutor will be required to add his qualifications and submit supporting documentation under the qualifications icon 146.2 as shown on pages 146 of Figure 16. The qualification details are accordingly stored under the tutor's name in the tutors database 20.4.

In this example embodiment, the tutor has been registered to tutor grade 9 mathematics and has been allocated to the Mpontsheng Secondary School which he indicated as the centre of preference when he initially registered on the system 10. The tutor will be able to engage the My Classes icon 148.2 and be directed to the My Classes page 148 of Figure 17 to establish the predefined date (i.e. 23 April 2018) on which he must deliver a lesson on a preassigned topic for grade 9 Maths students at the allocated location (i.e. Mpontsheng Secondary School). The tutor can view the number of students he has been allocated to for the mathematics lesson by selecting the view icon 148.4 which will direct him to page 150 on Figure 18.

The tutor can access the results page 152 by selecting the Results icon 152.2, as shown in Figure 19, to fill out assessment marks attained by the students that completed the assessment which was previously allocated to them by the system 10 prior to the predefined date for the lesson, as mentioned previously.

The tutor can access the notification icon 154.2 on page 154 of Figure 20 to see notifications sent to him by the system 10 indicating the details of the topics on grade 9 mathematics which he is required to deliver on the predefined date (i.e. 23 April 2018). Accordingly, the tutor will proceed to access the Lesson icon 156.2 on page 156 to access details of the lesson he is required to deliver to the students on the allocated date (i.e. 23 April 2018).

The tutor can also access the WeLibrary icon 115 to locate notes which he can use when delivering the lesson to the students, and can also access the ChatRoom icon 117 to see and respond to chats posted by his students.

Now turning our attention again to Figure 1 of the drawings, there is provided the subject experts user interface which is accessible by subject experts registered on the system 10. The subject experts can access the system and provide various assessments (such as homework) which will be associated with each topic that is arranged to be taught in a predefined period for each subject at each educational level (i.e. grade). The assessments for each topic are submitted to the server 18, consequently stored in the central database 20, and associated with the topic to be taught on a predefined date.

The system 10 may also comprise a parents' user interface (not shown) to enable parents to access the predefined dates and view the preassigned topics which are arranged to be delivered on the predefined dates. In this way, should the topic delivered to a student on a predefined date deviate from the preassigned topic which was required to be delivered on the predefined date,

the parent(s) can notify an administrator (not shown) of the system 10 of the deviation to prompt the administrator to take reasonable steps to discipline the educator/tutor.

Now turning our attention to Figure 2 of the drawings, there is shown computer hardware 100 of the server 18 which is provided/coupled with the central database 20. The server 18 is in communication with the various students, educators, and subject experts interfaces 12, 14, 16 as indicated previously via the network 22 which the server 18 communicates with via the network interface 102. The server 18 comprises a processor 104 and a memory 106 that is coupled to the processor 104. The memory 106 contains several instructions which are arranged to perform various functions as will be described below.

The server 18 is coupled to the central database 20, which as shown in Figure 2 comprises the students database 20.2, educators database 20.4, and syllabus database 20.6. The server 18 comprises an allocation module 116 and a centres database 118 which are coupled to the processor 104 via a bus 120. The server 18 also comprise a power supply 122 for providing power to the computer hardware 100.

In use, the memory 106 contains instructions which when executed by the processor 104 causes the processor to register the students, educators, and subject experts on the system 10, and to store their details on the central database 20. The details of the students include the subjects for which each student is registered, the educational level of each student, the centres of preference where each student would like to be allocated to for the lessons/topics associated with the subjects.

Similar, the details of the educators/tutors include: the subjects for which each tutor is registered to tutor; the educational level for which the tutor is

registered; and the centres of preference where each tutor would like to be allocated to for the lessons. The tutors may be stored in the educators database according to a predefined ranking criteria which may be based on the educator's experience, previous ranking by the students, qualifications, etc. In this regard, the educators database may have a first ranked class of educators, and a second ranked class of educators, and each ranked class may have a predefined number of educators, for example five educators may be associated with each ranked class. The educators in each ranked class may also be ranked from preferred to least preferred according to predefined criteria, with the most preferred tutor/educator occupying the highest position in the ranked class and the least preferred educator occupying the lowest position in the ranked class.

