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News Fact Sheet

Intel Makes Learning Fun at St. Paul Academy and Summit School with classmate PCs

February 17, 2010 – [St. Paul Academy and Summit School](#) (SPA), an independent co-educational school located in the Twin Cities, has worked with Equus and Intel to successfully introduce the Nobi Convertible PC (based on the Intel-powered convertible classmate PCs) for the school's 6th and 7th graders. The 855-student school, which enjoys a stellar academic reputation and is one of Minnesota's oldest independent K-12 institutions, is committed to the role technology can play in improving and enhancing the learning experience.

With the new program, teachers have the flexibility to better adapt their curricula to each student's needs and learning styles. Students reap the benefits of customized learning and have the opportunity to master content in multiple ways.



The Program

- Under SPA's approach, technology skills are taught and developed in the context of the classroom and subject matter. SPA has embedded these skills into the academic curriculum so that isolated technology instruction is not necessary. Instead, students learn the skills they need organically, as part of the content taught in their classes. Common examples of integration include:
 - Audio recording – students are taught audio recording in world language classes as a tool for demonstrating mastery of language.
 - Word processing – students use advanced word processing tools (editing and reviewing features) in language arts classes and social studies as a primary tool in the writing process.
 - Online research – students learn effective research techniques and use of online databases in social studies and science classes as part of the research process.
 - Spreadsheet manipulation – students learn to create and manipulate computer-based spreadsheets, graphs, and charts in science classes as a tool for illustrating and communicating data obtained in research, observations and experiments.
 - Presentations – students begin to learn presentation tools in the Lower School (grades K-5) and become proficient in creating and presenting information electronically in Middle School (grades 6-8) using various multimedia tools for a variety of purposes and audiences.
- SPA began using the Nobi Convertible PC from [Equus Computer Systems](#) in April 2009 and currently employs 150 units for two grades of students.
- The technology fosters student engagement in learning by allowing the process to become more student-centered and less teacher-directed. The technology facilitates active learning and hands-on engagement with the subject at hand.
- Additionally, students use the Intel-powered classmate PCs and a combination of the SPA school network, collaborative software and online tools to easily share information with each other and work together to effectively collaborate on projects.
- The Nobi Convertible PCs align with SPA's goals of environmentally conscious classrooms and cost savings.

- The ability to share information online using a small, compact device means less paper and less energy use, both at school and at home. With the power-efficiency of the Intel® Atom™ Processor and the 6-cell battery, most students charge their Intel-powered classmate PCs at night and don't need to plug in during the school day.
- The lower cost of the Intel-powered classmate PCs and its ability to efficiently run low- or no-cost software and Web-based applications mean a high-quality, effective learning program at significant cost savings to the institution. This levels the playing field by making technology, both in and out of the classroom, accessible to all families.

The Technology

- The customized technology helps improve the learning experience for students, parents, teachers and schools alike with practical, education-oriented features:
 - Dual tablet and traditional laptop modes adjust for changing classroom needs.
 - 180° swiveling screen in laptop mode for sharing with peers and teachers.
 - Touch screen and advanced palm-resting technology offer easier interaction.
 - Natural-feeling writing or drawing directly on the screen.
 - Built-in camera rotates 180° for flexible image-capturing.
 - Compact, lightweight with carrying handle for easy mobility.
 - Durable construction and rugged outer case, with water-resistant keyboard.
 - Built for learning with education-specific features, touch-optimized software.
- SPA's Nobi Convertibles PCs are loaded with Microsoft Tablet XP (and corresponding tablet applications), Microsoft Office w/OneNote, Picasa, Google Earth, Sketchup, Comic Life, Paint.net, Inspiration, iTunes, Panda Antivirus, Windows MovieMaker, Internet Explorer and Firefox browsers.
- In addition to the classmate PCs built-in technology, students have access to supplemental digital still and video cameras as well as content-specific technologies, such as probes, document cameras, digital audio recording, and online tools to be used, along with student computers, to enhance learning. Each classroom has an LCD projector for sharing student and teacher content.
- The Intel-powered classmate PC was designed to allow for micro-mobility, making it ideal for indoor and outdoor use, as well as creative groupings throughout the school. Students have wireless access to the school network throughout the school and have limited access when using off-campus Internet, wired or wirelessly.
- The devices quickly earned acceptance at SPA. Students liked their size, weight and durability, and thought the modest-size tablets were "cute," while adults noted that students would be less likely to install games and use them recreationally. Because the Intel-powered classmate PC is built to enhance learning, it lacks the distracting bells and whistles of general purpose notebooks.
 - Young learners can make extensive use of interactive Web sites that take advantage of the touch and tablet interfaces. For students, it's like having an interactive white board in their backpack.
 - For teachers, the convertible classmate PC is a powerful tool for developing their own meaningful, engaging and innovative applications.

The Students

- Currently, students in 6th, and 7th grades are assigned a school-owned Nobi Convertible PC as part of SPA's 1:1 laptop program.
 - As 6th graders are introduced to the program, their access to school laptops is phased in. Early in the year, students are assigned individual laptops. When the 6th grade teaching team feels students are sufficiently prepared for 1:1 use beyond the school day, students begin using the computers at home.
 - In 7th grade, students continue the 1:1 computing experience. In both grades 6 and 7, students participate in technology skill training and "wellnology" discussions, both in the context of technology classes and advisory settings.

The Classes

The Intel-powered classmate PC is used by SPA teachers and students in a variety of classes, from language and math to science and social studies. Teachers are using the technology to supplement their lesson plans in some of the following ways:

- Chinese, French, Spanish and German, grades 6, 7 – Using the tablet PCs with headphones and the software program Audacity, students record their practice orally and deliver MP3s to the teacher.
- Math, grades 6, 7 – In several sections of math classes, teachers and students use OneNote to create electronic notebooks for the unit on the server. This gives students the ability to have their class warm-ups, notes and practice on the Intel-powered classmate PC and complete them with the stylus on the screen rather than with pencil and paper. The teacher is able to provide immediate feedback and bring up notebooks on the projected screen to discuss with the class.
- Math, grade 6 – Math teachers can use programs that allow students to use their Intel-powered Nobi classmate PC to learn how to calculate for conversions while making a fictional smoothie.
- Science, grade 7 –For labs requiring drawing and note taking, the teacher can use OneNote to have students do online labs using the Cells Alive online simulation. Students can use the touchscreen/stylus method of inking for drawing images of cells and the keyboard for typed note taking.
- Language arts/social studies, grade 6 and English, grade 7 – Students can compose essays and other writing in class and save them to complete at home. Students do extensive peer review as part of the revision process. They're able to do this throughout the classroom or move out with partners into the grade-level commons area as the classmate PCs are highly portable.

About Intel

Intel (NASDAQ: INTC), the world leader in silicon innovation, develops technologies, products and initiatives to continually advance how people work and live. Additional information about Intel is available at www.intel.com/pressroom and blogs.intel.com.

About SPA

For over a century, St. Paul Academy and Summit School has been guided by the principle of academic excellence. In our Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools, we educate a diverse and motivated group of young people for leadership and service, inspiring in them an enduring love of learning that helps them lead productive, ethical, and joyful lives. Learn more about SPA at www.spa.edu.

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