Lady Liberty Academy Students Begin School Year in New Building
New school campus brings charter school students back home to Newark

Newark, NJ (September 23, 2014)- Students at Lady Liberty Academy Charter School were excited to begin the new school year in their brand new building. The new permanent site brings the 480 K-8 students back home to Newark to a new campus that includes a newly constructed 18,000 square foot middle school, a renovated elementary school, a gym and a new outside courtyard. The school opened in 2001 in Newark but had spent the past two years temporarily located in Harrison, NJ. Build with Purpose, a national leader in charter school facility development, is the owner and developer of the property.

After relocating to Harrison two years ago, Lady Liberty reached out to Build with Purpose with the hope that they could help move the school back to Newark. Build secured a long term lease for the Newark property in 2012, and spent the next two years developing the site which included renovations to an existing building and the construction of a new 18,000 sq. foot prefabricated building.

While the site work and foundation for the new building was completed during the fall and winter months, the building, which is comprised of twenty-seven prefabricated modular units, was constructed offsite in Pennsylvania. The modular units were delivered in the spring and took a few weeks to be assembled and pieced together to create the new building. Interior and site improvements were completed during the winter and summer months. The project also included the rehabilitation of the neglected St. John's Ukrainian School, connected to the new school building via the administrative wing. The project was completed in time for the start of the 2014 school year. "It's great to see the students and faculty finally using and enjoying the building. The new addition, courtyard, and covered walkway [connecting to the gym] really have made this a nice, welcoming place," said Eric Felczak, Project Manager at Build with Purpose.

The $10.5 million project was financed by Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) and NJEDA tax exempt bonds. GLUCK+ was the architect and construction manager for the project and provided a seamless, high quality, and efficient delivery of the project.   GLUCK+ was recently named one of the top 10 most innovative architecture companies by Fast Company for ensuring quality and efficiency by seeing a building through the entire process of design and construction.

Lady Liberty moved from its temporary site in Harrison, NJ this summer in time for the beginning of the new school year. Lady Liberty has a 30 year lease on the building with an option to purchase at any time. "We are educators" said Glen Pindar the Head of School for Lady Liberty. "We don't have the knowledge or capacity to finance and develop a school building on our own. Partnering with Build with Purpose allowed us to get exactly what we needed while allowing us to stay focused on our mission. Staff, parents and students love their new school!" Build with Purpose and Lady Liberty will be celebrating their new campus with a ribbon cutting on October 15.

To see a time lapse of the construction of the new building visit www.bwpurpose.org and view the video on the home page. For more information regarding this project or Build with Purpose please call Brian Keenan at 732 635-1000 extension 153.

About Build with Purpose
Build with Purpose has facilitated over $150 million in real estate development financing for more than 30 community organizations over the course of its first ten years and has an established track record directly developing real estate, managing real estate projects for other nonprofits and bringing a variety of community real estate assets back to life. These projects have positively impacted over 8,000 people and helped to make the surrounding communities healthier and more vibrant. For more information about Build with Purpose go to www.bwpurpose.org.