

# Kennecott Land

Jordan School District



Tuesday, August 30, 2005  
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## Utah's First Combination Public School and Community Center Opens This Week to 1,100 Students

**(South Jordan, UT – Aug. 30, 2005)** – Daybreak Elementary School is the first public school in Utah that is both a school and a neighborhood learning and community center. The school is now open to 1,100 students with a community center opening in a few weeks.

Conceived and developed as a partnership between Jordan School District and Kennecott Land, Daybreak Elementary School and Daybreak Community Center is an 116,700 square-foot facility that houses students, kindergarten through sixth grade, and parents and families can utilize the community center for a variety of activities.

### Daybreak Elementary School

Daybreak Elementary School is a year-round school with four tracks. It is the first school in Utah where the land developer thought not only about the students and their teachers' needs, but also those of parents, younger children and the community. "We were delighted that Kennecott Land came to Jordan School District in the planning stages of the community – this was a first not only for our district, but a first in all of Utah," says Barry L. Newbold, Superintendent of Schools for Jordan School District.

The school's innovative architectural design was made possible by a Kennecott Land contribution. Peter McMahon, President of Kennecott Land said, "Part of building enduring communities on the Salt Lake Valley's West Bench is making sure educational opportunities are available to those who live there."

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Safety, efficiency and learning were all top considerations in the school's design. Each grade level is clustered together with private classrooms - but walls are easily modified, opening up more space for full-grade activities. Each of the 30 classrooms is wired with a sound system so all children can easily hear the teacher and each classroom has a restroom that helps to reduce unsupervised hall activity.

Safety is a top concern for Jordan School District and Kennecott Land. Bus and car traffic on school property are separated for pedestrian safety. Nearby busy roads are designed with underpasses so students do not have to cross busy roads while walking to school. Most school doors are programmed to prevent outside access except during recess and lunch.

The school is environmentally efficient with ground-source heating and cooling, an abundance of natural lighting in halls and classrooms and areas for outdoor learning. Another unique school feature is the cafeteria that doubles in size by opening up the gymnasium. A stage separates the gym and cafeteria and can be used from either side.

"I am excited to lead my students as they start a life-time of learning - but I am equally excited that it is happening in such a stimulating, safe, spacious and environmentally responsible facility," says Doree Strauss, principal, Daybreak Elementary School.

### **Daybreak Community Center**

The recreation center will be opened for community use in just a few weeks. Residents of Daybreak can use the facility as part of their community association fee and other families whose children attend Daybreak Elementary School can participate for a monthly fee and fees for individual classes. Currently, 280 homes are occupied in the Daybreak community with 13,667 homes planned at completion.

The center provides parents of Daybreak students an opportunity to walk their students to school and then stay awhile to work out or return later in the evening for community events, computer training or other educational pursuits. It has a gymnasium for court sports, weight room, aerobics and spin rooms, running track and hourly child care as well as multipurpose and educational meeting rooms. Shared resources like the gymnasium, stage and cafeteria result in cost savings.

For more information, visit [www.kennecottland.com](http://www.kennecottland.com) and [www.jordandistrict.org](http://www.jordandistrict.org).

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