



# LYCÉE FRANÇAIS DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

Alysson Mills, *Chair*  
Mary Jacobs Jones, *Vice Chair*  
Michael Williams, *Secretary*  
Luke Clary, *Treasurer*  
Tim Gray, *Immediate Past Chair*  
Ben Castoriano  
Dr. Erin Greenwald  
Dr. Ann Meese  
Dr. Lisa Tropez-Arceneaux

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**Minutes of the  
Meeting of the Board of Directors of Lycée Français de la Nouvelle Orleans  
Monday, September 8, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.  
5951 Patton Street New Orleans Louisiana**

1. Opening Items

Alysson Mills called the meeting to order. In addition to Mills, present were Dr. Ann Meese, Dr. Lisa Tropez-Arceneaux, Tim Gray, and Mary Jacobs Jones.

2. CEO Report

CEO Keith Bartlett presented the attached monthly report of activity at the school.

At the conclusion of his report, he advised that he recommended that the school hire 4th Sector Solutions, Inc., a school facilities consultant, to guide it in its financing and renovation of the Priestley building. Mills moved to enter a consulting contract with 4th Sector, and Jacobs Jones seconded. All board members present expressed their support for the contract.

The board then opened the motion for public comment. Paula Griffin sought clarification on the contract's scope and was provided a list of services. Darren Belz inquired whether the company is local, and Jacobs Jones answered that it has an office in Baton Rouge. Marta Jewson inquired whether the hire is subject to public bid laws, and Jacobs Jones answered no.

The board next voted unanimously to hire 4th Sector to provide consulting services to the school in connection with the financing and renovation of the Priestley building.

3. Committee Reports

a. Priestley Committee Report

Jacobs Jones advised that the Priestley Committee has been meeting every two weeks and is now moving with speed. Sam Bruglio is putting together a long-term facilities plan for the school and

everyone is looking at scenarios for next year.

4. Closing Items

There being no further business, on motion of Gray, seconded by Jacobs Jones, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Lycée Français de la Nouvelle Orleans.

*/s/ Alysson Mills*

Alysson Mills, substituting for Secretary Michael Williams

# CEO Report to LFNO Board of Directors

## 8 September 2015

### A. Enrollment

- a. 629 students—essentially no change since last meeting.
- b. Spring '15 LDE MFP Student Membership audit
  - i. “no findings”
- c. LDE calculated our total at-risk percentage at 50% (36% ED + 14% other at-risk factors)
  - i. Short of goal by 16%age points
  - ii. Notice of Concern as a result

### B. Special Needs Students

- a. Increasing numbers of students on the Autism spectrum in Kindergarten
  - i. 5 students with Autism Dx in K, 1 w/ severe ADHD, 2 w/ developmental delays
  - ii. 2 runners
  - iii. taxing our resources to support K teachers
- b. 145 students receiving intervention services at end of SY2014-15.
- c. SpEd population (excluding gifted students) is 6.5% of total in K-5; 2014-15 total was 4.1%

### C. Development Report

- a. Grants received total \$13,500 this fiscal year
- b. 3 small grants in progress
- c. Larger grants for program expansion (HS Priestley, 21<sup>st</sup> Century for AfterCare, Technology)

### D. Staffing

- a. No staffing issues currently
- b. Advertising for an interventionist should the need for one arise.

### E. Academics-

- a. Benchmarking in progress
- b. PD—Differentiation of Instruction, first of a series to include field work
- c. AEFÉ—PDs by French Ministry
- d. Technology purchases to support differentiated instruction

### F. Transportation

- a. Required transportation begins SY 2018-19
- b. For SY 2015-16
  - i. RTA passes provided for parent and child(ren) if requested and if qualify for FRL
  - ii. Route from/to Priestley is currently operational.
    1. 43 students residing within the P-Town neighborhood were invited to use the service—approximately 11 accepted
    2. Remaining seats were offered to families outside that zone. Lottery was to be held for remaining seats, but number of families requesting service matched the number of available seats.

