



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Phalen Leadership Academies Hire Founding Principal

Indianapolis, IN – The George and Veronica Phalen Leadership Academies (PLA) announce they have selected Jeremy Baugh as Founding Principal. Mr. Baugh will start with the PLA team on January 7, 2013.

“I’m so excited to be joining the Phalen Leadership Academies team because I am so inspired by the mission,” said Mr. Baugh. “This will be a network of schools that truly cares about children and families, and I know that our vision will lead to the amazing success of our scholars.”

PLA has also selected Andrea Goldwater to serve as the network’s Director of Operations. Ms. Goldwater has extensive experience in working with start-up charter schools, including those with blended learning models, an educational innovation adopted by PLA. Additionally, Ms. Goldwater has served on a charter authorizing board in Indiana.

“Great schools are built by great leaders, great teachers, and parents as partners,” said Earl Martin Phalen, Founder of PLA, which is named in honor of his parents. “We’re so fortunate to have found such great leaders as our Founding Principal and our Director of Operations. This is a huge next step as we work to serve our children and families.”

The mission of the Phalen Leadership Academies is to ensure all scholars meet high academic and social standards, and thrive as leaders at home, in their communities, and in the world. The Academies will incorporate evidence-based practices that have been found to improve academic achievement, including highly effective teachers and leaders; a scientifically validated model of parental engagement; longer year (200 days vs. the traditional 180 day school calendar) and longer school day (8 hours vs. the traditional 6.5 hour school day); evidence-based summer learning program (25 additional days); and individualized instruction through “blended learning,” which will utilize cutting-edge online learning tools and other innovative techniques so that teachers can focus on helping each student succeed.

Mr. Baugh has devoted his career to establishing successful learning environments that serve the whole child. Most recently Mr. Baugh has served as the Principal of Mill Creek West Elementary School in Amo, IN. In this role, Mr. Baugh implemented building-level change that led to major school improvement. To affect this change, Mr. Baugh developed a school-wide focus on data analysis and usage, including a tiered intervention model for math and reading and the creation and implementation of curriculum maps for all subject areas. Mr. Baugh has been able to successfully create a culture of excellence and a climate of caring, compassionate professionals committed to doing whatever it takes for scholars to succeed. Prior to this position, Mr. Baugh served as an Elementary Music Specialist. In this role Mr. Baugh not only established several student ensembles and a hands-on approach to music education, but also sponsored integrated curriculum units for the entire learning community. Mr. Baugh received a



Master of Science in School Administration from Butler University and a Bachelor of Music Education from Indiana State University.

For more information on the Phalen Leadership Academies, please visit www.phalenacademies.org or email info@phalenacademies.org.

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About the George and Veronica Phalen Leadership Academies

Building on the scientifically validated model and successful track record of [Summer Advantage USA](#), the Phalen Leadership Academy (PLA) will work to ensure all scholars meet high academic and social standards, and thrive as leaders at home, in their communities and in the world.