

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION INC - Form 10-Q

AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION INC

Form 10-Q

August 12, 2008

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
AND EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2008

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number: - 001-33810

AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 01-0724376  
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer  
Incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

111 West Congress Street  
Charles Town, West Virginia 25414  
(Address, including zip code, of principal executive offices)  
(304) 724-3700  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).  
Yes  No

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The total number of shares of common stock outstanding as of August 1, 2008 was 17,822,182.

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AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC.  
FORM 10-Q  
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AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC.  
 Consolidated Balance Sheets  
 (In thousands, except per share data)

	As of June 30, 2008	As of December 31, 2007
	----- (Unaudited)	-----
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 34,884	\$ 26,951
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$501 in 2008 and \$385 in 2007	4,365	4,896
Income tax receivable	2,437	1,089
Prepaid expenses	1,565	1,596
Deferred income taxes	683	309
	-----	-----
Total current assets	43,934	34,841
Property and equipment, net	16,065	13,364
Other assets	1,248	775
	-----	-----
Total assets	\$ 61,247	\$ 48,980
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,600	\$ 2,471
Accrued liabilities	5,733	4,323
Deferred revenue and student deposits	7,979	6,614
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	15,312	13,408
Deferred income taxes	3,168	2,065
	-----	-----
Total liabilities	18,480	15,473
	-----	-----
Commitments and contingencies (Note 2)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; Authorized shares - 10,000		
Common stock, \$.01 par value; Authorized shares - 100,000; 17,820 issued and outstanding in 2008 and 17,688 in 2007	178	177
Additional paid-in capital	129,934	128,005
Accumulated deficit	(87,345)	(94,675)
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity:	42,767	33,507
	-----	-----

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Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 61,247	\$ 48,980
	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC.  
Consolidated Statements of Income  
(In thousands, except share and per share data)

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	June 30,		June 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
	(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)	
Revenues	\$ 24,999	\$ 16,173	\$ 48,240	\$ 30,262
Costs and expenses:				
Instructional costs and services	10,521	6,886	20,433	12,991
Selling and promotional	2,613	1,449	4,790	2,888
General and administrative	5,072	3,837	9,875	7,073
Depreciation and amortization	1,031	705	1,929	1,323
Total costs and expenses	19,237	12,877	37,027	24,275
Income from operations before interest income and income taxes	5,762	3,296	11,213	5,987
Interest income, net	196	194	438	338
Income before income taxes	5,958	3,490	11,651	6,325
Income tax expense	2,033	1,454	4,321	2,755
Net income	\$ 3,925	\$ 2,036	\$ 7,330	\$ 3,570

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Net Income per common share:								
Basic	\$	0.22	\$	0.17	\$	0.41	\$	0.30
		=====		=====		=====		=====
Diluted	\$	0.21	\$	0.17	\$	0.39	\$	0.30
		=====		=====		=====		=====
Weighted average number of common shares:								
Basic		17,806,884		11,998,159		17,771,396		11,931,086
		=====		=====		=====		=====
Diluted		18,791,644		12,052,532		18,779,761		11,982,100
		=====		=====		=====		=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC.  
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows  
(In thousands)

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2008	2007
	(Unaudited)	
Operating activities		
Net income	\$ 7,330	\$ 3,570
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities		
Provision for bad debt	116	302
Depreciation and amortization	1,929	1,323
Stock-based compensation	846	618
Deferred income taxes	729	101
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	415	1,198
Prepaid expenses	31	(175)
Income tax receivable	(1,348)	679
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	539	148
Income tax payable	-	574
Deferred revenue and student deposits	1,365	1,569
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by operating activities	11,952	9,907
	-----	-----
Investing activities		

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Capital expenditures	(4,630)	(1,770)
Capitalized program development costs and other assets	(473)	(304)
	-----	-----
Net cash used in investing activities	(5,103)	(2,074)
	-----	-----
Financing activities		
Payments on long-term debt	-	(1,973)
Cash paid for repurchase of common stock	-	(55)
Cash received from issuance of common stock, net of issuance costs	452	660
Excess tax benefit from stock based compensation	632	11
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,084	(1,357)
	-----	-----
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	7,933	6,476
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	26,951	11,678
	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 34,884	\$ 18,154
	=====	=====
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information		
Interest paid	\$ -	\$ 56
	=====	=====
Income taxes paid	\$ 4,639	\$ 1,389
	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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### AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC. Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### 1. Nature of the Business

American Public Education, Inc. ("APEI") together with its subsidiaries (the "Company") is a provider of exclusively online postsecondary education directed at the needs of the military and public service communities that operates in one reportable segment. APEI has three subsidiaries, including the American Public University System, Inc. (the "University System"), a West Virginia corporation, which operates through two universities, American Military University and American Public University.

The University System achieved regional accreditation in May 2006 with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and became eligible for federal student aid programs under Title IV for classes beginning in November 2006.

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On August 7, 2007, APEI filed a Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-145185) for its initial public offering, which was completed on November 14, 2007.

On January 25, 2008, APEI filed a Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-148851) for a public offering, which was completed on February 19, 2008. In the offering 3,744,500 shares were sold, consisting of 25,000 shares sold by the Company and 3,719,500 shares sold by certain stockholders of the Company. Total net proceeds to the Company were \$167,000, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions, and offering expenses

### 2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP"). All intercompany transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The financial statements do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statement presentations. In the opinion of management, these statements include all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary to present a fair statement of our consolidated results of operations, financial position and cash flows. Operating results for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ended December 31, 2008. This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the Company's consolidated financial statements and footnotes in its audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2007 included in its Annual Report, on Form 10-K, for the year ended December 31, 2007.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, Fair Value Measurements ("SFAS 157"). SFAS 157 defines and establishes a framework for measuring fair value. In addition, SFAS 157 expands disclosures about fair value measurements. In addition, In February 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 159, Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities -- Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115 ("SFAS 159"). Under SFAS 159, companies have an opportunity to use fair value measurements in financial reporting and permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. For the Company, SFAS 157 and 159 were effective beginning in fiscal year 2008. SFAS 157 and 159 have not had a material impact on the company's financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141, (revised 2007), Business Combinations ("SFAS 141R"). The Statement establishes revised principles and requirements for how we will recognize and measure assets and liabilities acquired in a business combination. The Statement is effective for business combinations completed on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December

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15, 2008. In addition, in December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 160, Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements -- An Amendment of ARB No. 51 ("SFAS 160"). SFAS 160 establishes new accounting and reporting standards for the non-controlling interest in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. SFAS 160 requires non-controlling interests or minority interests to be treated as a separate component of equity and any changes in the parent's ownership interest (in which control is retained) are to be accounted for as equity transactions. However, a change in ownership of a consolidated subsidiary that results in deconsolidation triggers gain or loss recognition, with the establishment of a new fair value basis in any remaining non-controlling ownership interests. SFAS 160 also establishes disclosure requirements that clearly identify and distinguish between the interests of the parent and the non-controlling interests. SFAS 141 and 160 are effective for us on January 1, 2009. The adoption of SFAS 141R and 160 is not expected to have a material impact on the company's financial statements.

### Commitments and Contingencies

The Company accrues for costs associated with contingencies including, but not limited to, regulatory compliance and legal matters when such costs are probable and can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities established to provide for contingencies are adjusted as further information develops, circumstances change, or contingencies are resolved. The Company bases these accruals on management's estimate of such costs, which may vary from the ultimate cost and expenses, associated with any such contingency.

From time to time the Company may be involved in litigation in the normal course of its business. In the opinion of management, the Company is not aware of any pending or threatened litigation matters that will have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, operations, financial condition or cash flows. As of June 30, 2008, management believes there were no material commitments or contingencies requiring disclosure.

### Concentration

Approximately 65% and 66% of the Company's revenues for the three and six months ended June 30, 2008 were derived from students who received tuition assistance from tuition assistance programs sponsored by the United States Department of Defense compared to approximately 66% and 67% of the Company's revenues for the three and six months ended June 30, 2007. A reduction in this assistance could have a significant impact on the Company's operations.

### 3. Net Income Per Common Share

Basic net income per common share is based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per common share also increases the shares used in the per share calculation by the dilutive effects of options, warrants, and restricted stock. Stock options, restricted stock, and warrants are not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share when their effect is anti-dilutive. Options and warrants to purchase 9,700 common shares were outstanding but not included in the computation of diluted net income per common share for the six months ended June 30, 2007. There were no anti-dilutive stock options or warrants excluded from the calculation for the three months ended June 30, 2007. There were no warrants outstanding during the three and six months ended June 30, 2008 and there were no anti-dilutive stock options or restricted stock excluded from the calculation for the three and six months ended June 30, 2008.

The total number of shares of all classes of stock that the Company has authority to issue is 110,000,000, of which 100,000,000 of such shares are common stock having a par value of \$.01 per share and 10,000,000 of such shares



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are Preferred Stock, having a par value of \$.01 per share.

### 4. Income Taxes

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Interpretation No. 48 - Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes -- an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 (FIN 48). This interpretation applies to all tax positions accounted for in accordance with SFAS No. 109 by defining the criteria that an individual tax position must meet in order for the position to be recognized within the financial statements and provides guidance on measurement, de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition of tax positions. This interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006, with earlier adoption permitted. The Company adopted FIN 48 effective January 1, 2007. The impact of adopting FIN 48 was not material as of the date of adoption. Interest and penalties associated with uncertain income tax positions are classified as income tax expense. The Company has not recorded any material interest or penalties during any of the years presented.

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The Company is subject to U.S. Federal income taxes as well as income taxes of multiple state jurisdictions. For Federal tax purposes, tax years 2003-2007 remain open to examination. For state tax purposes, the statute of limitations remains open for tax years 2003-2007. Currently, no examinations are open in any jurisdiction.

The Company anticipates that its effective combined Federal and state statutory tax rate will be approximately 41%. The actual combined effective tax rate for the three and six months ended June 30, 2008 was 34.1% and 37.1%, respectively. The 6.9% and 3.9% difference between the expected tax rate for the three and six months ended June 30, 2008 and the actual rate was attributable to the fact that the taxes due on the 2007 federal and state tax returns when filed were approximately \$400,000 less than the 2007 tax liability estimated at December 31, 2007. This adjustment was booked when the final tax returns were prepared in the three months ended June 30, 2008 and resulted primarily from the effects of changes in the state income taxes.

The Company does not anticipate any significant increases or decreases in unrecognized tax benefits within the next twelve months.

### 5. Stock Based Compensation

On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of FASB Statement No. 123R - Share Based Payment, a revision of FASB Statement No. 123 - Accounting for Stock Based Compensation, or SFAS 123R. This standard requires companies to recognize the expense related to the fair value of their stock-based compensation awards. The Company elected to use the modified prospective approach to transition to SFAS 123R, as allowed under the statement; therefore, the Company has not restated financial results for prior periods. We calculate the expected term of stock option awards using the "simplified method" as defined in Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 because we lack historical data and are unable to make reasonable expectations regarding the future. We also estimate forfeitures of share-based awards at the time of grant and revise such estimates in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from original projections. We make assumptions with respect to the expected stock price's volatility based on the average historical volatility of peers with similar attributes. In addition, we determine the risk free interest rate by selecting the U.S. Treasury five-year constant maturity, quoted on an investment basis in

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effect at the time of grant for that business day. Estimates of fair value are subjective and are not intended to predict actual future events, and subsequent events are not indicative of the reasonableness of the original estimates of fair value made under SFAS 123R.

In February 2002, the Company adopted the 2002 Stock Incentive Plan ("the 2002 Stock Plan"). The 2002 Stock Plan initially allowed the Company to grant up to 990,000 shares of stock options and restricted stock at fair value to employees, officers, directors, and service providers of the Company and its affiliates, at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Options granted to date and currently outstanding vest ratably over periods of three to five years and expire in 10 years from the date of grant. The options are granted to employees at a purchase price that approximates the fair value of the Company's stock. In August 2002, the 2002 Stock Plan was amended to increase the shares of common stock reserved for grant under the plan to 1,815,000. In August 2005, the 2002 Stock Plan was amended to increase the shares of common stock reserved for grant under the plan to 2,200,000.

On August 3, 2007, the Board of Directors adopted the American Public Education, Inc. 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan (the "new equity plan"), and APEI's stockholders approved the new equity plan on November 6, 2007. The new equity plan was effective as of August 3, 2007. Upon adoption of the new equity plan, APEI ceased making awards under the 2002 Stock Plan. The new equity plan allows APEI to grant up to 1,100,000 shares plus any shares of common stock remaining available for issuance under the 2002 Stock Plan as of the effective date of the new equity plan and any shares of APEI common stock that are subject to outstanding awards under the new equity plan or the 2002 Stock Plan that expire or are forfeited, canceled or settled for cash without delivery of shares of APEI common stock after the effective date of the new equity plan. As of December 31, 2007, there were 3,751 shares available for issuance from the 2002 Stock Plan which were added to the 1,100,000 shares available for issuance under the 2007 new equity plan. Awards under the new equity plan may be stock options, which may be either incentive stock options or nonqualified stock options; stock appreciation rights; restricted stock; restricted stock units; dividend equivalent rights; performance shares; performance units; cash-based awards; other stock-based awards, including unrestricted shares; or any combination of the foregoing.

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Stock-based compensation expense related to restricted stock grants is expensed over the vesting period using the straight-line method for Company employees and the graded-vesting method for members of the Board of Directors and is measured using APEI's stock price on the date of grant. The fair value of each option award is estimated at the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses the assumptions noted in the following table. Expected volatilities are based on the best estimate of the historical volatility of APEI's stock. The Company uses historical data to estimate option exercise and employee and director terminations within the model, as well as the expected term of options granted, which represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The risk-free rate for periods within the contractual life of the option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant.

	Jun-08 -----	Jun-07 -----
Expected volatility	26.23% - 28.00%	27.75%
Expected dividends	0.00%	0.00%
Expected term, in years	4.0 - 4.5	6.5
Risk-free interest rate	2.59% - 3.41%	4.58-4.76%

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Weighted average fair value of options granted during the year \$ 8.26 \$ 3.89

Options granted through June 30, 2008, vest ratably over periods of three to five years and expire in seven to ten years from the date of grant. Option activity is summarized as follows (unaudited):

	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Contractual Life (Yrs)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (In thousands)
Outstanding, December 31, 2007	1,537,835	\$6.13		
Options granted	945	\$31.00		
Awards exercised	(98,688)	\$1.90		
Options forfeited	(10,993)	\$4.20		
Outstanding, June 30, 2008	1,429,099	\$6.45	7.22	\$46,571
Exercisable, June 30, 2008	573,090	\$3.08	7.18	\$20,606

The following table summarizes information regarding stock option exercises:

	Jun-08	Jun-07
	(In thousands)	
Proceeds from stock options exercised	\$ 188	\$ 660
Intrinsic value of stock options exercised	\$ 3,421	\$ 842
Tax benefit from exercises	\$ 696	\$ 18

Stock based compensation expense related to restricted stock grants is expensed over the vesting period using the straight-line method for Company employees and the graded-vesting method for members of the Board of Directors. The table below sets for the restricted stock activity for the six months ended June 30, 2008:

Number	Weighted-Average Grant Price
--------	------------------------------

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	of Shares	and Fair Value
	-----	-----
Non vested, December 31, 2007	72,573	\$20.00
Shares granted	5,838	39.01
Vested shares	(6,888)	20.00
Shares forfeited	(480)	20.00
	-----	-----
Non vested, June 30, 2008	71,043	\$21.56
	=====	=====

Stock based compensation cost charged against income during the three and six months ended June 30, 2008 and three and six months ended June 30, 2007 is as follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
	(Unaudited) (In thousands)		(Unaudited) (In thousands)	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Instructional costs and services	\$ 56	\$ 44	\$ 112	\$ (1
Marketing and promotional	18	8	35	5
General and administrative	395	64	699	5
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Stock-based compensation expense in operating income	469	116	846	6
Tax benefit	(162)	10	(290)	(12
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Stock-based compensation expense, net of tax	\$ 307	\$ 126	\$ 556	\$ 4
	=====	=====	=====	=====

As of June 30, 2008, total compensation cost related to non-vested service-based stock options not yet recognized was \$3.2 million, which is expected to be recognized over the next 45 months on a weighted-average basis.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion of our historical results of operations and our liquidity and capital resources should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes that appear elsewhere in this report.

Forward-Looking Statements

Some of the statements contained in this Form 10-Q that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"). We intend such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for

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forward-looking statements contained in Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date this Form 10-Q is filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). We may, in some cases, use words such as "project," "believe," "anticipate," "plan," "expect," "estimate," "intend," "should," "would," "could," "potentially," "will," or "may," or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes to identify these forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements are based on our beliefs, assumptions

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and expectations of our future performance, taking into account information currently available to us. These beliefs, assumptions and expectations can change as a result of many possible events or factors, not all of which are known to us or are within our control. If a change occurs, our business, financial condition and results of operations may vary materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results anticipated by these forward-looking statements. These important factors include those that we discuss in this section of our Form 10-Q and in the "Risk Factors" section of our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 (the "Annual Report") and our various filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You should read these factors and the other cautionary statements made in this Form 10-Q in combination with the more detailed description of our business in our Annual Report as being applicable to all related forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this quarterly report. If one or more of these factors materialize, or if any underlying assumptions prove incorrect, our actual results, performance or achievements may vary materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

### Overview

#### Background

American Public Education, Inc. is a provider of online postsecondary education directed at the needs of the military and public service communities. We operate through two universities, American Military University, or AMU, and American Public University, or APU, which together constitute the American Public University System.

We were founded as American Military University, Inc. in 1991 and began offering graduate courses in January 1993. Following initial national accreditation by the Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council, or DETC, in 1995, American Military University began offering undergraduate programs primarily directed to members of the armed forces. Over time, American Military University diversified its educational offerings in response to demand by military students for post-military career preparation. With its expanded program offerings, American Military University extended its outreach to the greater public service community, primarily police, fire, emergency management personnel and national security professionals. In 2002, we reorganized into a holding company structure, with American Public Education, Inc. serving as the holding company of American Public University System, Inc., which operates our two universities, AMU and APU. Our university system achieved regional accreditation in May 2006 with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and became eligible for federal student aid programs under Title IV for classes beginning in November 2006. In September 2007, we received approval from the Higher Learning Commission to offer seven new degree programs in Education and Information Technology.

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The university system offers terms beginning on the first Monday of each month in either eight- or sixteen-week formats. Semesters and academic years are established to manage Title IV students and assist them in meeting eligibility requirements.

On November 14, 2007, the company successfully completed its initial public offering. As a public company, we will incur significant additional costs and expenses such as increased legal and audit fees, professional fees, directors' and officers' insurance costs and expenses related to compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley Act regulations and other annual costs of doing business as a public company including hiring additional personnel and expanding our administrative functions. We expect these additional expenses to range from \$1.5 million to \$2.0 million per year and anticipate funding costs relating to being a public company with cash provided by operating activities and cash on hand.

On January 25, 2008 we filed a Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-148851) for a public offering, which was completed on February 19, 2008. In the public offering, 3,744,500 shares were sold, consisting of 25,000 shares sold by the Company and 3,719,500 shares sold by certain stockholders of the Company, at a price to the public of \$35.50 per share, before underwriting discounts and commissions. Total net proceeds to the Company were \$167,000 after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions, and offering expenses. The Company did not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of common stock sold by the selling stockholders. Certain selling stockholders granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 500,175 shares at the public offering price to cover over-allotments. On February 27, 2008, the underwriters of the Company's public offering exercised their over-allotment option in full. The closing of the exercise of the over-allotment option occurred on March 3, 2008. The Company did not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of common stock held by the selling stockholders in the over-allotment option exercise.

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### Summary

In recent years, we have experienced substantial growth. Our course enrollments, or net course registrations, representing the aggregate number of classes in which students remain enrolled after the date by which they may drop the course without financial penalty, increased at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 39% from 2003 to 2007. Over that same time, total revenue increased at a CAGR of 40%, from \$17.8 million in 2003 to \$69.1 million in 2007. We believe achieving regional accreditation in May 2006 and gaining access to Title IV programs beginning with classes that started in November 2006 have been additional factors driving our recent acceleration in growth. Net course registrations increased 73% in 2007 over 2006. Our revenue increased from \$40.0 million to \$69.1 million, or by 73%, over the same time period and operating margins increased to 21.3% from 7.2% over the same time period. Net course registrations increased 59% for the three and six-month period ended June 30, 2008 over the three and six-month period ended June 30, 2007. Our revenue increased from \$16.2 million to \$25 million, or by 55% , and \$30.3 million to \$48.2 million, or by 59% for the three and six-month period ended June 30, 2008 over the three and six-month period ended June 30, 2007. Operating margins increased to 23.0% from 20.4% and 23.2% from 19.8% over the same time period.

While we have experienced substantial growth in recent periods, you should not rely on the results of any prior periods as an indication of our future growth in net course registrations or revenue as our historical growth rates may not be sustainable. Similarly, you should not rely on the improvement in our operating margins in any prior periods as an indication of our future

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operating margins. Our difficulty in forecasting future growth rates and operating margins is in part due to our inability to fully estimate the actual impact of gaining access to Title IV programs. Following our implementation of Title IV for the year ended December 31, 2007, 10.6% of our net course registrations were from students using financial aid under Title IV programs. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2008, 12.6% and 12.3%, or approximately 4,175 and 8,175, of our net course registrations were from students using financial aid under the Title IV programs compared to 10.6% and 9.0%, or approximately 2,225 and 3,725 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2007. This represents an increase of 88% and 119.0%, respectively. Because of our limited history with Title IV programs and because we cannot estimate the growth of new students that may result from our participation in Title IV programs, we cannot estimate the costs and expenses associated with administering Title IV programs and complying with the associated regulations.

During the second quarter of 2008, we received full certification from the Department of Education to participate in Title IV programs based on our annual recertification. We had been provisionally certified because we were in our initial period of certification. The Department of Education had advised us that as a provisionally certified institution that was in its initial period of certification, we could not add new degree or non-degree programs for Title IV program purposes, except under limited circumstances and only if the Department of Education approved such programs. As a fully certified institution that is no longer in its initial period of certification, we are no longer subject to such restrictions on new programs. Like all fully certified institutions, under certain circumstances we must obtain Department of Education approval to add certain new programs.

Notwithstanding that the Department of Education has fully certified us through March 31, 2012, in certain circumstances, including a change in ownership resulting in a change of control, the Department of Education may determine to provisionally certify us. During a period of provisional certification, an institution must comply with any additional conditions included in its program participation agreement. In addition, the Department of Education may more closely review an institution that is provisionally certified if it applies for approval to add an educational program, acquires another school or makes any other significant change. If the Department of Education determines that a provisionally certified institution is unable to meet its responsibilities under its program participation agreement, it may seek to revoke the institution's certification to participate in Title IV programs with fewer due process protections for the institution than if it were fully certified. Students attending provisionally certified institutions remain eligible to receive Title IV program funds. The Department of Education may place an institution on provisional certification status if it finds that the institution does not fully satisfy all of the eligibility and certification standards and in certain other circumstances, such as when an institution undergoes a change in ownership resulting in a change in control. Department of Education regulations provide that a change of control of a publicly traded corporation includes a situation where a stockholder that owns at least 25% of the total outstanding voting stock of the corporation and is the largest stockholder of the corporation ceases to own at least 25% of such stock or ceases to be the largest stockholder. As of the date of this quarterly report, ABS Capital Partners beneficially owns approximately 26% of our outstanding common stock. We expect that a change of control will occur in the near future as a result of either future transactions in which we are involved or as a result of actions by ABS Capital Partners.

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The foregoing discussion of certification for participation under Title IV programs is only a brief summary. Additional information on certification by the Department of Education and the impact of provisional certification is contained in Item 1 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K under the heading Regulation of our Business.

### Critical Accounting Policies

Critical accounting policies are disclosed in our consolidated financial statements and footnotes in the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007. There have been no significant changes in our critical accounting policies from those disclosed in the Form 10-K.

### Results of Operations

The following table sets forth statements of operations data as a percentage of revenues for each of the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Costs and expenses:				
Instructional costs and services	42.1	42.6	42.4	42.9
Selling and promotional	10.5	9.0	9.9	9.5
General and administrative	20.3	23.7	20.5	23.4
Depreciation and amortization	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.4
Total costs and expenses	77.0	79.6	76.8	80.2
Income from operations before interest income and income taxes	23.0	20.4	23.2	19.8
Interest income, net	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.1
Income from operations before income taxes	23.8	21.6	24.2	20.9
Income tax expense	8.1	9.0	9.0	9.1
Net Income	15.7%	12.6%	15.2%	11.8%

Three Months Ended June 30, 2008 Compared to Three Months Ended June 30, 2007



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Revenues. Our revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2008 were \$25.0 million, an increase of \$8.8 million, or 55%, compared to \$16.2 million for the three months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily a result of an increase in the number of net course registrations.

Costs and Expenses. Costs and expenses were \$19.2 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008; an increase of \$6.3 million, or 49%, compared to \$12.9 million for the three months ended June 30, 2007. Costs and expenses as a percentage of revenues decreased to 77% for the three months ended June 30, 2008 from 79.6% for the three months ended June 30, 2007. This decrease resulted from the factors described below.

Instructional costs and services expenses. Our instructional costs and services expenses for the three months ended June 30, 2008 were \$10.5 million, representing an increase of 53% from \$6.9 million for the three months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was directly related to an increase in the number of classes offered due to the increase in net course registrations.

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Instructional costs and services expenses as a percentage of revenues were 42.1% for the three months ended June 30, 2008, compared to 42.6% for the three months ended June 30, 2007. The slight decrease was primarily due to efficiencies realized through a higher volume of students and the number of staff and expenses increasing at a slower rate than enrollment.

Selling and promotional expenses. Our selling and promotional expenses for the three months ended June 30, 2008 were \$2.6 million, representing an increase of 80% from \$1.4 million for the three months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was primarily due to an increase in print and online advertising expenses. Selling and promotional expenses as a percentage of revenues increased to 10.5% for the three months ended June 30, 2008 from 9.0% for the three months ended June 30, 2007. This increase reflects additional marketing to expand awareness of the APU brand to the civilian market, including several advertising initiatives to promote our new Masters of Education degrees.

General and administrative expenses. Our general and administrative expenses for the three months ended June 30, 2008 were \$5.1 million representing an increase of 32% from \$3.8 million for the three months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in expense was a result of an increase in expenditures for stock-based compensation, recruiting, professional services, management and the administrative facilities required to support a larger student body, as well as increased expenses associated with being a public company. General and administrative expenses as a percentage of revenues decreased to 20.3% for the three months ended June 30, 2008 from 23.7% for the three months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease was primarily due to efficiencies realized through a higher volume of students and the number of staff and related expenses increasing at a slower rate than enrollment.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expenses were \$1.0 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008, compared with \$0.7 million for the three months ended June 30, 2007. This represents an increase of 46%. This increase resulted from greater capital expenditures and higher depreciation and amortization on a larger fixed asset base.

Stock-based compensation expenses. Stock-based compensation expenses included in instructional costs and services, selling and promotional, and general and administrative expense for the three months ended June 30, 2008 were \$469,000 in the aggregate, representing an increase of 304% from \$116,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in stock-based compensation for the three months ended June 30, 2008 is primarily attributable to expense

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for options granted subsequent to June 30, 2007.

Interest income, net. Our interest income, net increased by \$2,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2008 to \$196,000 from \$194,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2007, representing an increase of 1%. This increase is attributable to increased cash on hand which was offset by lower investment returns due to a decline in interest rates.

Income tax expense. We recognized income tax expense for the three months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 of \$2.0 million and \$1.5 million, respectively, or effective tax rates of 34.1% and 41.7%, respectively. The decrease was attributable to the fact that the tax due on the 2007 federal and state tax returns when filed was approximately \$400,000 less than the 2007 tax liability estimated at December 31, 2007. This adjustment was booked when the tax returns were finalized in the three months ended June 30, 2008 and resulted primarily from the effects of changes in the state income taxes.

Net income. Our net income was \$3.9 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008, compared to net income of \$2.0 million for the three months ended June 30, 2007, an increase of \$1.9 million, or 93%. This increase was related to the factors discussed above.

### Six Months Ended June 30, 2008 Compared to Six Months Ended June 30, 2007

Revenues. Our revenues for the six months ended June 30, 2008 were \$48.2 million, an increase of \$17.9 million, or 59.4%, compared to \$30.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily a result of an increase in the number of net course registrations.

Costs and Expenses. Costs and expenses were \$37.0 million for the six months ended June 30, 2008; an increase of \$12.7 million, or 53%, compared to \$24.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007. Costs and expenses as a percentage of revenues decreased to 76.8% for the six months ended June 30, 2008 from 80.2% for the six months ended June 30, 2007. This decrease resulted from the factors described below.

Instructional costs and services expenses. Our instructional costs and services expenses for the six months ended June 30, 2008 were \$20.4 million, representing an increase of 57% from \$13.0 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was directly related to an increase in the number of classes offered due to the increase in net course registrations. Instructional costs and services expenses as a percentage of revenues were 42.4% for the six months ended June 30, 2008, compared to 42.9% for the six months ended June 30, 2007. The slight decrease was primarily due to efficiencies realized through a higher volume of students and the number of staff and expenses increasing at a slower rate than revenue.

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Selling and promotional expenses. Our selling and promotional expenses for the six months ended June 30, 2008 were \$4.8 million, representing an increase of 66% from \$2.9 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was primarily due to an increase in online advertising expenses. Selling and promotional expenses as a percentage of revenues increased to 9.9% for the six months ended June 30, 2008 from 9.5% for the six months ended June 30, 2007. This increase reflects additional marketing to expand awareness of the APU brand to the civilian market, including several advertising initiatives to promote our new M.Ed. degrees.

General and administrative expenses. Our general and administrative

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expenses for the six months ended June 30, 2008 were \$9.9 million representing an increase of 40% from \$7.1 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in expense was a result of additional technology, and financial staff positions, and an increase in expenditures for stock-based compensation, recruiting, professional services, management and the administrative facilities required to support a larger student body as well as increased expenses associated with being a public company. General and administrative expenses as a percentage of revenues decreased to 20.5% for the six months ended June 30, 2008 from 23.4% for the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease was primarily due to efficiencies realized through a higher volume of students and the number of staff and related expenses increasing at a slower rate than revenue.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expenses were \$1.9 million for the six months ended June 30, 2008, compared with \$1.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007. This represents an increase of 46%. This increase resulted from greater capital expenditures and higher depreciation and amortization on a larger fixed asset base.

Stock-based compensation expenses. Stock-based compensation expenses included in instructional costs and services, selling and promotional, and general and administrative expense for the six months ended June 30, 2008 was \$0.8 million in the aggregate, representing an increase of 37% from \$0.6 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in stock-based compensation for the six months ended June 30, 2008 is primarily attributable to expense for options granted subsequent to June 30, 2007.

Interest income, net. Our interest income, net increased by \$100,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2008 to \$438,000 from \$338,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2007, representing an increase of 30%. This increase is attributable to increased cash on hand which was offset by lower investment returns due to a decline in interest rates.

Income tax expense. We recognized income tax expense for the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 of \$4.3 million and \$2.8 million, respectively, or effective tax rates of 37.1% and 43.6%, respectively. The decrease was attributable to the fact that the tax due on the 2007 federal and state tax returns when filed was approximately \$400,000 less than the 2007 tax liability estimated at December 31, 2007. This adjustment was booked when the tax returns were finalized in the three months ended June 30, 2008 and resulted primarily from the effects of changes in the state income taxes.

Net income. Our net income was \$7.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2008, compared to net income of \$3.6 million for the six months ended June 30, 2007, an increase of \$3.7 million, or 105%. This increase was related to the factors discussed above.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

#### Liquidity

The Company financed operating activities and capital expenditures during the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 primarily through cash provided by operating activities and proceeds received from the exercise of stock options. The net offering proceeds, after offering expenses, from the public offering that closed on February 19, 2008 were approximately \$167,000, which we used for working capital and other general corporate purposes. Cash and cash equivalents were \$34.9 million and \$27.0 million at June 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from tuition assistance programs from the Department of Defense, or DoD. Generally, these funds are received within 60 days of the start of the classes to which they relate. A

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growing source of revenue is derived from our participation in Title IV programs, for which disbursements are governed by federal regulations. We have typically received disbursements under Title IV programs within 30 days of the start of the applicable class.

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These factors, together with the number of classes starting each month, affect our operational cash flow. Our costs and expenses have increased now that we are a public company, and we expect to fund these expenses through cash from operations.

We have available to us a line of credit with a maximum borrowing amount of up to \$5.0 million. The line bears interest at LIBOR plus 200 basis points. The line is secured by substantially all of our assets. We have never borrowed under this line of credit facility. The terms of our credit facilities are reviewed on a regular basis.

Based on our current level of operations and anticipated growth, we believe that our cash flow from operations and other sources of liquidity, including cash and cash equivalents, will provide adequate funds for ongoing operations and planned capital expenditures for the foreseeable future.

### Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$11.0 million and \$9.9 million for the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. As revenue and profits have grown, cash has increased. Cash and cash equivalents were \$34.9 million and \$27.0 million at June 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively.

### Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities was \$4.2 million and \$2.1 million for the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The \$2.1 million increase related to improvements on property leased and acquired in 2007, increased software development and IT infrastructure costs and a perpetual software license.

### Financing Activities

Net cash provided by financing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2008 was \$1.1 million from cash received from the issuance of common stock including the net proceeds to us from the public offering, and the excess tax benefit from stock based compensation. Net cash used by financing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2007 was \$1.4 million which was primarily a result of the repayment of two mortgages notes that were obtained in 2006.

### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

We are subject to the impact of interest rate changes and may be subject to changes in the market values of future investments. We invest excess cash in bank overnight deposits. We have no derivative financial instruments or derivative commodity instruments as of June 30, 2008.

Future investment income may fall short of expectations due to changes in interest rates. At June 30, 2008, a 10% increase or decrease in interest rates would not have a material impact on our future earnings or cash flows related to investments in cash equivalents.

### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

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### Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of June 30, 2008 as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Based upon the evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of June 30, 2008.

Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commissions rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

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### Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation required by Rule 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act that occurred during the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

### PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

#### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We currently have no material legal proceedings pending.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

An investment in our stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks set forth in the Risk Factors section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007.

#### Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

None.

#### Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

#### Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

APEI's Annual Meeting of Stockholders was held on May 16, 2008. Following are descriptions of the matters voted on and the results of such voting:

##### Proposal 1: Election of Directors:

The following members were elected to APEI's Board of Directors to hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders and until his or her

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successor is elected and qualified or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal:

	Votes For		Votes Withheld	
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Wallace E. Boston, Jr.	15,438,068	86.5%	114,440	0.6%
Phillip A. Clough	15,158,573	85.0%	393,935	2.2%
J. Christopher Everett	15,514,633	87.0%	37,875	0.2%
F. David Fowler	15,494,209	86.9%	58,299	0.3%
Jean C. Halle	15,513,662	87.0%	38,846	0.2%
David L. Warnock	13,181,120	73.9%	2,471,388	13.9%
Timothy T. Weglicki	15,197,898	85.2%	354,610	2.0%

Proposal 2: Ratification of the appointment of McGladrey & Pullen, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008 :

The proposal was approved by the following vote:

Votes For		Votes Against		Abstentions		[Broker Non-Votes]	
15,548,351	87.2%	3,200	0.0%	956	0.0%	0	0.0%

Item 5. Other Information

None.

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Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Exhibit Description
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31.01	Certification of Chief Executive officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.02	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.01	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Wallace E. Boston\_\_\_\_\_ August 12, 2008  
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Wallace E. Boston

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Harry T. Wilkins\_\_\_\_\_ August 12, 2008  
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Harry T. Wilkins

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Principal Accounting Officer)