



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Marion P. Thomas Charter School Announces New Preschool**

**August 30, 2011, Newark, NJ** — Marion P. Thomas Charter School (MPTCS) is proud to announce the opening of its new preschool for four year olds, opening on Wednesday, August 31, 2011. The new preschool is an expansion of MPTCS’s outstanding early elementary program and establishes the school as the first Newark charter school to offer a free preschool for local residents. The MPTCS Preschool program includes two classes, comprised of one lead teacher, one instructional support assistant and 15 students per class. This arrangement ensures each preschooler will receive individual focus to encourage academic growth.



The full-day preschool program will utilize the Curiosity Corner curriculum, which encompasses interactive and engaging activities that promote problem solving skills, social development and focused academic instruction in language arts and math. Upon completion of the program preschool students will be prepared to succeed and excel in kindergarten.

“Preschool serves as the educational foundation in building success for the school years ahead,” said MPTCS Elementary School Principal Remi Dabney. “Marion P. Thomas Charter School is proud to be able to offer this strong foundation to Newark youth.”

Families interested in learning more about the MPTCS Preschool can contact the school at (973) 621-0060 to schedule a tour and secure an admission form for the 2012-2013 school year.

(continued)

## **MPTCS HISTORY**

Marion P. Thomas Charter School opened its doors in 1999 with 60 students in grades K-2. Today, more than 600 students attend the school, which is comprised of two campuses, a recently-expanded elementary school, located at 370 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St., covering grades PreK-4-4<sup>th</sup> grade and the middle school, located at 308 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St., including grades 5-8. The school's creed is "It takes a whole village to raise a child." As a result, all stakeholders have rallied around the students to insure that they receive a quality education.

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