

## Denver charter school gets half-million

By Rocky Mountain News  
January 31, 2007

Officials at the Denver School of Science and Technology have won a \$500,000 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

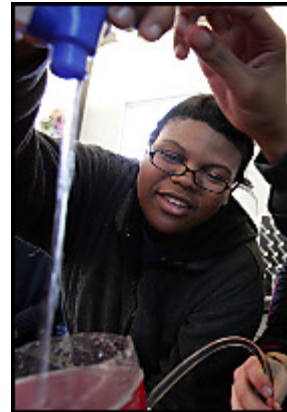
The grant, to be announced at a news conference today, will help the school expand its programs to serve grades 6-12 and possibly consider opening new schools.

The school, which currently serves about 425 students in grades 9 through 12, would be able to expand to about 725 students, said Bill Kurtz, head of the charter high school.

This is not the first time the school has gotten funding from the Microsoft co-founder and his wife. The public charter high school opened in August 2004 with money from Bill and Melinda Gates as well as the Colorado Small Schools Initiative.

The school has added one grade every year since then and will have a complete 9-12 high school by this fall. The school occupies a 10-acre site at 2000 Valentia Street on the southern end of the redeveloped Stapleton neighborhood.

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Tera Jones, 17, works on a surface water experiment in her 11th-grade biology class Tuesday at the Denver School of Science and Technology. The school will get a \$500,000 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation today.