



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BELOIT PARTNERS WITH KAPLAN VIRTUAL EDUCATION TO OFFER ONLINE OPTIONS FOR LOCAL STUDENTS

Hollywood, FL, Sept. 10, 2009 — Kaplan Virtual Education and the School District of Beloit today announced that they have partnered to launch part- and full-time online school options for students throughout district this fall. This virtual public school option will provide middle and high school students with a variety of online courses that feature individualized instruction and an engaging curriculum.

"This partnership provides Beloit students with a high quality education option that includes personalized attention from teachers, takes advantage of engaging learning tools and prepares students for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century," said Charles Thornburgh, president of Kaplan Virtual Education. "Students may enroll in challenging courses that can be customized to meet their individual needs and they can study virtually anywhere at any time via the Internet."

The courses, taught by Wisconsin-certified teachers, will be embedded with audio, video and other innovative teaching tools. They will be designed to cater to different skill levels, facilitate learning and keep students motivated. Teachers will use virtual white boards—the equivalent of a real-time online blackboard—to demonstrate course work, and will be available to answer student questions via instant message, email and telephone. Kaplan Virtual Education courses will be designed to meet Wisconsin middle and high school graduation requirements. Graduating students will receive a diploma from the School District of Beloit.

"This partnership allows us to better meet the needs of students in our district, including those who have to look beyond Beloit to find a virtual learning option," said Steve McNeal, executive director of academic programs. "By providing an online learning program, we are offering non-traditional students the opportunity to receive a quality education that best fits their needs."

The tuition-free public school is open to all qualified Beloit middle and high school students. To learn more about enrollment in the program, visit [www.SDB.k12.WI.US](http://www.SDB.k12.WI.US). Open Enrollment in Wisconsin is February 1-19, 2010.

By offering a virtual learning option to students, the School District of Beloit is at the forefront of a growing trend in education. The Hoover Institute predicts that by 2019 half of courses in grades 9 to 12 will be delivered online.

### About Beloit

The School District of Beloit educates and nurtures over 7,000 students in 12 elementary schools, 2 middle schools and 1 high school. Alternative programming and charter schools are available at the middle and high school levels. After school programs run throughout the year. Activities include sports from elementary to Division I high school level, gifted and talented student competitions, homework and enrichment clubs, leadership organizations and more. We welcome the opportunity to discuss how advantageous a School District of Beloit education can be. More details and contact information can found on our website: [beloitschools.net](http://beloitschools.net).

### About Kaplan Virtual Education

Kaplan Virtual Education (KVE), a leading provider of online 6 through 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. Kaplan Academy public schools currently operate in six states: California, Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Kansas and Idaho. KVE private schools, which are available to students across the nation, include Kaplan College Preparatory School, Kaplan High School and Kaplan University High School. KVE is accredited by AdvancED. For more information, visit [www.kaplanonlineschools.com](http://www.kaplanonlineschools.com).

Kaplan Virtual Education is part of Kaplan Higher Education, which serves more than 100,000 students online and through more than 70 campus-based schools across the U.S. and abroad. Kaplan Higher Education also has online programs through 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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