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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Westdale Heights One of 18 Nationally Named Intel Schools of Distinction Finalists

Baton Rouge, La. – Westdale Heights Academic Magnet School is one of just 18 schools to be named a national finalist in the Intel Schools of Distinction program. It was the only school in Louisiana to receive the award, and Westdale Heights is competing against two other elementary schools for the Science Category award of Distinction. They are Arlington Science Focus Elementary School in Arlington, Va., and Crestview Elementary School in San Antonio, Texas.

The other category of competition is Mathematics. Both categories have three schools at each level (elementary, middle and high) competing for the final award. Therefore, there will be **six Distinction finalist winners – one school for each level in each category named in September at a Washington, D.C., event.** One of those schools will receive the highest honor of **Star Innovator.**

The Intel Corporation sponsors the Schools of Distinction Awards to honor schools for implementing innovative math and science programs and serving as models for other schools. The Schools of Distinction honors schools in science that provide a rich science curriculum incorporating hands-on investigative experiences that prepare students for 21st Century jobs. Programs encourage student achievement in sciences and engineering, while simultaneously helping students become knowledgeable consumers of news and data in order to be active and informed citizens.

On April 15, the Intel Corporation announced each of the 18 schools will receive a \$5,000 award and a trip to Washington, D.C., by the Intel Foundation. The six finalist schools also receive an additional \$5,000 and a package of goods and services valued at about \$100,000 (hardware, software, professional development products, etc.). Among those schools, the one chosen as a Star Innovator also receives \$25,000 and additional prizes and services. **For more information on the Intel Schools of Distinction Awards visit www.intel.com/education/schoolsofdistinction. For more information on Westdale Heights, call Principal Cheryl Singer at (225) 926-5421.**

The Intel® Education Initiative assists Intel in delivering programs that improve the effective use of technology to enhance 21st Century skills and encouraging excellence in mathematics, science and engineering. **For more information, visit www.intel.com/education.**

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