

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### One City Schools Receives another \$1.15 million to Renovate New School Home

Madison Philanthropists Catherine Zdeblick and Joseph Krupp-Diana Grove Family  
Help Kickstart Capital Campaign

**Madison, WI (September 14, 2021)** - Today, One City Schools announced two five-figure gifts totaling \$1.15 million to support the kick-off of its forthcoming capital campaign to complete the renovation of its new school facility, which One City purchased from WPS Health Solutions in July 2021 with a generous gift of \$14 million from Madison philanthropist Pleasant T. Rowland. Ms. Catherine Zdeblick, an internationally-known photographer and founder of Cat Eye Photography, and Mr. Joseph Krupp and Ms. Diana Grove, owners of Prime Urban Properties, will each provide \$500,000 to support the campaign. Mr. Krupp and Ms. Grove will also provide an additional \$150,000 to support the operations of the schools.

Both Ms. Zdeblick and Mr. Krupp serve on the Board of Directors of One City Schools, and Mr. Krupp serves as the Board's Vice Chair. Mr. Krupp, Ms. Grove and Ms. Zdeblick have all volunteered with the organization in different capacities. Ms. Zdeblick and the Krupp-Grove family have been strong supporters of One City Schools over the years.

Their generous gifts will support the development of One City's innovative "Leadership Campus", which includes 13.5 acres located in Monona, Wisconsin, a suburb directly adjacent to South Madison and the West Beltline Highway. The campus will initially house One City's Elementary School (grades K - 5) and Preparatory Academy (grades 6 - 12), along with outdoor play and recreational areas. Phase two of the campaign will support the addition of a 165,000 square foot Athletic Facility that will be open for use by the Greater Madison community outside of school hours. One City will kick-off its Capital Campaign on October 1, 2021.

One City Schools CEO and Founder, Kaleem Caire and Board Chair Noble Wray said they are honored by Mr. Krupp, Ms. Grove and Ms. Zdeblicks gifts. "These gifts are very timely and will help us to continue the development of our campus, which is essential to support our current and future expansion as a 4K-grade 12 public charter school" said founder Caire.

Ms. Zdeblick said that she is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the One City community, stating "One City has laid a path for a better future for our students. When you change a child, you change the family, the community, and eventually the world."

Ms. Grove stated that "In my volunteering at the school I have seen the modeling of care and respect that the entire staff offers the scholars. One City Schools attends to and supports the well-being and learning for both children and parents. They are building a community that truly supports success and the importance of living and learning together."

One City's public charter school is free to students residing anywhere in Wisconsin, and currently enrolls children in grades 4K to 4th. By the fall of 2024, One City Schools will enroll a

minimum of 970 children, from age 2 through 12th grade: 82 children at its preschool facility in South Madison and 888 students at the new 1707 W. Broadway facility.

The total cost of transforming the WPS facility into a school facility, from purchasing the building to completing all renovations, is \$26 million. To date, One City has secured \$15.5 million for the project. They need to raise another \$6.5 million by October 15, 2021 to have the renovation completed to enroll more students by fall 2022, as well receive New Market Tax Credits from interested entities to fill the final funding gap. One City also must raise another \$2.4 million to fund general operating expenses for the 2021-22 school year, which includes support for its longer school day and longer school year education program that the state currently does not fund for public schools.

Once the funding for the school facility is completed, One City will turn its attention to completing Phase 2 of its capital campaign, which includes funding for the new Athletic Center, outdoor playgrounds and recreational space on its campus. To date, One City has raised more than 2,500 financial donors and more than 300 volunteers have contributed to One City Schools growth and success.

Please direct your questions and inquiries about supporting the Capital Campaign to:

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## **About One City Schools**

One City Schools, Incorporated is a nonprofit organization that operates two schools: a tuition-based independent preschool that serves 2 and 3-year-olds and a tuition-free public charter schools, authorized by the University of Wisconsin System, that will eventually enroll children from 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade. This fall, One City's elementary and preschool will enroll more than 250 children.

One City's preschool is the first early childhood education center outside of Mainland China to offer the internationally recognized and award winning Anji Play early childhood program (<http://www.anjiplay.com>). Its elementary school is the only public school in Wisconsin offering both a longer school day and longer school year. Students attend school for 219 days compared to 180 days at other public schools in Wisconsin. They also attend school for 8.75-hours per day Tuesday through Friday (from 8:15am – 5:00pm) with early release at 2pm on Mondays, compared to 6.5 hours of school-time typically offered by other public schools in our state. The extra time enables One City to extend the learning of its students and offer a pace and depth of learning that is appropriate and meaningful for each child.