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A+ Schools Seeks Volunteers to Interview City Principals
200 School Works Volunteers Needed to Reach All City Schools

PITTSBURGH, PA – January 7, 2013 – A+ Schools, Pittsburgh’s community advocate for educational equity and excellence, seeks 200 volunteers to interview principals throughout the district in February as part of its School Works initiative.

Volunteers working in teams of three will conduct confidential, one-hour interviews with principals at all 50 K-12 public schools to collect specific data on the inner workings of city schools. It marks the first time since the program’s launch in 2009 that interviews will be conducted at the elementary school level. Volunteers must first attend a 1.5-hour training session, which will be offered at various times beginning Jan. 16.

“We need volunteers who share our commitment to excellent schools for all children,” said Carey Harris, A+ Schools’ executive director. “It’s an opportunity to make a real difference. Through these confidential interviews, principals can talk freely to School Works volunteers about what they need to ensure a great education for all students.”

This year, interviewers will ask principals about program changes and their impact on learning environments at each school. Questions will focus on equitable school budgets, delivery of resources and opportunities, access to great teaching, status and impact of the district’s Empowering Effective Teacher’s plan, and college and career preparation. School Works is modeled after the successful Ready Schools Project conducted by D.C. Voice in Washington, D.C.

After analyzing data collected during the interviews, A+ Schools will hold a series of public meetings to discuss the findings and plan a course of action.

Anyone interested in becoming a School Works volunteer should contact A+ Schools by phone at 412-697-1298, via e-mail at info@aplusschools.org or by visiting www.aplusschools.org.

A+ Schools is the community advocate and leader for educational equity and excellence in Pittsburgh’s Public Schools. It serves as a community force advancing the highest educational achievement and character development for every public school student. Its core purpose and focus of work is to increase educational equity in Pittsburgh schools. For more information, contact A+ Schools at 412-697-1298 or visit www.aplusschools.org.

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