The centres database 118 comprises a list of centres including schools registered on the system 10 as centres at which the tutors can deliver lessons to the students. The centres can also include those that have videoconferencing facilities where the students can connect remotely with a tutor that is located at another centre.

The syllabus database 20.6 has a list of at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least one educational subject having at least one course content corresponding to the at least one subject, and each at least one course content having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates in accordance with a syllabus that may be prescribed by the national or regional department of education.

The memory 106 may accordingly contain instructions which may cause the processor 104 to select, from the syllabus database 20.6, at least one topic which is required by the regional or national department of education to be taught on a predefined school date (e.g. on 23 April 2018) for the subject (e.g. mathematics) of an educational level (e.g. grade 9) corresponding to the subject and educational level previously provided to the system 10 by the

student, which at least one selected topic is assigned to be taught by an allocated educator on the same date (i.e. 23 April 2018).

Alternatively, the memory may contain instructions which when executed by the processor 104 causes the processor to select, from the syllabus database, at least one topic of a subject (e.g. grade 9 maths) which is required by the regional or national department of education to be taught between schooling dates of 23 April 2018 and 28 April 2018, which at least one selected topic is assigned to be taught by the allocated educator in a predefined period, for example, on a day of the weekend proceeding the schooling dates of 23 April to 28 April 2018 (i.e. 29 April 2018).

The memory 106 will accordingly proceed to match the subject, centre of preference, and educational level of each student registered on the system 10 with the corresponding centres of preference and subjects of the tutors registered on the system 10. The instructions stored in the memory 106 will accordingly match the students with the tutors and allocate them to a centre where lessons associated with the topics of the subject will be delivered, by using the allocation module 116.

The instructions in the memory 106 may proceed to cause the processor 104 to submit a notification, preferably via e-mail and/or on the educator's user interface 14 associated with the educator (i.e. tutor), to a most preferred tutor in the first ranked class to accept the job/task of delivering a lesson for a topic of the subject he has registered to tutor. The instructions may further cause the processor 104 to withdraw the notification if the tutor does not respond to the notification within a predefined period, and accordingly cause the processor 104 to submit the same notification to a second most preferred tutor or next available tutor in the first or second ranked class that can attend to the task. In a situation where there are no tutors in the locality of the student, the processor 104 may be caused to notify a tutor that may be located in another

locality to attend to the task by delivering the lesson remotely via videoconferencing to the students located in another locality.

In the present case, as indicated previously, the tutor by the name of Kenny Abby accepted the task of delivering the lesson on the assigned topic (i.e. the law of large numbers as shown in Figures 9, 10, 20, and 21) for grade 9 maths to several students at the centre called Mpontsheng Secondary School.

Accordingly, upon the student and tutors being matched, the memory 106 contains instructions 104 which when executed will output on at least one of the student's and educator's user interfaces, the allocated centre (e.g. Mponstheng Secondary School), predefined period for the lesson (e.g. 23 April 2018 and time for the lesson), and at least one topic (e.g. law of large numbers) for the subject (e.g. mathematics) of the educational level (e.g. grade 9) which the tutor (e.g. Kenny Abby) will deliver to the students that have signed up for the lesson.

Once the tutor and students are at the allocated centre on the predefined date (i.e. 23 April 2018), the tutor will be required to teach course content that is related to the topic assigned to be taught on the predefined date (i.e. 23 April 2018). If there are other students located in another locality, the system 10 may allocate a different tutor to them and a different centre to them, and they as well will be taught on the same topic delivered to the students at Mpontsheng Secondary School. Alternatively, the students in the other locality can join the students at Mpontsheng Secondary School remotely via videoconferencing. In this way the students across the country who are registered on the system 10 will be exposed to the same lessons for their respective subjects in almost near real-time. At the end of the lessons, the students will be required to complete the various assessments associated with the lesson(s) they would have received (or consumed) on the predefined date.