### G. Charter Renewal

- a. Renewal Visit—November 10, 9:00—11:00 AM
- b. LDE recommendation to BESE—January 12-13, 2016

### H. Congratulations to Tim Gray and Mary Jacobs-Jones, presentors at BoardSource Leadership Forum's national conference November 9-10. Topic: *Governance Interrupted: Surviving a Board Implosion.*

### I. Priestley Purchase

- a. Hiring of a consultant to guide the process
  - i. 4<sup>th</sup> Sector Solutions Inc., Joe Keeney proposed



July 29, 2015

Ms. Mary Jones  
Vice Chair  
Lycee Francais de la Nouvelle Orleans  
5401 S. Clairborne Ave  
New Orleans, LA 70125

Dear Ms. Jones:

4<sup>th</sup> Sector Solutions is pleased to submit this revised proposal for charter school real estate development consulting services to Lycee Francais over the next six months.

We are strong believers in the power of charter schools to improve the lives of children who might not otherwise have a high quality educational option. We understand that first and foremost, charter schools are about raising student achievement. By providing efficient and effective real estate development services to our charter school clients, we allow them to develop high quality school facilities that maximize the operating funding available for their core academic program.

In the attached proposal, you will see that we have an unmatched caliber of experience leading the development of charter school facilities. We are prepared to begin supporting Lycee Francais in New Orleans immediately.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this proposal!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Keeney', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joe Keeney  
Founder & CEO

## Company Profile

4<sup>th</sup> Sector Solutions (4SS) is highly qualified to provide real estate development consulting services to Lycee Francais.

- 4SS's principals have been helping charter school boards develop school facilities nationally since 1997. Founder and CEO Joe Keeney has personally led the design, construction, and financing of over 40 charter schools comprising over 3 million square feet and \$300 million of total project cost.
- 4SS's real estate operations are supported by Alli Zimmermann, who was formerly Operations Director at Harlem Village Academies for four years. Alli is also a former Teach for America corps member who taught at KIPP Academy in NYC. She served as the owner's rep on a recent \$12 million renovation of a public charter school in Harlem, and is presently serving as the owner's rep on a \$7 million renovation of a public charter school in New Orleans.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sector is the largest and most experienced provider of charter school back office services in Louisiana, with over 20 staff. Its finance team is led by Melissa Fox, who has been with 4SS since 2008, and includes Michael Stimpfel, a former Education Pioneer based in New Orleans. Its human resources team includes Brandy Whitfield, who joined 4SS from the RSD.
- 4SS's principals have provided CFO, strategic planning, and real estate development services to Harlem Village Academies (HVA) since 2006. HVA is an independent non-profit organization that operates two elementary schools, two middle schools, one high school, has \$60MM in assets.
- 4SS's principals have provided strategic, real estate, financial and operational consulting services to Friendship Public Charter School (Friendship) in Washington DC since 2005. Joe Keeney has served Friendship since being part of its original start-up team in 1998, and contributed to its growth to become a 7 campus, 4,400 student charter school organization.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sector Solutions also serves several other education non-profit organizations, including Character Lab ([www.characterlab.org](http://www.characterlab.org)), which is the leader in the K-12 character development research field, and The One World Network of Schools ([www.tlwns.org](http://www.tlwns.org)). The boards of these clients include Dave Levin and Mike Feinberg (the Co-founders of KIPP), Wendy Kopp (Founder of Teach for America), Norman Atkins (Founder of Uncommon Schools), and David Leebron (President of Rice University).

- 4SS has presented on charter school finance and operations excellence at many state and national charter school conferences. Joe Keeney's presentations at National Charter Schools Conferences have included:
  - What's Going On in Charter School Financing?
  - Charter School Real Estate Finance for Dummies.
  - Outsourced Business Management Services: When, Where & How?
  - The Critical Role of the Charter School Board Treasurer and Finance Committee, and the Top Ten Financial Management Mistakes to Avoid.
  - The Biggest Decisions You Will Ever Make.
  
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sector Solutions created Charter School Tools ([www.charterschooltools.org](http://www.charterschooltools.org)), the leading online resource for charter school operators. Charter School Tools was launched by 4SS in 2009 as a way to facilitate the sharing of best practice for charter school operators by providing documents and tools that support charter school operations – saving charter school founders, leaders, and business managers countless hours not having to “re-create the wheel”.
  
