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NWEA 2009 GROWTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Not-for-Profit Organization Recognizes Educational Partners for Outstanding Student Growth

July 24, 2009 – Portland, Ore. – Ten Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) partners, including schools, districts and educational organizations, have been recognized for their outstanding work in fostering student academic growth using NWEA's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments.

These partners were recognized as part of NWEA's 2009 Growth Achievement Awards, which were awarded at the not-for-profit organization's annual Summer Conference in Portland, Ore. June 30 – July 2, 2009.

The winners of the 2009 NWEA Growth Achievement Awards are:

- For partners with less than 750 enrolled students:
 - Tarek Ibn Ziyad Academy in Inner Grove Heights, Minn.
 - Put-In-Bay School District in Put-In-Bay, Ohio
 - Platte River Academy in Highlands Ranch, Colo. *Platte River was also a 2008 award recipient.*
- For partners with 751-5,000 enrolled students:
 - Annandale School District #876 in Annandale, Minn.
 - Kasson-Mantorville School District in Kasson, Minn.
 - Bensenville School District #2 in Bensenville, Ill.
 - Columbus Public Schools in Columbus, Neb.
 - School Administrative Unit #23 in N.H.
- For partners with more than 5,000 students
 - National Heritage Academies charters schools, headquartered in Grand Rapids, Mich.
 - School District #622 in North St. Paul, Maplewood and Oakdale, Minn.

To qualify for the NWEA Growth Achievement Awards, partners must have used NWEA data for at least one year and have tested at least 65% of students enrolled with NWEA's MAP assessment/s, along with other factors at NWEA's discretion.

NWEA has identified these 10 partners in the hope to establish and share best practices for making exceptional student growth.

"We are proud of our 10 partners recognized this year for their outstanding work in helping ALL of their students learn," said Ginger Hopkins, Vice President of Partner Relations for NWEA. "We hope they continue to challenge each other to fulfill the vision of kid-centric education and help every student achieve his or her aspirational goals."

NWEA's MAP is a state-aligned computer-adaptive assessment system that accurately measures each student's instructional level and growth over time. The assessment package provides insight into student academic needs and resources to adjust instruction through detailed growth data, resources and professional development components.

The MAP assessment package includes assessments for mathematics, reading, language usage, along with optional assessments for science and primary grades (K-2).

About Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA)

The Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) is a national not-for-profit educational services organization that provides research-based educational growth measures, professional training, and consulting services to improve teaching and learning. Partnering with school districts, states, and other education organizations, NWEA delivers computerized assessment services to more than 3,400 education agencies and approximately 4 million students. Additionally, its Growth Research Database, the most extensive collection of student growth data in the country, provides a rich source for the study of academic achievement. Contact and other information is available at www.nwea.org.

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