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**Beginning with Children to Open New High School in Brooklyn  
Builds on Successful Programs at Two K-8 Charter Schools**  
*Adds to Vision Launched by Joe and Carol Reich Decades Ago*

BROOKLYN – A new public high school is coming to Brooklyn this summer, offering traditionally underserved students a robust year-round academic program and comprehensive college and career advisory services that will help graduates enter and navigate college and post-collegiate professional life.

The high school will open with 90 students in 9th grade for students at Beginning with Children Charter School 2 (BwCCS2), Community Partnership Charter School (CPCS), and students in the surrounding Brooklyn community. It will be located in private space at 11 Bartlett Street, in Williamsburg's District 14.

The school was approved Wednesday by the State University of New York Trustees Charter School Committee and will eventually grow to 342 students in grades 9-12 in four years.

"We're incredibly grateful for the families and children who choose to attend our schools and have been the impetus for this high school, and for the substantial community support for this new school," said Beginning with Children Charter School 2 and Community Partnership Charter School Board Chair Joan Walrond. "We're glad we will be able to continue to serve these families into high school and beyond."

"The high school will open new doors for our students and allow them to benefit from proven academic and enrichment programs that help ready them for college and beyond," said Nancy Lewson Kurz, chair and CEO of the Beginning with Children Foundation, which started and supports the schools. "This school broadens the vision implemented by Joe and Carol Reich 30 years ago – to partner with parents and the community to create an educational experience that is 100% focused on helping children succeed."

The high school builds upon the successful K-8 programs run at BwCCS2 and CPCS, as well as the Foundation's work with high school and college students through its Legacy Network, which provides mentoring, academic enrichment and a supportive social network to help students make the critical transition to high school, college, and career.

Support through the Legacy Network has helped alumni excel at such competitive high schools as Brooklyn Tech, Millennium, Brooklyn Latin, and Philips Academy Andover, as well as at Harvard, Wesleyan, Fordham, Tufts, and numerous SUNY and CUNY schools.

The new high school will serve predominantly students in the Brooklyn community who have historically lacked access to high quality educational opportunities. At BwCCS2, more than 96 percent of students live in poverty and 95 percent are Black or Hispanic. At CPCS, more than 93 percent of students are in poverty while 95 percent are Black or Hispanic. At both schools, more than 20 percent of the students receive special education services.

The year-round high school program approved by the SUNY Trustees will provide academic rigor with real life skills to prepare students for both college and career paths. This program will include an array of Advanced Placement courses and electives, a full advisory program as well as post-secondary planning to ensure students not only explore all options but also develop a specific individualized plan.

All students will also complete special programs during the Christmas and July school breaks aligned to their capstone projects, financial independence curriculum, and/or arts instruction.

For more information about the schools, visit: [www.beginningwithchildren.org](http://www.beginningwithchildren.org).

**About the Beginning with Children Foundation:**

The [Beginning with Children Foundation](http://www.beginningwithchildren.org) was founded by Joe and Carol Reich, Ph D., on their deep belief in education's power to transform children, families and communities. Its schools are located in communities where roughly a quarter of families earn less than \$25,000 per year. Our hard-working families, facing high rates of low-wage employment, are finding it increasingly difficult to break the cycle of poverty and continuing injustice which plagues their neighborhoods. Education can break the cycle. Education opens doors and allows children to see beyond their challenges. We give every child an equal chance to be well educated in a free public school with excellent resources, from Kindergarten through college. The Foundation established its groundbreaking Legacy Program in 2003 to provide comprehensive supports for graduates transitioning to high school.