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sector Solutions was founded on the principles of flexibility - tailoring its services to the unique needs of individual charter schools or charter management organizations (CMOs) - and capacity building - building its clients' capacity to self-perform the services it provides as they evolve.

## Selected Bios

### **Joe Keeney**

Joe Keeney is the founder and CEO of 4th Sector Solutions and of Charter School Tools, a leading online resource for charter school operators. Joe has over 17 years of education industry experience. From 1997-2005 Joe was with Edison Schools Inc., where he served in various positions including Vice President of Real Estate, EVP of Client Development and President of Edison Charter Schools. While at Edison, he helped build the nation's largest and highest achieving network of public charter schools, serving approximately 30,000 students in 14 states and DC. Joe's responsibilities included school operations, client development, finance, and real estate design and construction. He has helped charter school boards raise over \$300 million of facilities financing. Prior to Edison, Joe had been a divisional president and chief operating officer of a Fortune 1000 global manufacturer, and a corporate strategy consultant at LEK Consulting Inc. Joe has a BA in economics from Columbia College and an MBA with high distinction from Harvard Business School, where he was elected a Baker Scholar and received the Macy Scholarship and the Uhlmann Award. Joe also earned an EdM in education leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University, and served as a mentor in the Leadership for Educational Entrepreneurship program at Arizona State University. He is the author of several articles and book chapters for American Enterprise Institute publications. In 2010, Joe was selected by the U.S. Department of Education to serve as a peer reviewer in the \$4.35 billion Race to the Top grant competition.

### **Alli Zimmermann**

Alli joined 4th Sector in November of 2012 as the Director of Operations and Human Resources for the New York region. Prior to joining 4th Sector Solutions, Alli was the Director of Business Management for Harlem Village Academies. With four years of school operations experience, Alli's expertise includes human resources, technology management, compliance, and real estate project and facilities management. As a Teach for America corps member, Alli taught special education and middle school history at KIPP Academy in New York. Alli has a Masters in Special and General Education from Bank Street College and a B.S. in International Relations from Boston University.

### **Melissa Fox**

Melissa leads the Financial Management and Reporting Department for 4th Sector Solutions as its Chief Financial Officer. She has over 15 years of accounting experience, split evenly between the non-profit and for-profit sectors. Prior to joining 4SS, Melissa was employed as senior accountant for a rapidly growing restaurant chain that expanded from 14 to over 50 stores during her tenure. Her duties called for a wide range of financial reporting and accounting functions, and she brings to 4th Sector clients the comprehensive knowledge and varied abilities gained

from that experience. Melissa presently manages monthly financial reporting and analysis, payroll processing, vendor payments, accruals and statutory reporting at both the school and charter management organization (CMO) level. She works closely with the Operations Managers as well as the client department managers to ensure the financial health and stability of the individual charter schools, CMO system, and other non-profit programs operated by 4th Sector clients. A Baton Rouge native, Melissa earned a BS in Accounting from Southeastern Louisiana University.

### **Michael Stimpfel**

Michael Stimpfel is a Finance Manager at 4<sup>th</sup> Sector Solutions. Prior to joining 4th Sector Solutions Michael worked as an Education Pioneers Analyst Fellow with FirstLine Schools in New Orleans. Michael helped FirstLine Schools adopt and implement a teacher interfacing student information system, streamline grading procedures, and led an effort to automate Joseph Clark High School's scheduling process. Prior to becoming an Education Pioneer, Michael worked as a financial auditor with Ernst & Young. While at Ernst & Young Michael led and assisted in the financial audits of both private and public companies in a myriad of industries along the Gulf Coast. Michael graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Tulane University.



### Proposed Scope of Services

4SS offers its clients a full range of skills in navigating the facility financing process, from supporting school leaders, CMOs and boards to managing brokers, architects, contractors, consultants, project managers, attorneys, lenders, underwriters and financial advisors.

