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Parents for Public Schools Announces New Executive Director

JACKSON, MS (February 9, 2009) - The National Board of Directors of Parents for Public Schools, proudly announces that Anne W. Foster has been selected as the new Executive Director for the National Office of Parents for Public Schools (PPS), located in Jackson, MS.

Prior to coming to PPS, Anne served as the first Executive Director of Raise Your Hand Texas (RYHT), a public education advocacy non-profit organization. While establishing the organization's office in Austin, Mrs. Foster coordinated lobbying efforts for RYHT's strong legislative agenda focused on public school improvement and reform. During her two-year tenure, Anne increased RYHT's membership to nearly 20,000 and built out a 200-person Speaker's Bureau to enhance statewide advocacy efforts. Anne traveled and spoke regularly throughout Texas about key education reform issues, creating a new statewide accountability system, and improving funding for pre-kindergarten.

Mrs. Foster previously served three terms as an elected school board member, including seven years as board president, for Richardson Independent School District (RISD). RISD is one of the largest and most diverse districts in Texas that consists of more than 34,000 students.

"Anne Foster is a seasoned and highly recommended professional who brings a passion for the PPS mission in support of our nation's public schools," Board President Rohadfox-Ceaser said. "She is a shining example of how effective parent involvement is critical to improving public schools."

A Mississippi native, and daughter of a former school superintendent and school teacher, Mrs. Foster and her husband, John, are parents of two adult sons who are public school and college graduates.

About Parents for Public Schools

Parents for Public Schools (PPS) is a national organization of community-based chapters working with public school parents and other supporters to improve and strengthen local public schools. PPS believes that quality public education is vital to our democracy and to America's future. Founded in 1989, the organization is headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, and has 19 chapters throughout the United States. For more information visit, www.parents4publicschools.org.

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