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Schindewolf Intermediate School Receives Free SMART Board

School Recognized for One-Millionth Speak Up Survey

Houston, TX (June 3, 2008) --- At a sixth grade awards assembly on June 3, students, teachers and parents at Schindewolf Intermediate School accepted a free SMART Board interactive whiteboard donated from SMART Technologies, an innovative technology company, and Project Tomorrow, a national education nonprofit group, for the school's participation in the 2007 Speak Up survey.

The school was recognized by the organizations and received the free interactive whiteboard because a sixth grade student from Schindewolf Intermediate submitted the one-millionth online Speak Up survey this year. The Speak Up Project collects student viewpoints on technology and 21st century education through an annual online survey process and shares that data with national, state and local policymakers to improve education for all children.

"The role of technology in education is becoming increasingly more important as our nation's schools prepare students for the global workplace. We are pleased to recognize innovative schools such as Schindewolf Intermediate that listen to the ideas of their students about technology use in school and are taking

advantage of exciting new technologies like SMART Boards to engage students in learning,” said Ms. Julie Evans, CEO of Project Tomorrow.

Over 367,000 K-12 students, teachers, parents and administrators participated in this year’s Speak Up surveys, representing 3,700 schools from all 50 states. Since the start of this project in fall 2003, over 1.2 million surveys have been submitted. This year, 1,275 students – nearly 90 percent – from Schindewolf Intermediate School took the online surveys to share their ideas on technology, science, careers of the future and 21st century skills with their school, district and state leaders. Because a sixth grader from Schindewolf submitted the 1 millionth Speak Up survey, this school is being recognized by both Project Tomorrow, the national education nonprofit that facilitates the annual Speak Up surveys and SMART Technologies with a SMART Board for one of their classrooms.

“Technology has the power to keep students engaged and on the edge of their seats concentrating on the materials their teacher is discussing. We applaud the teachers at Schindewolf for their commitment to integrating technology into daily lessons and are delighted for the opportunity to support their efforts to ensure students are receiving a 21st century education,” said Mr. Mick Adkisson Manager, Education Advocacy, SMART Technologies.

“When teachers can effectively use instructional technologies, like the SMART Board, we can see a boost in student engagement and believe this creates higher achievements,” said Ms. Debbie Hamilton, principal of Schindewolf Intermediate School. “We are grateful for this donation. It will certainly support our academic goals.”

Speak Up a project of Project Tomorrow (www.tomorrow.org) -- a national nonprofit committed to the innovative use of science, math and technology resources in our K-12 schools and communities – gathers real-time data about education technology issues. Klein ISD is one of Project Tomorrow’s Speak Up

100 districts, which signifies that the district has begun using the data and findings from the Speak Up survey to develop strategic plans, enhance and change curriculum, determine professional development needs and make funding decisions.

Project Tomorrow (formerly known as NetDay) is a national education nonprofit organization committed to insuring that every student is well prepared to become tomorrow's innovators, leaders and engaged citizens of the world.

SMART Technologies is an industry pioneer and global education market segment leader in user-friendly ICT products and group collaboration tools. The SMART Board interactive whiteboard is used to teach over 18 million students in more than 600,000 classrooms in more than 100 countries around the world.

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