

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ACE ACADEMY TEACHERS ALREADY BACK TO SCHOOL**

Portland, OR – For some, going back to school starts at the end of August or maybe mid-September, but for the new team of ACE educators, school has already started. ACE Academy teachers kicked off their first day on August 11 with extensive training through the Northwest College of Construction. NWCC's Director of Education, Tim Mosterdyke organized a week long program to introduce educators to the world of apprenticeship, kicking off with a presentation from Steve Simms, the Bureau of Labor and Industries' Director of Apprenticeship and Training.

In addition to the introduction of design-build industry occupations, the five ACE educators are investigating how to integrate academics into a technical curriculum. The intent of the training is to explore best practices in delivering this innovative, credit by proficiency approach to education. Included in the educators' training are evaluation techniques, effective grading systems, tasks analysis, lesson planning, using technology to deliver the curriculum and hands-on application of academics.

Additionally, when asked by their students, "*What did you do over the summer?*" ACE educators can respond with "*we've been working!*" Educators have been diligently working to create the optimal learning environment for ACE students when they begin their first day at the new charter school in September. They have had their assigned readings, attended a national conference on "*High Schools that Work*", another on "*Project Lead the Way: Curriculum Training*"; as well as workshops on "*Teaching Design Through Architecture*"; "*Moodle System Administrator and User Training*", and Oregon Building Congress' "*Teaching Math in the Real World and CTE*".

ACE Academy opens September 2008 to juniors and seniors with an interest in careers in architecture, construction and engineering. Currently there are 137 students enrolled from Parkrose, Gresham-Barlow, Centennial, Centennial Learning Center, Reynolds, Sandy and home schools.

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