4SS proposes to support Lycee Francais in the development of its Priestley campus in New Orleans. Its scope of services for the period August 15, 2015 February 14, 2016 could include:

- Attendance at monthly facilities subcommittee meetings (except August 12), including agenda preparation, meeting notes, and next steps.
- Assist Lycee finance director in preparing pro forma financial projections of enrollment, facility needs, scenario modeling, space planning, and cash flow available for debt service/rent.
- Assist in solicitation and negotiating of credit enhancement (e.g., guarantees) from potential sponsors.
- Review existing due diligence materials (e.g., environmental surveys and structural engineering reports) and recommend additional due diligence steps, if any (e.g., code consultant).
- Coordinate RFP for master planning architectural services, attend proposer presentations and coordinate communications with proposers.
- Develop 1-2 page prospectus to share with prospective lenders and developers.
- Solicit proposals for development services, potentially including charter school development organizations, CDFIs, bond underwriters, and tax credit-oriented developers.

Additional services beyond the term of this proposal may also include:

- Coordinate the RFPs for design and construction services.
- Coordinate contract negotiations and communications with selected architect, contractor, and lender.
- Assist in development and management of project schedule and budget.
- Participate in planning for scope of construction work, add or delete alternates, and value engineering.
- Provide development consulting support to client during the project activities, including review of transaction documents, project budget, schedule, meeting minutes and change orders.
- Coordinate owner-controlled budget items, e.g., technology, security, foodservice, FF&E.
- Provide project updates to school and CMO board upon request.

**Proposed Fee Structure**

4SS's Fee for the above services shall be \$2,500 per month, payable monthly.

Either party may terminate the arrangement with 30 days notice, payment of outstanding Fees through the effective date of termination, return of all project materials to Lycee, Francais, and payment of any pre-approved out of pocket expenses.

