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News Release

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Intel, Oregon Department of Education to create online knowledge communities to benefit students, parents, and teachers statewide

Software quickly identifies students in trouble, classes that excel

SALEM, Ore., Nov. XX, 2008 – Intel® and the Oregon Department of Education announced today that they have signed a five-year agreement to deploy Knowledge Community, a Web-based software framework, in school systems across the state. Knowledge Community offers an array of tools for students, parents, teachers and administrators, and creates a secure school online community that helps them communicate and learn.

Based on software from Acryn, Pty. of Australia, Knowledge Community is a comprehensive set of school software modules that share a consistent user interface. Students can log in once to engage in “1 on 1” learning, in which they work on assignments matched with their strengths, interests, or weaknesses. Students can also use Knowledge Community’s Web 2.0 features to share work, email friends, create Web pages, and enjoy social media tools, all within a secure school environment.

“The Knowledge Community project with Intel is an excellent illustration of the value of public-private partnerships,” said State Schools Superintendent Susan Castillo. “This partnership helps educators bring more technology tools into the

classroom, get professional advice, develop best practices, and learn new ways of delivering high-quality instruction. It means better results for Oregon students."

"Far more than a school intranet or portal, Knowledge Community can tighten the connections between teachers, students, and families," said Eileen M. Lento, Ph.D. , manager of Intel's education marketing group. "It can quickly alert parents as well as teachers to student weaknesses or strengths, for example, and help them take action together."

A key strength is Knowledge Community's ability to quickly alert a student, teachers, and parents when the student misses assignments or has trouble in tests. Parents can track how their children are doing, view their assignments, and communicate with the teachers. They can email their children and even put appointments in their children's calendars.

Teachers gain a wide range of online teaching, collaboration, and reporting tools. Administrators can rely on it to view performance of individual students or entire classes. Knowledge Community can also serve as an online business system for administrators, reducing paper work and increasing efficiency. It can incorporate a school's existing software and make it available along with its own range of tools.

Knowledge Community can also bring revenue to schools by providing space for online education-related advertising directed at parents or school faculty and staff. No advertising appears to students at any time.

Intel is providing Knowledge Community software at low cost to the Oregon Department of Education, which will make it available to school districts throughout the state. Knowledge Community is a component of Accelerate Oregon, a statewide initiative that leverages public and private commitment to Oregon's K12 education system to improve teaching and learning through the integration of technology.

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