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**Mayor Kevin Johnson Launches STAND UP for Sacramento Schools**  
*The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation contributes \$500,000 grant to launch initiative*

SACRAMENTO, CA -- Today Mayor Kevin Johnson announced the launch of STAND UP for Sacramento Schools, a non-profit entity charged by Johnson to establish and support high-quality schools in the City of Sacramento.

The goal of STAND UP is for Sacramento to have one of the finest public education systems in the nation. Currently in the start-up phase of development, it will focus on increasing academic achievement and college completion rates by advocating, supporting, and developing excellent public schools.

“We have an obligation to the children of our city to ensure they all have an equal chance in life and the ability to live the ‘American Dream’. The primary goal of STAND UP is to meet that obligation, to dramatically increase student achievement in Sacramento and to ensure that children’s zip codes do not determine their choices in life,” Mayor Johnson said.

With the support of The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, STAND UP will leverage \$1,000,000 in private investment over the next two years to improve education for students in Sacramento. Specifically, the Broad Foundation has committed \$500,000 to launch the non-profit organization, \$250,000 in year one, and an additional \$250,000 once \$500,000 in matching funds have been secured. The generous Broad Foundation grant will be a catalyst for significant educational improvement and local investment.

“For decades, we’ve seen poor academic results in far too many urban schools across America. Mayor Johnson and Sacramento’s leadership are ready to begin a very different story here, starting by making public education a city-wide priority. We are proud to be partnering with this impressive mayor and share STAND UP’s belief that a quality education for all students is the cornerstone of economic and civic success,” said Broad Foundation director Erica Lepping.

STAND UP will focus on five key pillars of great school systems—accountability, parent engagement, human capital, high quality school choices and external resources. The concept of establishing an intermediary entity to work collaboratively with school districts citywide was one of the recommendations generated at Education That Works: Ideas for Sacramento, an education summit hosted by Mayor Johnson in March 2009.

Mayor Johnson was joined at the press conference by superintendents from local school districts and the Sacramento County Office of Education.

**The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation** is a national venture philanthropy established by entrepreneur and philanthropist Eli Broad to advance entrepreneurship for the public good in education, science and the arts. The Broad Foundation's education work is focused on dramatically improving urban K-12 public education through better governance, management, labor relations and competition. The Broad Foundation's internet address is <http://www.broadfoundation.org>.

**Mayor Johnson can be followed on:**

Official Mayor's Site: [www.cityofsacramento.org/mayor/](http://www.cityofsacramento.org/mayor/)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/teamkj>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/KJ\\_MayorJohnson](https://twitter.com/KJ_MayorJohnson)