CLAIMS

1. A system for managing the delivery of educational courses to students, the system comprising:

an educational syllabus database having at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least one educational subject having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates;

a processor; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory containing instructions which when executed causes the processor to:

collect details of a subject from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

collect details of an educational level from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

select, from the syllabus database, at least one topic which is required to be taught in a predefined period for the subject of an educational level corresponding to the collected details of the subject and educational level specified by one of the student and educator, wherein the predefined period including at least one of a schooling date, a range of schooling dates, a schooling week, a schooling month, and at least one of the days of the weekend; and

output, for displaying on at least one of a student's and educator's user interfaces, the at least one topic for the subject of the educational level which is required to be delivered in a predefined period.

2. The system of claim 1, comprising a student database having a list of students registered on the system, each student associated with at least

one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each student is associated with a locality in which the student is based or a locality to which the student can easily travel to have access to the lessons associated with the topic of the predefined subject.

3. The system of claim 2, comprising an educators database having a list of educators, each educator associated with at least one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each educator is associated with a locality in which the educator is based or can travel to, to deliver or teach on a topic of that subject, and wherein each educator is ranked in the educators database according to a predefined criteria.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the educators in the database are ranked in either a first ranked class, second ranked class, third ranked class, and subsequent ranked classes, and each ranked class representing a predefined number of educators in that ranked class, and wherein the educators are ranked in each ranked class according to the predefined criteria including level of experience, qualifications of the educators, and/or rating which the educator receives from his/her students after the educator has delivered a lesson to his/her students.

5. The system of claim 4, comprising a facilities database comprising a list of facilities associated with various localities predefined by the students and/or educators, wherein the facilities include educational centres at which the students and educator can meet to have face to face contact sessions, or videoconferencing centres where the educator can connect remotely with students that may be located in another location.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the memory contains instructions which, when executed, causes the processor to match the student to at least one educator on factors including corresponding subject and educational level for which the student and educator registered for, and the corresponding localities of the student and educator.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the memory contains instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to allocate the student that is matched with at least one educator to a facility that corresponds with the predefined localities of the student and at least one educator, which facility defines the place where the topic for a particular subject that is associated with the predefined period will be delivered.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the memory contains instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to compile a request comprising information including: the topic and course content corresponding to a particular subject with which the educator is associated; the predefined period allocated for the lesson; the identity of the student allocated to the educator; and the allocated facility.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the memory contains instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to (i) submit the compiled request to at least one of the educators previously matched with the student, the request being first submitted to the educator occupying the highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the educator, the processor is arranged to (ii) submit the request to a second educator occupying the second highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the second educator in the first ranked class, the processor is arranged to submit the request to (iii) another

educator in the first ranked class of educators, and when the last educator in the first ranked class of educators does not accept the request, the processor is arranged to (iv) submit the request to the educators from a subsequently ranked class in accordance with steps (i) to (iv).

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the memory contains instructions which when executed causes the processor to collect an approval notification of the submitted request from the educator and accordingly allocate the educator that responded to the submitted request to the student.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the memory contains instructions which when executed by the processor causes the processor to submit a confirmation report to the student and the educator that accepted the request, the report being accessible through the student's and educator's user interfaces, in which the confirmation report has information including the identities of the student and educator and the facility where the topic of the particular subject associated with the predefined period will be delivered or taught.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the memory contains instructions which when executed causes the processor to collect a report from the student's user interface indicating whether the student consumed the topic of the subject which was required to be delivered in the predefined period.

13. A computer-implemented method of managing the delivery of educational courses to students, the method comprising:

providing an educational syllabus database having at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least

one educational subject having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of a subject from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of an educational level from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

selecting, from the syllabus database, at least one topic which is required to be taught in a predefined period for the subject of an educational level corresponding to the collected details of the subject and educational level specified by one of the student and educator, wherein the predefined period including at least one of a schooling date, a range of schooling dates, a schooling week, a schooling month, and at least one of the days of the weekend; and

outputting, for displaying on at least one of a student's and educator's user interfaces, the at least one topic for the subject of the educational level which is required to be delivered in a predefined period.

