

## PRESS ADVISORY For immediate release – August 29, 2016

## W.E.B. DuBois Learning Center Buys Milton Moore School Site

**KANSAS CITY, MO.** – Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS) and W.E.B. DuBois Learning Center (DLC) have closed on the sales contract for the purchase of the Milton Moore school site at 4510 E. Linwood Blvd.

Since its inception in 1973, the DLC has offered free tutorial services to more than 10,000 local residents in the areas of Math, Reading and Science. In 2013, the DLC began offering its services from the Milton Moore School under a lease agreement with KCPS that also granted the DLC an option to purchase the site.

"The purchase of Milton Moore will allow DLC to increase the number of classes offered and students served, as well as expand services for adults. Additionally, the building provides much needed meeting, training and collaboration spaces for our neighbors and community partners," said Terri Barnes, DLC Board Chair.

Milton Moore is the second closed school site purchased by a local non-profit organization (Graceland School, now the Mary E. Kelley Center, was purchased by Upper Room in 2012). "A key priority of the repurposing initiative is to ensure that our closed schools can once again serve as centers of the community," said Superintendent Dr. Mark Bedell. "DuBois Learning Center has made a tremendous impact in our community over the last 40 years. We are so excited that the Learning Center can make Milton Moore its home for the next 40, and provide expanded tutoring services to the next generation of Kansas Citians."

The sales agreement between the school district and DLC is more than just a real estate transaction, it's a partnership. Last school year, DLC volunteers served as tutors and mentors at Northeast Middle, Northeast High, Central Middle and East High School. This school year, DLC volunteers will provide tutoring to students at Melcher Elementary School. The tutoring hours provided by DLC volunteers are serving as in-kind payment for a portion of the purchase price of the building. "The purchase of the Milton Moore School by the W.E.B. DuBois Learning Center was accomplished through a true community partnership, which will benefit KCPS students by providing families with an educational resource to increase student achievement. DLC is also committed to expanding its adult education programs focused on technology and continuing to be a gathering spot for neighborhood residents and groups," said Melissa Robinson, KCPS Board Chair.

With the sale of Milton Moore, KCPS has sold 11 school sites, leased one school site and has six additional school sites under contract/MOU agreement.

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