



CHAIRMAN  
*Greg Jones*

VICE CHAIRMAN  
*R. William Hauck*

**For Immediate Release:  
May 19, 2006**

**CONTACT:** Mike Bowman  
(916) 498-8980 or (916) 606-5950 cell

**CALIFORNIA BUSINESS FOR EDUCATION EXCELLENCE (CBEE)  
FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES NEW ADDITIONS TO THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS**

*Kevin Johnson, St. HOPE Founder and former NBA All-Star  
Lenny Mendonca, Director, McKinsey & Company  
Join CBEE Foundation Board of Directors*

**SACRAMENTO, CA.** – California Business for Education Excellence (CBEE) Foundation announced today that Kevin Johnson, St. HOPE Academy founder and former NBA All-Star; and Lenny Mendonca, a director in McKinsey & Company’s San Francisco office, have joined the Board of Directors.

Kevin Johnson is a resident of Sacramento and the founder, CEO, and chairman of the board of St. HOPE. After graduating from UC Berkeley, Mr. Johnson was selected seventh in the first round of the NBA draft in 1987 and became a 3-time NBA All-Star during his 12 seasons of play. While he was a player, Mr. Johnson founded St. HOPE in 1989 to provide after school programs in his hometown community of Oak Park, an inner-city neighborhood in Sacramento. After retiring from the NBA, he turned his full attention on St. HOPE and to giving back to his neighborhood through redevelopment projects; through the creation of PS7, a K-8 charter school; and reopening his alma-mater, Sacramento High School as a charter school. St. HOPE now operates five small schools serving nearly 2,000 students in Oak Park. Mr. Johnson is now focusing his efforts on a national front in an attempt to eradicate the educational inequities facing young people throughout the country.

“CBEE’s priorities and my priorities are 100% in unison and I’m proud to serve on the CBEE Foundation Board,” said Johnson. “The number one priority for me, and I would hope for every parent, every educator and every student, is to ensure every single child reaches grade level proficiency. We’ve got to close achievement gaps and give every student, no matter background or ethnicity, a chance to learn and to succeed. CBEE is committed to that goal and I’m looking forward to standing shoulder to shoulder with them to advance their reform agenda.”

Lenny Mendonca, a resident of Half Moon Bay, is a director in the San Francisco Office of McKinsey & Company, Inc., the world’s leading global management consulting firm. Mr. Mendonca is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Economic Forum, Secretary and Executive Committee Member of the Bay Area Council, on the board of directors of the Bay Area Science and Innovation Consortium, and a member of the Business Advisory Council for the San Francisco Unified

**Kevin Johnson, St. HOPE Founder and former NBA All-Star, Lenny Mendonca, Director, McKinsey & Company, Join CBEE Foundation Board of Directors**

May 19, 2006

Page Two

School District. He is also the founder and owner of the Half Moon Bay Brewing Company. Mr. Mendonca received his M.B.A. and certificate in public management from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He holds an A.B., magna cum laude, in economics from Harvard College.

“It’s an honor to serve on the CBEE Foundation Board,” said Mendonca. “California’s public schools are critically important not only to the state’s economy, but to our communities and to our quality of life. Many of our schools are moving in the right direction, but we need to keep building on that momentum. CBEE is pushing hard to ensure the state continues to move forward and to improve and I’m looking forward to working with CBEE Foundation to achieve its goals.”

“I couldn’t be happier to have two powerhouses like Kevin and Lenny join the CBEE board,” said Jim Lanich, Ph.D. and president of CBEE. “To have such strong, dedicated, and influential leaders join our board will be tremendously important. It’s also testament to the broad business community support for CBEE’s reforms. Our growing board of directors underscores how important improving California’s public school system is to the business community.”

The mission of the CBEE Foundation is to drive the debate beyond the usual questions of “if” we should have standards or accountability or “where” those standards should be set to instead demonstrate that standards CAN be met. We focus our attention on improving individual student achievement and giving a voice to those that are raising academic achievement and closing achievement gaps.

High achievement is happening across all ethnic and socioeconomic lines in every corner of the state. By connecting low performing schools with high performing schools with similar student populations in an organized way, we dispel the myths perpetuated by the defenders of the status quo, used as excuses for the lack of performance.

CBEE Foundation works with the media and public opinion leaders to bring this strategy to scale and help low performing schools replicate the practices found in the high performing schools. When this is done in an organized campaign, we have concluded that all schools in California can get 100% of their kids to grade level by the 2013/14 school year.

###