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Achievement Academy Staff Member

Honored at Florida Charter School Conference

LAKELAND, FL (November 9, 2017) Achievement Academy, a charter school serving Pre-K students with special needs in Polk County, is proud to announce that Susan Shipe, Lead Teacher, was honored recently at the Florida Charter School Conference in Daytona Beach. Susan was recognized by the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools as a 2017 Charter School Champion Teacher. She has taught at Achievement Academy for over 20 years and in 1997 was a founding member of the Child Development Charter School that is now known as Achievement Academy. With a Master's degree in Autism Spectrum Disorders and National Board Certification in Exceptional Education, Susan is well deserving of this honor. "Achievement Academy is fortunate to have Susan Shipe. Her passion is evident daily in her interactions with students and families" said Cindi Parker-Pearson, Achievement Academy Principal.

The Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS) has honored winners of its 2017 Florida Charter School Champion Awards, which were presented at the recent Florida Charter School Conference in Daytona Beach, Fla. For the sixth consecutive year, FCPCS received nominations in several categories, including charter school governing board members, charter school leaders, charter school teachers, charter school pioneers and charter school preferred partners.

The Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS) is the leading charter school membership association in the state, with a membership of nearly 75 percent of all operating charter schools. Since its inception in 1999, FCPCS has been dedicated to creating a national model of high quality, accredited public charter schools that are student-centered and performance-driven. FCPCS provides a wide array of technical support, mentoring, training, networking, and purchasing services to its membership, as well as serving as an advocate for all Florida public charter schools.



*The Achievement Academy serves children from birth through age five with various developmental delays and disabilities. The Achievement Academy offers two programs, each provided at no cost to the child or family. The first program is a **Charter School** that offers specialized instruction by certified teachers; small class sizes; individual speech, occupational and physical therapies; and assistive technologies that enable each student to reach his or her full potential at one of the Achievement Academy's three campus locations (Lakeland, Winter Haven and Bartow). The second is a "**Birth to Three Program**" that provides early intervention services to infants and toddlers who are "at-risk" for developmental delays and/or have been identified with a specific delay. Professional Early Interventionists serve these children and their families. More than half of the Birth to Three Program's budget is funded by a generous allocation from the United Way of Central Florida.*

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