

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 15, 2005**

### **New Report Rates Accelerated School's Effectiveness *American Institutes of Research Report Shows Accelerated's Positive Effects on Student Achievement***

**STORRS, CT** – A new report from the American Institutes for Research (AIR) rates Accelerated Schools *plus* as one of only seven elementary school reform models in the country that is demonstrating “moderate” or “moderately strong” effects on student achievement.

The report, which was recently produced by AIR's Comprehensive School Reform Quality (CSRQ) Center in Washington DC, examined 22 widely adopted comprehensive school reform models. Of the 22, two were found to have moderately strong effects on student achievement. Five other models, including Accelerated, were found to have moderate effects on achievement. The other 15 were shown to have “limited” or “zero” effects.

“Accelerated is very pleased to be rated among the top school reform models in the nation,” said Gene Chasin, director of Accelerated Schools *plus*. “The AIR report and many other studies show that Accelerated's model helps student learn. As Accelerated prepares to mark its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2006, we will continue to improve our model and increase its effectiveness so that we can further enrich the lives of American children.”

AIR researchers reviewed approximately 800 studies of the 22 school reform models to find evidence of their quality, their effectiveness, their ability to improve student achievement, and their ability to provide implementation support to schools.

#### **Accelerated received the following ratings:**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| • Evidence of positive overall effects:  | Moderate effect   |
| • Evidence of positive effects in reading and math:  | Moderate effect   |
| • Evidence of readiness for successful implementation:   | Moderately strong |
| • Evidence of professional development and technical assistance for successful implementation: | Very strong       |
| • Evidence of link between research and design:  | Moderately strong |
| • Evidence of positive effects on additional outcomes:   | Limited           |

The entire report can be viewed at <http://www.csrq.org/reports.asp>

#### **About Accelerated Schools *plus***

Accelerated Schools *plus* is a proven, research-based education approach designed to accelerate student learning through high expectations, gifted instructional strategies, and community collaboration. Its guiding principle is *accelerate*, not *remediate*. Founded as a pilot program in two schools in 1986, Accelerated Schools *plus* has since partnered with more than 1,800 public schools in 42 states. Currently, there are 162 Accelerated Schools in the United States. In addition to school improvement partnerships, Accelerated Schools *plus* is one of the nation's pre-eminent providers of professional development for teachers and principals, and strategic management services for “turn-around” schools and charter schools.