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News Release

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Intel's \$57,000 GRANT TO TRANSFORM MATH EDUCATION AT NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

New technology helps math teachers collaborate more,
face students instead of blackboard

HUDSON, Mass., Oct. 20, 2005 – Intel® Massachusetts, Inc. announced today that it has awarded a \$57,720 grant to Nashoba Regional School District for technology that enables math teachers to write and save math problems and lessons on the “tablet” screens of special wireless notebook computers. Instead of spending much time writing problems on the blackboard/whiteboard with their backs to the class, Nashoba math teachers can now do that work on their tablet computer ahead of time and annotate it in class, and beam the information wirelessly to a classroom projector as they teach facing their students.

Because the tablet computers save what would normally be wiped from a blackboard after class, Nashoba teachers can retain and share lessons and record class discussions, or even project Web links or videos during the class.. The technology encourages collaboration because teachers can post information, including that normally written on a board, to an online portal where other teachers and students can access it.

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“These tablets will bring state-of-the-art technology from industry leaders directly into the classroom,” said Superintendent Michael Wood. “Instead of writing on the board, teachers can work with their classes and have interactive discussions that they can immediately store on the tablet computers and post to an online portal for future reference.”

“Intel wants to encourage student learning through the use of technology. The Nashoba Regional High School’s grant proposal met our criteria for advancing innovation in a key technology area,” said Rob Richardson, Intel’s Massachusetts/East Coast Education Manager. Richardson will present the grant check at the Nashoba Regional School District’s Oct. 20 meeting.

“This Intel grant enables us to replace outdated equipment with tablet computers that now cost the same as other notebook computers,” said Marianne Boswell, the Nashoba School District’s Director of Technology. “As we go forward, we will purchase more tablets and will train more high school teachers to use the enhanced new functionality that is only available with this technology.”

Nashoba Regional High School’s Technology Department Chair Mary Marotta initiated the grant proposal, in collaboration with members of the high school math department. After participating in the Intel Teach to the Future Program last spring, which trains teachers how to use technology to increase student learning in the classroom, Marotta researched tablets, wireless projectors and online portals along with several teachers from the high school. In addition, she contacted numerous vendors, schools and colleges to gather information for writing the grant. Nashoba teachers tested the tablets last spring to confirm this is a direction the school wanted to take.

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“We are fortunate that Intel has provided us with the opportunity to implement our plan and to work with them. We are delighted to be able to start the new school year with this grant,” Marotta said. “I’ve been here eight years, and this is the most excited I’ve been,” she said.

The Intel grant to the Nashoba School District includes 20 wireless tablet personal computers for teachers and six classroom projectors. Three math teachers will be the first users of the new technology, but they will then train teachers in other subjects on how to use the wireless tablet computers, projectors, and online portal as well.

About Nashoba Regional School District <http://www.nrsd.net/>

Nashoba Regional School District is the public school district serving Bolton, Lancaster, and Stow. It is comprised of three elementary schools, one K-8 school, two middle schools, and one high school. Nashoba Regional High School has a rigorous curriculum and offers a variety of extracurricular activities. The High School offers several Advanced Placement courses and an extensive offering of elective courses in all content areas as well as in the performing arts, visual arts, family and consumer science, and technology areas.

About Intel Corporation

Intel, the world's largest chip maker, is also a leading manufacturer of computer, networking and communications products. Additional information about Intel is available at www.intel.com/pressroom.

Media Advisory

Two Nashoba Regional High School math teachers can talk with you about their initial experience with the tablet computers.

Sylvia Bullock

Available for phone interviews from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 daily at 978-779-2257. (Ask for her in room 211).

“I can see this technology making me a much more effective math instructor. It frees me up to be much more attentive to the students and to their understanding of what we are covering in class.”

Steve Kelley

Available for phone interviews from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. daily at 978-779-2257 X4205. The technology helps to “bridge the gap between the math teacher at the front of the class and the students at the back of the class. I’m already going out into the midst of the class and helping students on a one-on-one basis, and using the tablet computer to show the rest of the class how these students answered the question.”

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