NEWS RELEASE

American Public Education Announces Filing of Registration Statement on Behalf of Selling Stockholders

2008-11-12

CHARLES TOWN, W.V.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Nov. 12, 2008--American Public Education, Inc. (NASDAQ:APEI) - parent company of online learning provider American Public University System, which operates through American Military University and American Public University - announced today that it has filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission at the request of funds affiliated with ABS Capital Partners pursuant to a registration rights agreement. The registration statement, filed pursuant to SEC Rule 415, relates to the proposed resale of up to 4,212,952 shares of common stock that may be sold by these funds in a single transaction or simultaneous transactions at a time to be determined by the funds based on their assessment of market conditions.

A copy of the prospectus relating to these securities, when available, may be obtained by contacting American Public Education, Inc., 10110 Battleview Parkway, Suite 200, Manassas, VA 20109, Attention: Investor Relations, 703-334-3880.

A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission but has not yet become effective. These securities may not be sold nor may offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective. This release shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state.

About American Public Education, Inc.

American Public Education, Inc. (NASDAQ:APEI) is an online provider of higher education focused primarily on serving the military and public service communities. American Public University System (APUS), wholly owned by APEI, comprises two universities - American Military University (AMU) and American Public University (APU). Regionally and nationally accredited, APUS serves more than 41,000

part-time students who live and work in all 50 states and more than 100 countries; and offers 73 degree programs in fields ranging from homeland security, military studies, intelligence, and criminal justice to technology, business administration, public health, and liberal arts.

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SOURCE: American Public Education, Inc.