



February 2009

Dear Friends:

The Noble Network of Charter Schools has experienced tremendous growth and success over the past several years. When we adopted a business plan in 2005 to begin replication to multiple campuses, it was recognized that changes in our staff leadership structure would be necessary to accommodate that growth and maintain a strong management team.

Ron Manderschied, from Northwestern Settlement House, and Michael Milkie created a team to found Noble Street and facilitate its growth. Ron functioned as the CEO & President, and Mike has been the Superintendent of the Noble Network. When the business plan was adopted, it was acknowledged that at some point during the replication there would be a complete separation of the Settlement House, which received the charter from CPS to start the original Noble Street and then continued to provide back office and fundraising support as the Network grew. The plan also called for a reorganization of the Network administrative structure when we reached a total of seven operational campuses so that lines of communication and decision-making would be very clear.

In the first six months of the current fiscal year the Network has put in place complete External Affairs, Accounting, HR, Facilities Management and Compliance teams that are now completely separate from the Settlement House.

Effective January 12, 2009, Michael Milkie, as CEO, has assumed all responsibility for day-to-day management of both the academic and back-office functions of the Noble Network, including real estate and facilities. Ron Manderschied has withdrawn from all daily management issues and taken on a new title of Vice Chairman of the Noble Network board of directors. He will continue to be involved with external affairs and local and national donor relationships and will retain some board-related responsibilities as needed.

Effective January 26, 2009, the Network employs a Chief Financial Officer who reports to Mike and oversees all financial areas of operation. At the conclusion of the current fiscal year, Edison Urena, who has been the Business Manager for the Network, will terminate from the Network and return full-time to the Settlement House.

The Network is grateful to all those who have contributed so much to its success and looks forward to continued improvement in all of its operations.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Manning
Chair, Board of Directors