



# KIPP DELTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**For Immediate Release**

## **KIPP Delta Gets Green Light From State Board to Expand to Blytheville, Arkansas**

### ***Blytheville campus set to open in 2010***

BLYTHEVILLE, AR -- November 9, 2009 -- KIPP Delta Public Schools is pleased to announce that the state Board of Education has awarded KIPP Delta, Inc., approval to open a new public school campus in Blytheville, Arkansas, in 2010. Earlier this year, KIPP Delta chose Blytheville as the first of three communities in which it would open new schools in Arkansas.

The KIPP Blytheville public charter school will start with a class of fifth graders in 2010 and add a grade each year until it becomes a full middle school, serving approximately 320 students in grades five through eight. The new KIPP school will be led by Maisie Wright, who is currently completing the year-long Fisher Fellowship principal training program. Ms. Wright began her career in education as a Teach For America corps member in the Delta and most recently served as a math and science teacher at KIPP Delta College Prep.

#### **About KIPP**

Two teachers, Mike Feinberg and Dave Levin, started KIPP in 1994 in Houston, TX after completing their commitment to Teach For America. KIPP has grown to a national network of 82 public schools in 19 states and the District of Columbia, serving over 20,000 students. More than 90 percent of KIPP students are African-American or Hispanic/Latino, and more than 80 percent of KIPP students are eligible for the federal free and reduced-price meals program. KIPP schools have been widely recognized for narrowing the achievement gap in public education, with 85 percent of KIPP alumni having matriculated to college. For more information, visit [www.kipp.org](http://www.kipp.org).

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