Maintenance Plan

For starters, we will probably hire at least one developer to help improve the website's aesthetics. They will improve the cohesion of the website so that it will make it more consistent. That will entail updating the look of the chatrooms and the buttons for the server so that they will have a similar feel to the calendar and to do functions. The average cost for a front end developer is around $105,000 a year, while the average cost for a back end developer is around $112,000 a year.

If we hired one front end developer and one back end developer, that would put our cost around $217,000 a year. The front end developer would be responsible for updating the user experience. This may include what was previously listed above, and it may also incorporate giving the website a cleaner look and feel. They would also test and update any potential bugs that would be discovered or reported in unique circumstances that would be missed in normal testing. The back end developer would work on improving the security of the site and connections between the users and the servers. If we have the developers craft a mobile version for the Apple app store to expand the customer base to students. It would require an Apple developer account that costs $99 a year, but in doing so, there would be no associated hosting fee for the app.

Another cost stems from the domain name of the company. There are three possible routes to take: renting, leasing, or buying. By renting a domain name through a third party, like GoDaddy, it will reduce the initial cost to around $15 a month (or $180 a year). It will also allow for some flexibility in case the Educord fails in the sense that less money will be lost. However, if the internet traffic for the site increases, there is the potential of the third party canceling our contract so they can use it. If we leased out the domain name, it would give us more security against the owner of the site, but it will also increase the cost and reduce our flexibility. The best but most expensive option is to buy the name outright, but the cost can range anywhere from $500 to five figures. We would probably elect to rent our domain name from Google. Currently, the price for Educord.net is $12 a year, which is very minimal cost on our end.

Finally, the last predictable cost is the server. We can rent out a dedicated server or buy one ourselves. In the long run, it will make more sense to buy the server ourselves. The back end can create the necessary virtual structures and security checks for Educord. The cost of a server meant for a small business can range from $1000 to $4000.

In the end, the total cost for the starting year could begin anywhere from $218,111 to $221,111. This estimation does not include the potential sign on the bonus for either developer or the taxes associated with acquiring any of the equipment or services.