

Ian V. Rowe Named Chief Executive Officer of the Public Preparatory Network

NEW YORK, August 24, 2010 -- Public Preparatory Network, a non-profit organization that manages the highest-performing, single sex public charter schools in New York City, today announced Ian V. Rowe as its new Chief Executive Officer. The Public Prep Board of Directors cited Mr. Rowe's demonstrated ability to lead complex organizations, form innovative strategic partnerships, raise capital, build public awareness and navigate the new media landscape as reasons for his appointment.

"Ian is a product of the New York City public school system, and has over 15 years of experience leading organizations and campaigns in the private, nonprofit and public sectors," said Bryan Lawrence, Chairman of the Board of Public Prep. "His remarkable record of positive social impact uniquely positions him to lead Public Prep into its next stage of growth and to engage an alliance of parents, policymakers and principals to continue to achieve exceptional academic outcomes for kids. We are proud that Ian has joined our team to build upon the work of Founder and former CEO Miriam Raccah."

Mr. Rowe most recently worked for The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as Deputy Director of Postsecondary Success where he helped lead the strategy to dramatically increase college completion rates, particularly among minority and low income young adults. Previously, Mr. Rowe worked for MTV as the Senior Vice President of Strategic Partnerships & Public Affairs. In this capacity, Mr. Rowe oversaw massive multi-media campaigns, including the creation of 'Get Schooled,' the breakthrough media partnership between Viacom and the Gates Foundation. Prior to MTV, Mr. Rowe was the White House Director of Strategy and Performance Measurement for USA Freedom Corps. Prior to the White House, Mr. Rowe worked at Teach For America, where he helped develop a comprehensive portfolio model of assessment that measured teacher effectiveness as a function of gains in student achievement.

"There is now irrefutable evidence that kids from even the most challenging backgrounds can perform at the highest level, with rigorous instruction, high expectations and academic and social supports. We can no longer allow defenders of the status quo to keep making excuses for failing the kids that need us most," said Ian Rowe. "As a new father myself, I am inspired to lead Public Prep and join the incredibly talented team already in place and the growing charter school movement to ensure that *every* parent has the power to choose a high quality, tuition-free public school education for their children."

Mr. Rowe graduated from Brooklyn Technical High School, received his BS in Computer Science Engineering from Cornell University and MBA from Harvard Business School. He is an Echoing Green Fellow and a Harvard Initiative for Social Enterprise Fellow.

Public Prep serves urban districts in which high percentages of students face significant academic and social risk factors, are deficient in reading and math, and are eligible for free or reduced price lunch. Girls Prep Lower East Side Elementary, the inaugural school in the Public Prep network and first all-girls charter school in New York City, launched in 2005. The instructional model is powered by extremely high expectations, a college preparatory curriculum, the ability to reward exceptional teachers, deep parental engagement and a nurturing single-sex environment. The success of Girls Prep has proven that students from high-poverty neighborhoods can achieve academic results that far surpass those of their peers from more privileged backgrounds. In Fall 2009, Girls Prep Bronx Elementary School and Girls Prep Lower East Side Middle School opened. And in Spring 2010, Public Prep was granted a new charter to open its first all-boys school — the Boys Preparatory Charter School of New York — slated to open in Fall 2011.

To find out more about Public Prep, visit www.publicprep.org.