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Match Education Partners with New Schools for New Orleans to Offer Training for Instructional Leaders

Instructional Leaders from Across New Orleans Charter School Sector to Participate

Boston, MA – Match Education, a Boston-based nonprofit that operates high-performing urban public charter schools and a unique graduate school of education that trains teachers for high-poverty schools, announced today a multi-year partnership with New Schools for New Orleans (NSNO) to train approximately 15 instructional leaders per year in New Orleans public charter schools.

“We know that the greatest in-school driver of student achievement is exceptional teaching, yet many school leaders struggle to support their teachers in improving their practice in a systematic and ongoing manner,” said Erica Winston, Director of Match Teacher Coaching in New Orleans. “Our program will help instructional leaders in New Orleans improve their ability to coach teaches in ways that actually matter when it’s game time in the class room.”

"Match is a national leader in understanding teacher development," said Maggie Runyan-Shefa, Chief Schools Officer at NSNO. "We are thrilled that they are partnering with us for the next several years to bring that same, high-quality training to more of our school leaders. In the end, Match is helping us to realize our vision of a New Orleans that provides every student with access to an excellent public school education."

Match’s year-long program for instructional leaders in New Orleans has three components:

- **Initial Summer Training:** The year-long program begins with an intensive, one-week summer training focused on developing school-wide systems necessary to support teacher coaching (e.g. tracking teacher growth data, establishing effective coaching schedules, establishing receptivity among teachers to quick-cycle, direct feedback.)
- **Coaching During Academic Year:** During the school year, from August to March, instructional leaders will be paired with a Match coach who will deliver ongoing support and feedback throughout the school year. Match coaches will mainly observe and critique instructional leaders as they coach teachers.

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- **Collaboration with School Leadership:** Match staff and instructional leaders enrolled in the program will consult weekly with the full leadership teams of the host schools. This collaboration is vital to ensure that the instructional leaders enrolled in Match's training program have support from their superiors in making changes to school-wide systems that govern teacher coaching.

To prepare for the launch of the program in 2014-15, Match piloted its coaching program in 2013-15 at ARISE Schools, a network of charter schools in New Orleans. At ARISE Schools, Match trained five school leaders, including Krista Patrick, Academic Dean at ARISE Academy.

"Without the Match training program I would not have had a strong vision for what coaching looks like," said Patrick. "I also think I would have missed the right action steps for my teachers."

About Match Education
Match Education is an engine of innovation in education. It operates high-performing urban public charter schools and a unique graduate school of education that trains teachers for high-poverty schools. Out of this applied work, Match Education refines, validates, and disseminates new ideas and practices in school design and teacher preparation.

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