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DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

For Immediate Release

Contacts: Ebony R. Pugh (412) 622-3616

Board Grants Approval of New Propel Charter School – Northside

PITTSBURGH, April 27, 2011– The Board voted to approve the charter application for Propel Charter School - Northside at this evening’s Legislative Meeting. The vote came after the District Charter Review Team recommended approval for the new charter school.

“We acknowledge the success of existing Propel schools and support schools that provide quality options for Pittsburgh families,” said Superintendent Linda Lane, Ed.D.

A resubmitted charter application provided evidence of the applicant’s comprehensive curriculum and plan to meet the needs of all students, prompting the District’s Charter Review Team to recommend the Board approve the charter, originally denied in February 2011.

The new charter, which will serve students in grades K-8, is scheduled to open this fall with grades K-4.

In Other Business

Board Approves New Principal Assignments for the 2011-12 School Year

The Board approved the appointment of nine principals at tonight’s Legislative Meeting. Three of the newly assigned principals recently completed the District’s Pittsburgh Emerging Leadership Academy (PELA) program. PELA is a component of the District’s Pittsburgh Urban Leadership System for Excellence (PULSE) accountability system designed to recruit, train, support, evaluate and compensate principals. PELA residents complete a year-long residency alongside current principals. All PELA residents will begin their new positions July 1, 2011.

<u>PELA Resident</u>	<u>Residency Site</u>	<u>Principal Assignment for 11-12</u>
Ms. Molly O’Malley-Argueta	Pittsburgh Colfax	Pittsburgh Stevens
Mr. Adam Sikorski	Pittsburgh Colfax	Pittsburgh Colfax
Ms. Margaret Starkes-Ross	Pittsburgh Langley	Pittsburgh Miller

Additionally the Board approved the reassignments, effective July 1st, of the following principals to new schools for the 2011-12 school year:

<u>Administrator</u>	<u>Current Assignment</u>	<u>Principal Assignment 11-12</u>
Ms. Kellie Abbott	Principal, Pittsburgh Peabody	Co-Principal, Pittsburgh Westinghouse
Ms. Leah-Rae Bivins	Principal, Pittsburgh Faison Primary Campus	Principal, Pittsburgh Schaeffer Intermediate Campus
Mr. Alvin Gipson	Principal, Pittsburgh Miller	Principal, Pittsburgh Faison
Mr. Shawn McNeil	Principal, Pittsburgh Westinghouse	Co-Principal, Pittsburgh Westinghouse
Ms. Kimberly Safran	Principal, Pittsburgh Arlington	Co-Principal Teacher Academy Pittsburgh Brashear
Mr. Kevin McGuire	Principal, Pittsburgh Faison Intermediate Campus	Principal, Pittsburgh Arlington

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David May-Stein Named Assistant Superintendent of K-8 & Middle Schools

In addition to principal placements, the Board approved the appointment of David May-Stein as Assistant Superintendent of K-8 & Middle Schools, effective July 1, 2011. In this role, Mr. May-Stein will be responsible for the efficient operations and supervision of all middle and K-8 schools. The Assistant Superintendent of K-8 & Middle Schools is a direct report to the Chief of School Performance.

Mr. May-Stein is currently serving as Principal of Pittsburgh Colfax K-8. Prior to becoming Principal of Pittsburgh Colfax in 2002, Mr. May-Stein served as Principal of Knoxville Elementary School (1999-02) and Dean of Students at Prospect Middle School (1997-99). Mr. May-Stein began his career in 1991 student teaching at Pittsburgh Langley High School where he later became a Full-time Permanent Substitute Teacher. From 1994-1996 he was a math teacher and Acting Principal at the District's Secondary Alternative Education Center.

Virginia Hill named Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development

The Board also approved the appointment of Virginia Hill, Principal, Pittsburgh Stevens, to Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development, effective July 1, 2011. In this role, Ms. Hill will oversee, manage and lead the development, selection, implementation, evaluation and refinement of the District's PreK-12 curricula. The Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development reports directly to the District's Chief Academic Officer.

Prior to serving as Principal at Pittsburgh Stevens K-8, Ms. Hill began her career in 1993 with the District as a biology teacher. In 2005 she served as an Assistant Principal within the District before becoming the Science Supervisor in 2006.

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