14. The method of claim 13, comprising providing a student database having a list of students registered on the system, each student associated with at least one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each student is associated with a locality in which the student is based or a locality which the student can easily travel to have access to the lessons associated with the topic of the predefined subject.

15. The method of claim 14, comprising providing an educators database having a list of educators each educator associated with at least one level of study and subjects corresponding to the at least one level of study, and wherein each educator is associated with a locality in which the educator is based or can travel to deliver or teach the topic of that

subject, and wherein each educator is ranked in the educators database according to a predefined criteria.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the educators in the database are ranked in either a first ranked class, second ranked class, third ranked class, and subsequent ranked classes, and each ranked class representing a predefined number of educators, and wherein the educators are ranked according to the predefined criteria including level of experience; qualifications of the educators; and/or rating which the educator receives from his/her students after the educator has delivered a lesson to his/her students.

17. The method of claim 16, comprising providing a facilities database comprising a list of facilities associated with various localities predefined by the students and/or educators, wherein the facilities include educational centres at which the students and educator can meet to have face to face contact sessions, or videoconferencing centres where the educator can connect remotely with students that may be located in another location.

18. The method of claim 17, comprising matching the student to at least one educator on factors including corresponding subject and educational level for which the student and educator registered for, and the corresponding localities of the student and educator.

19. The method of claim 18, comprising allocating the student that is matched with at least one educator to a facility that corresponds with the predefined localities of the student and at least one educator, which facility defines the place where the topic associated with the predefined period will be delivered.

20. The method of claim 19, comprising compiling a request comprising information including: the topic and course content corresponding to a particular subject with which the educator is associated; the predefined period allocated for the lesson; the identity of the student allocated to the educator; and the allocated facility.

21. The method of claim 20, comprising the step of (i) submitting the compiled request to at least one of the educators previously matched with the student, the request being first submitted to the educator occupying the highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the educator, the method comprising the step of (ii) submitting the request to a second educator occupying the second highest ranking in the first ranked class of educators; and when the request is not responded to in a predefined period, or upon collecting a declination notification from the second educator in the first ranked class, the method comprising the step of (iii) submitting the request to another educator in the first ranked class of educators, and when the last educator in the first ranked class of educators does not accept the request, the method comprising the step of (iv) submitting the request to the educators from a subsequent ranked class in accordance with steps (i) to (iv).

22. The method of claim 21, comprising collecting an approval notification of the submitted request from the educator and accordingly allocating the educator that responded to the submitted request to the student.

23. The method of claim 22, comprising submitting a confirmation report to the student and the educator that accepted the request, the report being accessible through the student’s and educator’s user interfaces, and wherein the confirmation report has information including the identities of

the student and educator, and the facility where the topic of the particular subject associated with the predefined period will be delivered or taught.

24. The method of claim 23, comprising collecting a report from the student's user interface indicating whether the student consumed the topic of the subject which was required to be delivered in the predefined period.

25. One or more non-transitory computer readable devices including instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause performance of operations that include:

providing an educational syllabus database having at least one educational subject for at least one educational level, and each at least one educational subject having various topics which are arranged to be taught on predefined schooling dates;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of a subject from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

collecting, by at least one processor, details of an educational level from at least one of the student's and educator's interface;

selecting, from the syllabus database, at least one topic which is required to be taught in a predefined period for the subject of an educational level corresponding to the collected details of the subject and educational level specified by one of the student and educator, wherein the predefined period including at least one of a schooling date, a range of schooling dates, a schooling week, a schooling month, and at least one of the days of the weekend; and

outputting, for displaying on at least one of a student's and educator's user interfaces, the at least one topic for the subject of the educational level which is required to be delivered in a predefined period.

