

January 30, 2018

## **Prodeo Academy to Expand at New Saint Paul Campus**

On January 12<sup>th</sup>, Prodeo Academy's affidavit was awarded by the Minnesota Department of Education, allowing Prodeo Academy to replicate its proven, high-quality academic model at a new campus in Saint Paul.

"On behalf of the Prodeo Academy Board of Directors, we are pleased our authorizer, Innovative Quality Schools, and the Minnesota Department of Education, approved our expansion into St. Paul," says Executive Director Rick Campion. "We're excited to be able to provide families in St. Paul with a high-quality school option for their children."

The new school's campus will be the educational facilities located at St. Bernard's Catholic Church, 170 Rose Avenue West, St. Paul, MN 55117. During the first year the school will begin with pre-kindergarten through first grade, adding a new class each year until eighth grade, and growing to serve over 800 students. The new campus has enough educational space to accommodate the school at full enrollment, along with exciting auxiliary facilities, including a large cafeteria and two gymnasiums.

Liz Ferguson, currently Prodeo Academy's Principal-in-Residence, will transition to be the founding Principal of Prodeo Academy's new Saint Paul campus. Ms. Ferguson has over thirteen years of experience teaching and leading in elementary schools nationally. She says, "I look forward to expanding our high-achieving model in order to serve our neighbors in St. Paul, including the Frogtown, Midway, North End and Payne-Phalen neighborhoods."

The guiding mission of Prodeo Academy is to serve as a preparatory school that develops students to be critical thinkers and intelligent leaders. Over the last five years, Prodeo Academy students have shown tremendous academic results. On the nationally standardized NWEA, Prodeo students are in the 94<sup>th</sup> percentile in Math and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for growth in Reading. Chancey Anderson, Prodeo Academy's Chief Academic Officer notes, "Transfer students are experiencing 1.43 years' growth in their first year at Prodeo, compared to .67 of a year of growth at their former schools. We expect to provide the same level of academic excellence at our new campus in Saint Paul."

For more information about Prodeo Academy, or to enroll a child, please visit our website at www.prodeoacademy.org.