

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Street School Shares Methods with Greenland

Nuuk, Greenland – The Deputy Minister of Education, Culture and Church for the country of Greenland, Dr. Lone Moeller invited the President and CEO of Street School, Dr. Lori McGinnis-Madland, to speak at a symposium attended by 90 top-ranking education officials in Nuuk, Greenland. Because Street School is recognized nationally as a leader in increasing graduation rates for at-risk youth they wanted to learn more about Street School’s methodology and systems.

In September 2017, Moeller and Doris Jakobsen-Jensen, the then Minister of Education for Greenland visited Street School under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program and hosted by the Tulsa Global Alliance.

Bob Lieser, Vice President of Programs and Interim Director of the Tulsa Global Alliance said, “We are thrilled at the follow-up between our recent visitors from Greenland and Street School. It is a very rare and generous opportunity for the Government of Greenland to fund this reciprocal exchange and we are proud of Lori for representing Street School, Tulsa and the United States so well.”

“Touring Street School was inspiring to us,” said Moeller. “I wanted Lori to come to Greenland and share information about the many aspects of Street School that we may someday replicate in our education system here.”

Greenland’s population is 56,000 and covers 836,300 square miles. This is slightly larger than Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Missouri and Louisiana combined.

Greenland’s current school system allows students to receive a diploma after tenth grade. Data shows that when students do graduate, they are not furthering their education or developing trade skills.

STREET SCHOOL

If students choose, they may attend a three-year program called GUX after graduating from high school. There are four GUX campuses that dot the country. The GUX program is highly advanced and prepares students for college. However, many students drop-out of the program because they miss home and their parents don't view GUX as a high priority.

The most alarming statistic for Greenland teens is suicide which is six times higher than the United States. Greenland's high school dropout rate hovers at 64%.

Just like teens in Greenland, Street School students face many personal challenges such as a history of domestic violence, abuse, trauma and lack of family support.

"Street School is doing something very unique that would be beneficial in our school systems in Greenland," said Moeller. "Suicide and lack of education are sadly becoming normal because it is so common. Street School's therapy and support is to be admired and replicated."

Symposium attendees are trying to bring systemic change to their education system. They hope to increase knowledge of the English language, sustain more graduates in the GUX program and encourage students to learn a trade.

"The attendees at this event are true pioneers looking at ways to make huge changes to better their future," said McGinnis-Madland. "I'm honored to be invited to an international event where I can share how Street School's methods can be shared to help kids in crisis."

"It's very validating that Street School is now recognized as an international model for alternative education. Our methods demonstrate and our data proves that we impact dropout rates and prepare students to be college and career ready," said McGinnis-Madland.

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About Street School

Street School is an alternative high school with a therapeutic counseling program that has been in Tulsa since 1973. The school creates a supportive community for students in grades 9 through 12 who have chosen to work toward graduating from high school in a non-traditional setting. Street School is a dropout prevention, intervention and recovery program accredited by Tulsa Public Schools. Students *choose* to attend the school because they are committed to graduating, to learning and practicing life skills, to resolving substance abuse problems, to dealing with behavioral issues and to filling the void of support traditionally provided by family.

Lori McGinnis-Madland will be back in the Street School offices on Monday, November 5

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**Pictures attached.