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**AIM Academy Extends Its Campus**

**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Marks Completion of AIM Community Center**

**AIM Academy** marked another milestone in its 10th Anniversary year with the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for its new 23,000 sq. ft. **AIM Community Center** on Thursday, April 21st at its Conshohocken, PA campus.

Development of the $8 million dollar building was launched with a Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development RACP grant of $1.5 million, with two additional $1 million anonymous gifts, all matched by AIM community donations. The Redevelopment Authority of Montgomery County was instrumental in creating this multifunctional facility to enhance community resources in this area of the county.

The facility features a full-scale basketball court; performing arts center; broadcast and live streaming studio; arts, design and music classrooms and studios; and an auditorium that seats 500. By adding this facility to its campus, AIM will stay on the forefront of education for children with learning differences and have a greater impact on students, families, the greater school community, and research and practice in the field. AIM Academy is focused on bringing research-based strategies to the classroom. In addition to enhancing the experiences of the students and school community, the AIM Community Center will be home to the AIM Institute for Learning & Research which offers state-of-the-art training to educators throughout the region. This new building will be a dynamic center for community engagement, teacher training, and translational research to benefit all children with learning differences. As a leader and convener, AIM Academy will bring together scientists, clinicians, administrators and teachers to translate the latest advances in neuroscience and research into new educational strategies.

Dr. Don Compton of Florida State recently presented the preliminary findings of a study that he has been doing in conjunction with AIM Academy. He has been exploring the topic of classrooms such as those at AIM that facilitate the development of deep knowledge and the role of that knowledge in overall comprehension skills for students. Not surprisingly, he is finding that deep (hands-on, arts-based, problem-based, collaborative, and discussion heavy) knowledge matters and that depth over breadth in curriculum is important.

“This exciting day for AIM Academy marks another milestone in our vision to build a world-class campus that showcases the talents, passions, and abilities of students who learn differently,” remarked Patricia Roberts, Founder and Executive Director. “We look forward to welcoming students from AIM and the surrounding community to the AIM Community Center beginning with our Summer Enrichment Program this July,” shared Founder and Associate Director, Nancy Blair.

The AIM Community Center was designed by Blackney Hayes Architects and built by Wohlsen Construction Inc.

*AIM Academy, a grade 1-12 college preparatory school, provides extraordinary educational opportunities to children with language-based learning differences including dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia, utilizing research-based intervention strategies and an arts-based learning environment. In addition, the AIM Institute for Learning and Research is an international, multidisciplinary service delivery model designed to bring the latest research and educational training opportunities to parents, teachers and professionals who work with children who learn differently. To learn more about AIM, visit* [*www.aimpa.org*](http://www.aimpa.org/)*.*

**AIM Academy**

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Photo captions

New AIM Community Center:

The 23,000 square foot AIM Community Center on the AIM Academy Conshohocken campus.

Ribbon Cutting of AIM Community Center:

Taking part in the April 21st ribbon cutting were (l to r) Kurt Imhof, Office of Senator Robert Casey; Jennifer Crawford, Blackney Hayes Architects; Caroline De Marco, AIM Board; Jalila Parker, Office of the Governor; Matthew Naylor, Chairman, AIM Board; Nancy Blair, Patricia Roberts, Carolyn Cullen, Chair, AIM Capital Campaign 2; Pamela Finegan and Jerry Nugent, Montgomery County Redevelopment Authority.

Home of the Wolfpack:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ‘1\_ and Andrew ’17 showing their approval of the AIM Academy Wolfpack logo on the wall of the AIM Community Center basketball court.