



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CALIFORNIA VIRTUAL EDUCATION PARTNERS AND KAPLAN VIRTUAL EDUCATION LAUNCH TWO NEW ONLINE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS**

*Launch of San Francisco and North Central California Kaplan Academies Bring Number of  
Kaplan Virtual Schools in State to Five*

San Francisco, CA, June 11, 2009—Bay area students and those from the north central region will have a new education option this fall with the opening of Kaplan Academy of California, San Francisco Bay and Kaplan Academy of California, North Central California. The tuition-free charter schools will offer students in grades 6-12 a range of core, honors and advanced placement courses; individualized instruction from state-certified teachers; and the ability to adapt their education to meet their specific needs.

California Virtual Education Partners, a non-profit organization focused on expanding education options for students statewide, has partnered with Kaplan Virtual Education, a leading provider of online education offering curriculum, technology and management of schools.

Kaplan Academy of California, San Francisco Bay and Kaplan Academy of California, North Central California are the latest Kaplan Academies to open in California, bringing the total number of Kaplan virtual schools in the state to five. Kaplan Virtual Education currently serves students through its Los Angeles school, and the organization recently launched online charter schools for students in San Diego and Central California. With these new school openings Kaplan Academies are now available to more than 88 percent of California's student population. The schools cover all major urban areas of the state.

"Thousands of families are searching for high-caliber alternatives to the traditional learning environment," said Charles Thornburgh, President of Kaplan Virtual Education. "Through our California schools we're presenting that high-quality option to area students. We're committed to giving students – in this state and across the country – access to an education that will help them thrive in the 21st century."

Kaplan Academy of California, San Francisco Bay, authorized by the Bayshore Elementary School District, will serve students in San Mateo, Alameda, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and San Francisco counties. The north central school, authorized by the Tracy Unified School District, will serve students residing in San Joaquin, Sacramento, Amador, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Santa Clara, Alameda, and Contra Costa counties.

"Online schools are becoming an increasingly popular option," said Jonathan Zaff, President of California Virtual Education Partners. "These are the fourth and fifth schools we're opening with Kaplan because we believe in the valuable opportunity our online schools provide to California families. We're building a strong foundation and expanding upon it to bring choice to more students."

Teachers employed by California Virtual Education Partners will provide instruction using Kaplan's virtual learning platform. Class discussions and student-to-student interaction take place via phone, email, online blackboards and instant messages.

Students enrolled at either academy will be able to access their coursework from virtually anywhere, no matter the day or time, through the Internet. A parent portal allows families to view their child's academic record and activity practically 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Laptops will be issued to any active student who does not have access to a computer. To learn more about the Kaplan Academies, visit [www.kaplanacademy.com](http://www.kaplanacademy.com).

California Virtual Education Partners is a California Nonprofit Corporation committed to expanding high-quality virtual education options for students statewide.

### **About Kaplan Virtual Education**

Kaplan Virtual Education (KVE), a leading provider of online 6-12 education, offers flexible, individualized and high-quality curriculum and instruction to promote student success. KVE operates public and private schools that provide a wide variety of accredited learning options for middle and high school students, schools and school districts. KVE's student body is as diverse as its course offerings, serving accelerated learners seeking advanced placement and college prep courses, adults seeking high school diplomas, homeschooled students, and at-risk teenagers who require an alternative to traditional high school. KVE is accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and The Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation (CITA). For more information, visit [www.kaplanvirtualeducation.com](http://www.kaplanvirtualeducation.com).

Kaplan Virtual Education is part of Kaplan Higher Education, which serves more than 114,000 students online and through 71 campus-based schools across the U.S. and Europe. Kaplan Higher Education also has online programs through Kaplan University and Concord Law School of Kaplan University. Kaplan Higher Education schools offer a spectrum of academic opportunities, from high school diplomas to graduate and professional degrees, including a Juris Doctor degree. Kaplan Higher Education is part of Kaplan, Inc., a subsidiary of The Washington Post Company (NYSE: WPO). For more information, visit [www.portal.kaplan.edu](http://www.portal.kaplan.edu).

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