

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hiawatha Academies to open new high school building in 2018

MINNEAPOLIS – Hiawatha Academies has acquired the property where it will build its permanent home for Hiawatha Collegiate High School. The new high school campus, which is set to open in the fall of 2018, will welcome over 400 scholars next school year, and will grow to a full capacity of 788 scholars and 84 staff over the next four years.

The building project is part of Hiawatha Academies' strategic plan to grow to five schools serving 2,400 students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade.

This project is made possible with the support of partners including Sunrise Banks, Chase, Propel Nonprofits (formally Nonprofits Assistance Fund), Partners for the Common Good, Anchor Bank, and Charter Schools Development Corporation. Members of the Minnesota Business Partnership, including Polaris, Xcel Energy, Hubbard Broadcasting, and Dorsey & Whitney LLP, are also dedicating significant resources to the project.

"Hiawatha Academies is honored to have such dedicated partners for this project," said Hiawatha Academies' Chief Operating Officer, Sean Elder. "The future Hiawatha Collegiate High School campus ensures a college preparatory K-12 pathway for all Hiawatha scholars and families."

To celebrate the acquisition of the new property, Hiawatha Academies will be hosting a groundbreaking ceremony for partners and scholars on October 25th, 2017.

Hiawatha Academies scholars have been engaged in shaping the vision for the high school building over the past three years. The building design includes learning spaces to support the full breadth of college preparatory programming: a state of the art lecture hall, regulation high school soccer field, large gymnasium, atrium community spaces, and a mix of contemporary and historic architectural features, making for a one-of-a-kind experience.

"Our students are so excited about the new building and all of the programmatic possibilities it'll house," stated Hiawatha Collegiate's Founding Principal, Nicole Cooley. "Many have offered valuable input on the layout and design, and they are eager to move in and found something really special."

For more information about the groundbreaking ceremony please contact Ambar Hanson at ahanson@hiawathaacademies.org

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About Hiawatha Academies

Hiawatha Academies is a network of high-performing K-12 college preparatory charter schools located in South Minneapolis. Our mission is to empower all Hiawatha scholars with the knowledge, character and leadership skills to graduate from college and serve the common good. Our equity vision is to honor the humanity of all people, we actively disrupt systemic inequity in pursuit of an equitable world. Visit our website at www.hiawathaacademies.org

Sunrise Banks, N.A., based in St. Paul, Minnesota, seeks to radically change the way urban communities and underserved people thrive by empowering them to achieve their aspirations. Sunrise is certified by the U.S. Treasury as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), a designation earned by approximately 100 banks nationwide. Sunrise Banks is also a member of the Global Alliance for Banking on Values and is a certified B Corp for its demonstrated commitment to transparent corporate governance and positive community impact. Visit Sunrise Banks at SunriseBanks.com, on Twitter @SunriseBanks, or on Facebook. Sunrise Banks is Member FDIC.

Partners for the Common Good (PCG), is a national nonprofit certified CDFI loan fund based in Washington, D.C. As pioneers of the CDFI industry's first wholesale loan participation network, we lend in collaboration with our partners by co-funding and sharing risk on loans. Our products and services support the work of CDFIs serving local borrowers that create benefits for low-income people and communities. Our flexible loan products support pre-development, acquisition, bridge, construction, renovation, and working capital needs of community development projects. We also created CapNexus, an online database and tool that matches borrowers, money and partners to community development opportunities nationwide. Visit PCG at pcgloanfund.org and capnexus.org.

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The Minnesota Business Partnership is comprised of more than 100 men and women representing a broad range of business interests, political perspectives and personal philosophies. As chief executives of Minnesota's largest employers, however, they are united by the Partnership's mission: Maintain a high quality of life for all Minnesotans by ensuring that the state's economy remains strong and globally competitive.

JPMorgan Chase is a leading global financial services firm and is a leader in investment banking, financial services for consumers and small businesses, commercial banking, financial transaction processing, and asset management.

Propel Nonprofits is a nonprofit organization that closely links strategy, governance, and finance to support nonprofits throughout their organizational lifecycle. Propel Nonprofits powers nonprofits, providing expert training, collaborative guidance, and financial resources to help Minnesota organizations fulfill their missions.