



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 20, 2024

**EDUPRIZE Schools Appoints  
Dr. Michael Gordon-Smith  
New Chief Executive Officer**

**Gilbert, Ariz – Sept 20, 2024** -EDUPRIZE Schools is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Michael Gordon-Smith as its new Chief Executive Officer. With a proven track record of fostering student achievement through innovative, data-driven instructional models, Gordon-Smith has the experience and passion necessary to lead EDUPRIZE. Gordon-Smith’s first day as CEO is October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Gordon-Smith joins EDUPRIZE from Charter One, where he was most recently Executive Director of the American Leadership Academy in Lexington, South Carolina. He started and led two campuses, K-5 and 6-12, successfully reaching enrollment caps six months before opening. Before moving to South Carolina, Gordon-Smith led Charter One schools in Gilbert and Queen Creek, AZ, increasing enrollment by 19% and cultivating a values-based community of students, teachers, and parents.

Gordon-Smith is the child of a non-military ex-patriate family. He was born in England and raised in Hong Kong, Tokyo, and Germany. Educated in International Baccalaureate schools, Gordon-Smith is fluent in Spanish and conversational in German. He has a BA and MA from Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. in English from Emory University. He and his family are excited to be relocating back to the Phoenix area from South Carolina.

“I’m honored to take the helm of EDUPRIZE Schools, advancing our core mission and values within the charter school sector here in Arizona. I look forward to leading EDUPRIZE into its next stage of development and growth, building on founder Dr. Lynn Robershotte's legacy and pushing boundaries to better serve our students. I will focus on building strong connections with our schools and community, advocating for their needs, and advancing the outstanding work done in our campuses to the broader Phoenix Valley and beyond,” said Dr. Gordon-Smith.

The search was led by The K12 Search Group, a national firm known for finding charter school CEOs. “The board is thrilled to welcome Dr. Gordon-Smith to the EDUPRIZE team,” said board chair and Director of Rosemawr Management, Seth Klempner. “We interviewed several outstanding leaders in the charter sector, but ultimately, Michael rose to the top.



We are excited about his track record of student achievement results and expanding high-quality educational opportunities for Arizona families. We expect EDUPRIZE to continue to thrive under his leadership.”

Rosemawr Management acquired EDUPRIZE in 2022. Rosemawr is an established alternative investment management firm focused on investing in the US municipal, not-for-profit, and sustainable infrastructure sectors.

The EDUPRIZE board and community wishes to recognize the contribution of founder Dr. Lynn Robershotte. “Her work has left a lasting legacy on the Queen Creek and Gilbert communities,” said Klempner. “We appreciate the role she has graciously played in this transition and wish her the best as she enters her next chapter.”

“I am excited for the continued success and bright future of EDUPRIZE under Dr. Gordon-Smith’s leadership,” stated Dr. Lynn Robershotte. “His experience, dedication, and philosophy align perfectly with the extraordinary results that EDUPRIZE schools have provided their communities. I know that our stakeholders will love working with him.”

For more information about EDUPRIZE, please visit: <https://www.eduprizeschools.net/>