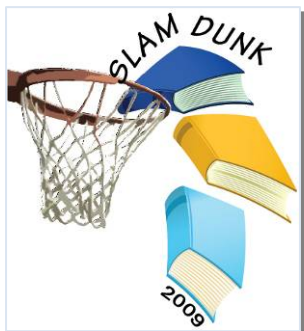




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2009

Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter School Network students participate in pen pal exchange with students in Milwaukee, Wis.



Geography was the theme as third and fourth graders at Pierre Capdau-UNO Charter School, Medard Nelson-UNO Charter School and Gentilly Terrace Elementary participated in *Slam Dunk 2009* – year four, a student literacy program sponsored by the NBA’s Milwaukee Bucks, Sam’s Hope Literacy Foundation and 2009 university partner

Marquette University.

As part of the pen pal exchange with third graders in Milwaukee, Wis., UNO Charter Network students received copies of the book “Me on the Map” by Joan Sweeney. Students in both cities are learning about the places Bucks players have gone to college and the countries of their origin. Milwaukee students are learning about New Orleans and how families have rebuilt their lives following Hurricane Katrina.



Students at Pierre Capdau-UNO Charter School read letters from their Milwaukee pen pals.

This is the second year the Milwaukee Bucks have adopted a group of New Orleans school children, along with the help of Sam's Hope, providing more books, book bags and other items. “One of our goals this year is to engage children in the somewhat lost art of hand written

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letter writing,” said Barbara Garner, President of Sam’s Hope Literacy Foundation. “We hope that this exchange will enrich the lives of both groups of children and bring our cities closer together in an effort to share.”

“We would like to express our gratitude to the Milwaukee Bucks, Sam’s Hope Literacy Foundation and Marquette University not only for their donation of books and other materials, but for their personal involvement with our students,” said Dr. Andre Perry, Chief Executive Officer of the Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter School Network. “These efforts are vitally important as we continue to build a world class school system for the families of New Orleans.”

The Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter Network is a seamless pre-kindergarten through college learning community. Schools in the Network are operated by UNO’s College of Education & Human Development. Teachers focus on the individual needs of every child, every day and prepare children for the next educational level. This pre-kindergarten through high school educational process is designed to provide access and placement in community colleges and The University of New Orleans. For more information on the Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter Network, visit www.unocharternetwork.net.

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