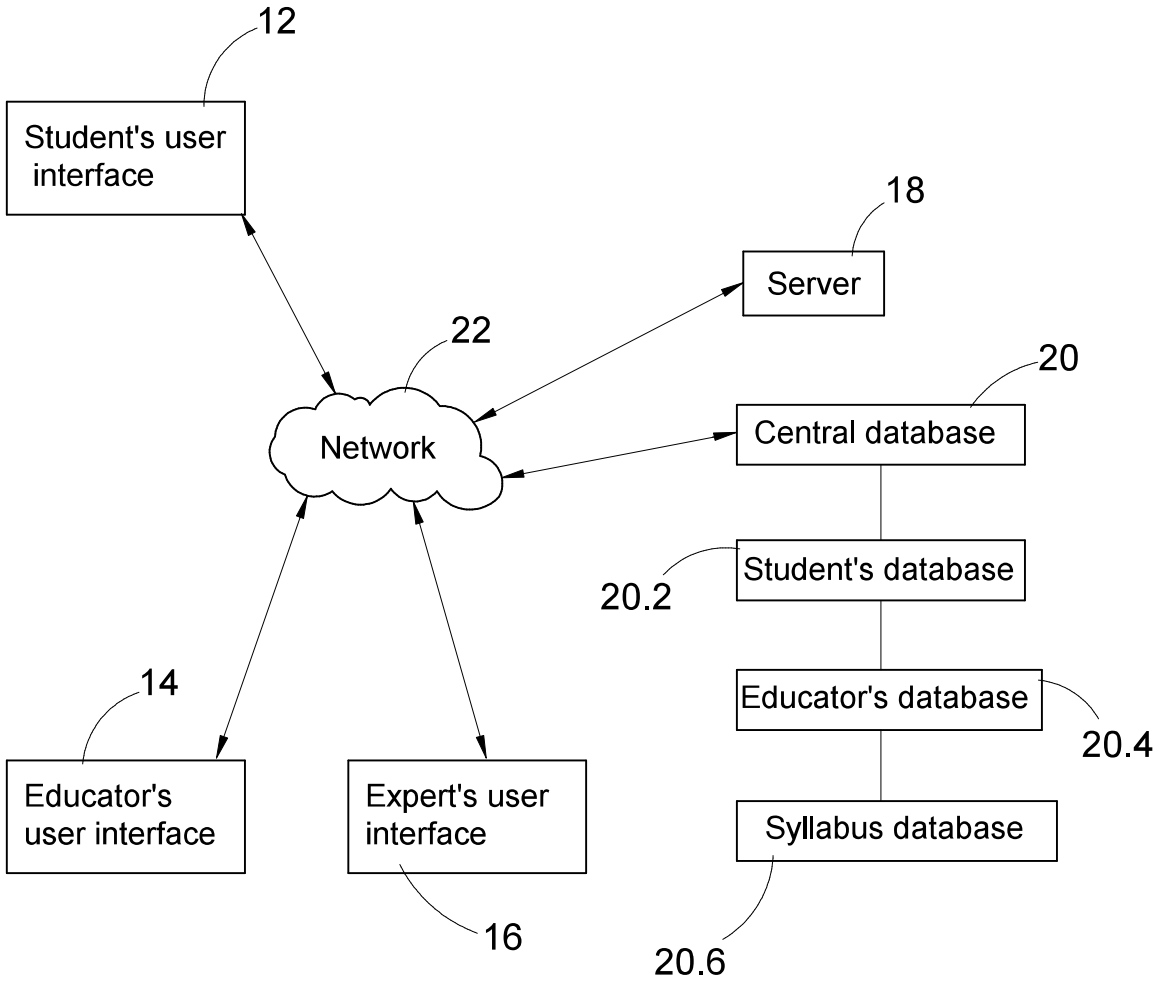
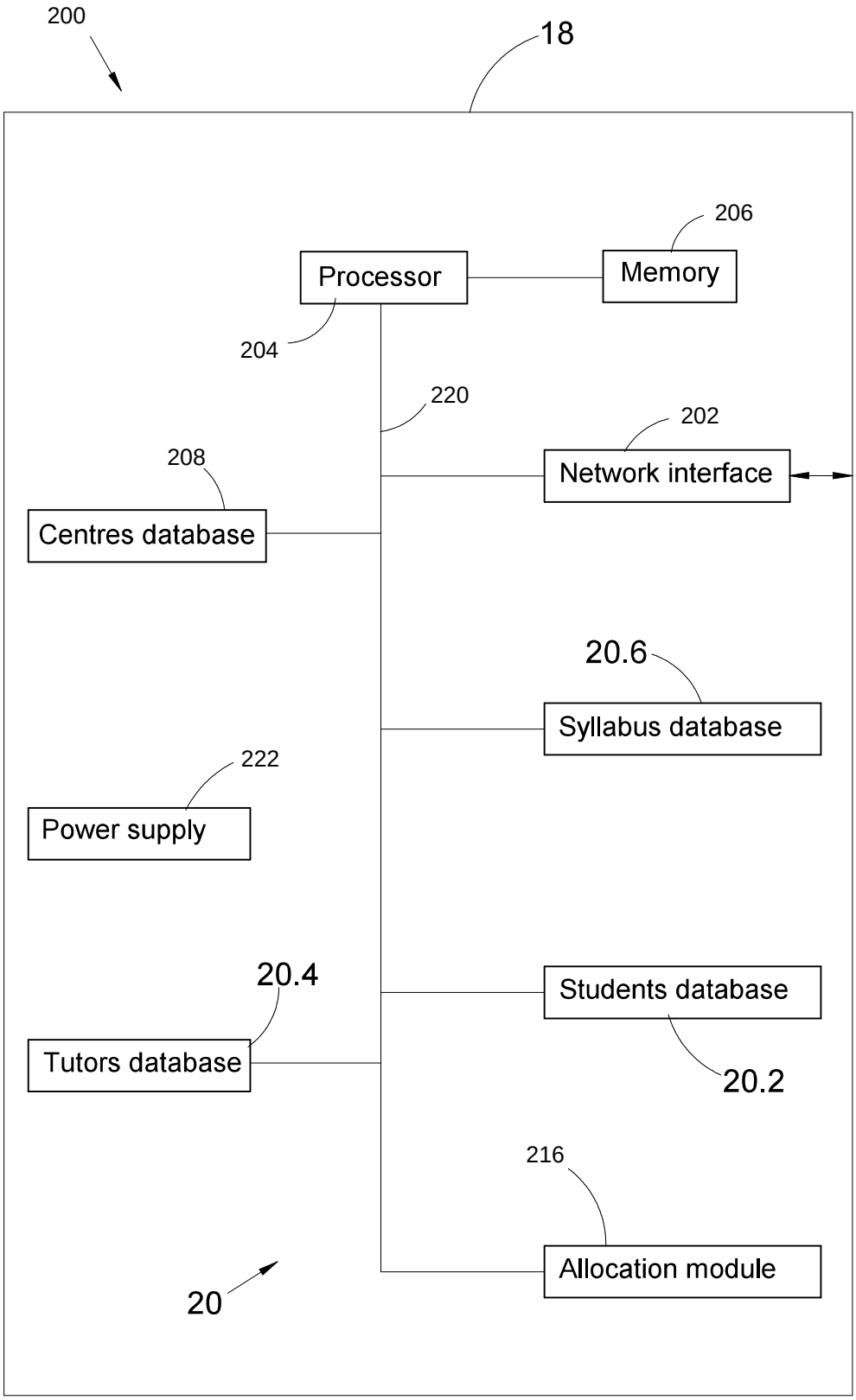

12
Student's user interface
18
Server
22
Network
20
Central database
20.2
Student's database
Educator's database
20.4
14
Educator's user interface
Expert's user interface
16
Syllabus database
20.6

Figure 1


200
18
206
Processor
Memory
204
220
202
208
Network interface
Centres database
20.6
Syllabus database
222
Power supply
20.4
Students database
Tutors database
20.2
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Allocation module
20

Figure 2