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Achievers Early College Preparatory Charter School Joins Cohort to Reimagine K-12 Learning

Funding and management assistance from NewSchools Venture Fund will fuel efforts to launch new, innovative school models

(Trenton, NJ, May 3, 2017) – Achievers Early College Preparatory Charter School (AECP) is proud to announce its selection as a member of the 2017 Invent cohort at NewSchools Venture Fund.

AECP is one of 28 organizations in the 2017 investment group. Each cohort member is committed to launch a new, innovative school or instructional model designed to meet all students where they are, help them succeed, and inspire them to create a brighter future for us all. In addition to the funding, NewSchools will provide management assistance and create a community of practice for the cohort members.

Led by founders Efe Odeleye and Osen Osagie, AECP will be a public charter school for students in grades 6-12 that provides them with the unique opportunity to take a two-year, tuition-free college course of study in STEM fields following the 9th and 10th grades. As a part of this year's cohort, AECP will receive a \$215,000 grant from NewSchools Invent to support this school model.

"The motivation behind Achievers was to provide a way for student to go to and through college in a supportive environment, and develop the mindsets and behaviors that will set them up for a successful STEM career, and life in general," said Achievers co-founder, Osen Osagie. Co-Founder, Efe Odeleye, went on to say, "Now that we're seeing more and more students in Trenton make it to college, persistence continues to be an issue. Getting to college is not our goal at Achievers; finishing is."

Rethinking education and crafting sustainable learning models for student success are important for AECP founders, whose vision is aligned with NewSchools' mission.

"Too many of today's schools were built for a different time and purpose," said Scott Benson, Managing Partner at NewSchools Venture Fund. "We believe schools can be reimagined to better prepare young people for the future. That's why NewSchools Invent is proud to invest in these teams of educators who are thinking boldly and creating new opportunities to set students up for success, regardless of where they're from."

About Achievers Early College Preparatory Charter School

With a projected opening in September of 2018 in Trenton, Achievers Early College Preparatory Charter School seeks to raise the quality and standards of secondary education by offering public middle and

high school-age students a college course of study in the sciences, at no cost, and enabling students from all backgrounds to succeed in college and beyond. AECP is determined to provide students with opportunities to develop their intellectual, emotional and social potential through the implementation of a rigorous, technology-focused curriculum that fosters the transition from education to industry.

The brainchild of Efe Odeleye and Osen Osagie, who have more than 15 years of classroom teaching and school administration experience between them, AECP aims to make a high school diploma, a college degree, and workplace learning accessible to students to ensure they are prepared to work in, and eventually join and lead, innovative businesses in science and technology throughout our region and across our nation.

About NewSchools

NewSchools Venture Fund is a national nonprofit that finds, funds and supports promising and innovative education entrepreneurs, teams of educators and education leaders. NewSchools helps them accomplish their missions to achieve outstanding results for the schools, students and educators they serve. NewSchools is committed to helping students graduate high school prepared and inspired to achieve their most ambitious dreams and plans. Through our investing, management assistance, network building, and thought leadership, NewSchools helps to reimagine K–12 education.

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