## Experience

| Charter School Real Estate Development and Finance Projects<br>Project Leadership by 4th Sector Solutions Principals (1997-2014) |                  |                  |                      |                                 |  |  |
|--|------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| School   | Location         | Approx sf        | Approx cost          | Project Description             | Financing                                |  |
| <b>Projects Completed:</b>   |                  |                  |                      |                                 |  |  |
| Wyatt-Edison Charter School  | Denver, CO       | 70,000           | \$ 6,500,000         | Renovation and new construction | Philanthropy and bank loan               |  |
| Friendship Public Charter School – Chamberlain Campus  | Washington, DC   | 60,000           | 4,000,000            | Renovation                      | Bank and credit enhanced tax-exempt bond |  |
| Friendship Public Charter School – Woodridge Campus  | Washington, DC   | 40,000           | 3,000,000            | Renovation                      | Bank and credit enhanced tax-exempt bond |  |
| Friendship Public Charter School – Blow Pierce Campus  | Washington, DC   | 80,000           | 6,000,000            | Renovation                      | Bank and credit enhanced tax-exempt bond |  |
| Friendship Public Charter School – Woodson Campus  | Washington, DC   | 155,000          | 13,000,000           | Renovation                      | Bank and credit enhanced tax-exempt bond |  |
| Friendship Public Charter School – Southeast Campus  | Washington, DC   | 40,000           | 13,000,000           | New construction - expansion    | Bank and credit enhanced tax-exempt bond |  |
| Friendship Public Charter School – Tech Prep Campus  | Washington, DC   | 14,000           | 3,750,000            | Acquisition and modulars        | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Thomas Edison Public Charter School  | Wilmington, DE   | 78,000           | 7,000,000            | Renovation                      | Philanthropy and bank loan               |  |
| Charles Drew Charter School  | Atlanta, GA      | 80,000           | 14,000,000           | New construction                | Philanthropy                             |  |
| Chicago International Charter School – Longwood Campus   | Chicago, IL      | 100,000          | 2,000,000            | Renovation                      | Philanthropy and tax-exempt bond         |  |
| Christel House Academy   | Indianapolis, IN | 40,000           | 4,000,000            | Expansion                       | Credit-enhanced tax-exempt bond          |  |
| Mentorship Academies   | Baton Rouge, LA  | 55,000           | 6,500,000            | Renovation                      | Sale and leaseback (REIT)                |  |
| Slaughter Community Charter School   | Slaughter, LA    | 17,000           | 125,000              | Modular lease                   | Private funding for sitework             |  |
| Seven Hills Charter School   | Worcester, MA    | 60,000           | 4,500,000            | Renovation                      | Bank loan                                |  |
| Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences – Medbury Campus  | Detroit, MI      | 108,000          | 12,000,000           | Renovation                      | Tax-exempt bond                          |  |
| Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences – Jefferson Campus  | Detroit, MI      | 120,000          | 10,000,000           | Renovation                      | Bank loan and tax-exempt bond            |  |
| Detroit Edison Public School Academy   | Detroit, MI      | 100,000          | 7,000,000            | Renovation                      | Bank loan and developer financing        |  |
| Detroit YMCA Service Learning Academy  | Detroit, MI      | 75,000           | 9,000,000            | New construction                | Tax-exempt bond                          |  |
| Edison Oakland Public School Academy   | Ferdale, MI      | 87,000           | 3,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Mid-Michigan Public School Academy   | Lansing, MI      | 100,000          | 2,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Ben Ross Public School Academy   | Warren, MI       | 100,000          | 1,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Duluth Public School Academy – Kenwood Campus  | Duluth, MN       | 30,000           | 1,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Duluth Public School Academy – Raleigh Campus  | Duluth, MN       | 25,000           | 2,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Duluth Public School Academy – Washburn Campus   | Duluth, MN       | 40,000           | 3,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Westport Allen-Edison Village Educational School   | Kansas City, MO  | 40,000           | 3,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Derrick Thomas Academy   | Kansas City, MO  | 90,000           | 9,000,000            | Renovation                      | Bank loan and philanthropy               |  |
| Confluence Academy – Old North Campus  | St. Louis, MO    | 30,000           | 3,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Confluence Academy – Walnut Park Campus  | St. Louis, MO    | 60,000           | 4,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Schomburg Charter School   | Jersey City, NJ  | 34,000           | 8,000,000            | New construction                | Third party loan and philanthropy        |  |
| Granville Charter School   | Trenton, NJ      | 90,000           | 11,000,000           | Renovation                      | Sale and leaseback (REIT)                |  |
| Granville Charter High School  | Trenton, NJ      | 70,000           | 9,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| New Covenant Charter School  | Albany, NY       | 80,000           | 13,000,000           | New construction                | Tax-exempt bond                          |  |
| Harriet Tubman Charter School  | Bronx, NY        | 15,000           | 1,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Stepping Stone Academy Charter School  | Buffalo, NY      | 65,000           | 4,500,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Harlem Village Academy High School   | New York, NY     | 56,000           | 50,000,000           | New construction                | 80%/20% public/private                   |  |
| Harlem Village Academy Elementary  | New York, NY     | 65,000           | 27,000,000           | Renovation                      | New Markets Tax Credits and philanthropy |  |
| Riverhead Charter School   | Riverhead, NY    | 20,000           | 3,000,000            | Renovation and modular addition | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Charter School of Science and Technology   | Rochester, NY    | 97,540           | 9,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Charter School for Applied Technologies  | Tonawanda, NY    | 75,000           | 7,000,000            | Renovation                      | Tax-exempt bond                          |  |
| Dayton Academy   | Dayton, OH       | 90,000           | 9,000,000            | New construction                | Philanthropy and bank loan               |  |
| Dayton View Academy  | Dayton, OH       | 90,000           | 9,000,000            | New construction                | Philanthropy and bank loan               |  |
| Mariana Bracetti Academy   | Philadelphia, PA | 60,000           | 5,000,000            | Renovation                      | Developer financing                      |  |
| Renaissance Academy-Edison Charter School  | Phoenixville, PA | 63,000           | 8,000,000            | New construction                | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Renaissance Academy of Pittsburgh Alternative of Hope  | Pittsburgh, PA   | 22,000           | 500,000              | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| Milwaukee Academy of Science   | Milwaukee, WI    | 89,000           | 8,000,000            | Renovation                      | Tax-exempt bond                          |  |
| Milwaukee Urban League Academy of Bus. & Ec.   | Milwaukee, WI    | 40,000           | 4,000,000            | Renovation                      | Third-party loan                         |  |
| <b>Total Projects Completed</b>  |                  | <b>3,015,540</b> | <b>\$342,375,000</b> |                                 |  |  |

