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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maplewood Richmond Heights Middle School Principal Selected as Emerging Leader

ARLINGTON, Va.—Robert Dillon, the principal of Maplewood Richmond Heights Middle School in Maplewood, Mo., has been recognized as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a global association of education professionals.

The PDK Emerging Leader program recognizes top educators under age 40 from around the world for their leadership. A committee made up of PDK's past Emerging Leaders selected the 22 honorees from a competitive field of applicants, based on their outstanding professional accomplishments.

In addition to being honored at an event in Washington, D.C., honorees also have the opportunity to be published by PDK, apply for grants, and participate in PDK initiatives.

"Honoring these young leaders is one of PDK's most important initiatives," said William J. Bushaw, PDK International's executive director. "We know the future of education is in good hands with leaders like these making a difference in the lives of our students."

Prior to his principalship, Dillon served as an assistant principal and high school teacher. His professional interests include green school initiatives, issues related to school culture, and addressing the achievement gap. He has published numerous articles and delivered a number of presentations on these topics.

"My goal is to provide an innovative and creative environment for children to grow, learn, and find their passion for life," Dillon said. "I believe that, by providing all students with experiences inside and outside of the classroom, we can bridge the gaps created by poverty and give every child hope for a bright future."

Dillon holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education and communications, a master's degree in secondary administration, and a doctorate in educational leadership. In 2007, he was named Assistant Principal of the Year by the Saint Louis Secondary School Principals Association. In his community, he serves on the Home Works! Community Action Board, the St. Louis Children's Hospital National Food Allergy Board, and the Saint Louis Area Secondary School Principals Executive Committee.

For more information on PDK's 2012-2013 Class of Emerging Leaders, go to www.pdkemergingleaders.org.

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About PDK International

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. More information is online at www.pdkintl.org.

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