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DR. TINA CHEKAN TO LEAD PROPEL SCHOOLS & FOUNDATION

Propel Schools Co-Founder transitions to new role

PITTSBURGH, PA, April 30, 2019 – Propel Schools CEO/Superintendent Dr. Tina Chekan will oversee both Propel Schools and Propel Schools Foundation as Jeremy Resnick, Co-Founder and Foundation Executive Director transitions into a different role.

Dr. Chekan has led Propel Schools as its CEO/Superintendent since 2013. She began her Propel career as a kindergarten teacher when it opened its flagship school in Homestead in 2003.

Resnick co-founded Propel Schools in 2003 in the basement of a former hospital in Homestead with 185 kindergarten through fourth-grade students. Since that time, he has focused on supporting the mission of the schools as executive director of the Propel Schools Foundation. The public charter school's mission was and continues to be to transform the lives of children in underserved communities through innovative, student-centered learning. Today, the network includes 13 schools and serves 4,000 students.

Resnick will transition into the new role of Innovation Fellow, allowing him to continue to support the mission of Propel Schools while working on broader initiatives such as Fund My Future, a children's savings program that has expanded beyond Propel to be available to any Allegheny County family.

"It is an exciting time in the life of Propel Schools. We have a track record of innovation and a strong record of academic achievement. A lot of our success is owed to Jeremy Resnick," said Dr. Chekan. "I look forward to continuing to work with Jeremy in his new role."

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“Since Propel’s inception nearly 17 years ago, Jeremy Resnick has been synonymous with Propel Schools,” said Board President David Fair. “His vision for providing high quality education to children in underserved communities has always been the standard of Propel Schools.”

“A few months back I asked the Board to consider allowing me to step away from my leadership role with the Foundation so I can focus on identifying new ventures that will add to Propel’s impact on children, families and the Pittsburgh Community,” said Resnick. “It’s been my greatest honor see the vision for Propel Schools expand beyond what I could have been imagined in 2003. Much of our success is due to Dr. Chekan’s visionary leadership. I go into the next chapter of my life with confidence that Propel Schools and the Foundation will thrive.”

The change will not affect the daily operation of the schools and its nearly 650 employees, currently overseen by Dr. Chekan. The Foundation’s Deputy Director Jonathan Ray will become its Executive Director and will report directly to Dr. Chekan.

About Propel Schools

Propel Schools is a network of public charter schools that transforms the lives of children in underserved communities through innovative, student-centered learning. Propel sets a standard for creating productive citizens by prioritizing academic excellence and fundamental life skills. Based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Propel has become one of the largest, fastest-expanding charter school organizations since it was established in 2003. Today, Propel serves 4,000 students at 13 Allegheny County locations. Visit propelschools.org to learn more.

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