### References

| Name                    | Title, Organization & Contact Info   | Relationship  |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Deborah Kenny           | Founder & CEO<br>Harlem Village Academies<br>T (646) 812-9501<br>E <a href="mailto:dkenny@harlemvillage.org">dkenny@harlemvillage.org</a>                                  | Client since 2006. Operates 5 schools. Completed \$50MM high school development project in 2012 and \$30MM elementary school project (incl. NMTC financing) in 2013.  |
| Gus Saliba              | Auditor<br>Fruchter, Rosen & Company, PC<br>T (212) 957-3600 ext. 202 E<br><a href="mailto:gsaliba@frcpas.com">gsaliba@frcpas.com</a>                                      | Independent financial auditor for Harlem Village Academies and other New York charter schools.  |
| Al Dubin                | Chief Executive Officer<br>Charter Schools Development Corp.<br>T (617) 913-5620<br><a href="mailto:adubin@csdc.org">adubin@csdc.org</a>                                   | Development partner.  |
| Donald L. Hense         | Founder & Chairman<br>Friendship Public Charter Schools<br>T (202) 281-1700<br>E <a href="mailto:dhense@friendshipschools.org">dhense@friendshipschools.org</a>            | 4SS principals assisted in opening of 6 charter schools serving 4,000 students, led new campus development and financing, led implementation of strategic plan created with McKinsey, managed 10 transition task forces, participated on strategic planning steering committee. |
| Patricia A. Brantley    | Chief Operating Officer<br>Friendship Public Charter Schools<br>T (202) 281-1700<br>E <a href="mailto:pbrantley@friendshipschools.org">pbrantley@friendshipschools.org</a> |   |
| Caroline Roemer Shirley | Executive Director<br>LA Assn of Public Charter Schools<br>T 504-274-3651<br>E <a href="mailto:croemer@lacharterschools.org">croemer@lacharterschools.org</a>              | 4SS is a preferred vendor endorsed by the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools.  |
| Kathy Padian            | Deputy Superintendent<br>Orleans Parish School Board<br>T 504-359-8195<br>E <a href="mailto:kathleen_padian@obsb.us">kathleen_padian@obsb.us</a>                           | Authorizer and industry expert.   |
| John Spain              | Executive Vice President<br>Baton Rouge Area Foundation<br>T (225) 387-6126<br>E <a href="mailto:jspain@braf.org">jspain@braf.org</a>                                      | Officer of major foundation; former client Board Treasurer.   |
| Adrian Morgan           | Chief Executive Officer<br>Algiers Charter School Assn.<br>T (917) 363-7368<br>E <a href="mailto:adrian.morgan@theacsa.org">adrian.morgan@theacsa.org</a>                  | CEO of largest New Orleans CMO, Current consulting client and former team member.   |
| Joe Neary               | Chief Operating Officer<br>FirstLine Schools<br>T 225-436-9706<br>E <a href="mailto:jneary@firstlineschools.org">jneary@firstlineschools.org</a>                           | Client board member and former 4SS client COO.  |
| Bryan Jones             | Gulf Coast District Manager<br>HNTB Corporation<br>T (225) 368-2800<br>E <a href="mailto:brjones@HNTB.com">brjones@HNTB.com</a>  | Former Board President of 4SS client; completed \$7MM development project with REIT financing in 2011.  |

References from the following industry leaders can be arranged upon request:

- Beth Scioneaux, Deputy Superintendent for Finance, Louisiana Department of Education.
- Deborah McGriff, Board Chair, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools and Partner, New School Venture Fund.
- Jim Shelton, former Assistant Deputy Secretary for Innovation and Improvement, US Department of Education.
- Richard Barth, CEO, KIPP Foundation.
- Jeanne Allen, Founder and President Emeritus, Center for Education Reform.
- Ken Campbell, former President, Black Alliance for Educational Options.
- Rick Hess, Director of Education Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute.