

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stepstone Academy Partners with Education Elements to Implement the Blended Learning Model

(June 2012) Cleveland, OH – On May 30, 2012, Stepstone Academy, a Guidestone™ organization and Cleveland's Central Neighborhood's new K-8 charter school, hosted a luncheon presentation featuring Anthony Kim, *CEO and Founder of Education Elements*, a nationally recognized organization that specializes in the development of blended learning solutions for schools throughout the United States. Stepstone Academy constituents, including Stepstone Academy and Guidestone board members and stakeholders, were invited to learn more about Stepstone Academy's partnership with Education Elements to customize blended learning with the Stepstone Academy's instructional model.

The Stepstone Academy instructional model, a classroom rotation model, combines traditional, face-to-face instruction with project based instruction, where students work in teams to collaboratively solve problems and online instruction, where students have some element of control over time, place, path and/or pace. Teachers will have daily access to performance data from online lessons and can use this information to re-group and re-teach students according to their skill levels. The end result is teacher-directed, small group instruction where students learn more effectively using a medium they truly love. Research shows that the blended learning model, with differentiated small group instruction, allows students to accelerate beyond kindergarten and first grade learning.

"Anthony Kim is a true innovator and thought leader in the educational technology field," says Susan Hyland, *Assistant Vice President Project Manager*. "He did an outstanding job demonstrating how blended learning can dramatically accelerate students' academic success, which will be extremely important for Stepstone Academy. We are excited to be the first school in Ohio to partner with Education Elements in bringing this innovative educational model to the classroom."

To learn more about Stepstone Academy, please contact Susan Hyland, Assistant Vice President Project Manager, at 440.260.8891 or susan.hyland@GuidestoneOhio.org.