

Academy Prep Centers for Education  
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## **Academy Prep Puts Funding Towards Achieving American Education Excellence**

Tampa, FL – As the school year begins, Academy Prep Centers for Education strives to continue exceeding scholastic expectations while maintaining funding support amongst a nation struggling to preserve successful education.

In recent news, recalling the *New York Times* article, “Our Broken Escalator” (July 16, 2011), school’s in Yamhill, Oregon are profiled in comparison to the nation in its entirety with budget cuts leading to a decrease in the number of school days, reduced staff by nine percent in the past five years, and increased class sizes. All of these changes directly correlate to education failure.

The functional educational model implemented at Academy Prep Centers for Education works because it involves the community joining together. Donors, in-kind sponsors, community partners, and student families pledge to uphold to the rigorous academic program that places our 8th graders 2-4 grade levels ahead in math and reading on national assessment tests. The model proves alternative possibilities to the current education woes that school’s across the nation face even in tough economic times.

The families of the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders who attend Academy Prep face numerous hardships, including inadequate housing, lack of education, unemployment, poor health, lack of positive role models, a family history of crime or abuse, addictions, and mental illness. However, Academy Prep students have the ability and desire to succeed in a rigorous academic program. Students attend school up to 11 hours a day, 6 days a week, 11 months a year. Small classes of no more than 17 students are separated by gender. The curriculum is demanding and offers a full range of academic classes, including preparatory level English, literature, mathematics, science and history and a wide range of daily enrichment activities.

For more information on the Academy Prep Center for Education, please contact Maggie McCleland, Development Manager, at 813.248.5600 (ext 1138) or 813.486.8107 (cell) or [mmccleland@academyprep.org](mailto:mmccleland@academyprep.org). School officials and trustees are also available for interviews.

The Academy Prep Centers for Education are 501(c)(3) non-profit organization’s. There aren urban college preparatory middle schools whose mission is to inspire and empower students qualifying for need-based scholarships to be future community leaders through a rigorous middle school program coupled with ongoing graduate support. Academy Prep Centers for Education has two campuses, one in Tampa and the other in St. Petersburg. To learn more information, please visit: [www.academyprep.org/](http://www.academyprep.org/)

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