



# Salt Lake City School District

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## News Release

February 14, 2003  
For Immediate Release

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### Escalante Elementary and Intel Join Forces to Improve Science Education

(Salt Lake City) – A first-of-its-kind Science Academy is thriving at Escalante Elementary thanks to the shared vision of the principal and computer chip maker Intel. Intel awarded Escalante Elementary a \$52,000 grant to fund the academy and improve the way students at the school learn science.

“We are so excited about this opportunity provided to us by Intel,” said Escalante Elementary Principal Nancy McCormick. “The best part is working with the students as they learn and discover the wonders of science. Being able to watch the Science Academy transition from idea to reality is literally a dream come true for me.”

The Science Academy will focus on hands-on learning to enhance science education at Escalante. Specifically, the money will be used to:

- Expand a partnership with the University of Utah, allowing a science professor to spend time at Escalante helping students and teachers;
- Establish a student science club, which will meet two days a week after school;
- Expand the school’s science library;
- Establish a six-week Science Summer Camp;
- Provide for a full-time specialist to work in the lab and assist teachers with experiments;
- Assist teachers in paying for graduate level science method courses; and
- Allow students to participate in Junior Engineering.

“This is a perfect example of how public education and private industry can work together,” said Superintendent McKell Withers. “Whether it is donating money and resources or volunteering hours to tutor and mentor children, cooperation between public schools and the business community is essential in creating better educated students and therefore, better employees and more creative business leaders.”

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Intel believes that everyone needs to understand mathematics, science and technology to succeed in a global knowledge-based economy. The opportunities are limitless, but they are only open to people who possess the skills and technical proficiency that global industry demands. Intel works to actively lead a number of efforts through its Intel Innovation in Education initiative to help students acquire the education and skills they will need for a successful future.

The Intel Foundation invested \$52,000 in Escalante Elementary for a number of reasons. “A major factor was the vision and commitment of the principal to use a science program to demonstrate the value of hands-on learning for students from multiple cultural and language backgrounds,” said Jason Bagley, Education and Community Relations Manager. “Everything was in place for the students and teachers at Escalante to experience the benefits of a strong science program. It made great sense for Intel to provide the resources to help the program really take off.”

**About Intel**

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](http://www.intel.com/pressroom).

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