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AYS Academy Successes

David,* a student at AYS in the spring of 2007, had the cards stacked against his success in school. He had to leave school an hour early each day to care for his little brother while his father worked to support the family. A first-generation English speaker, David also had to provide translation for his family. Prior to attending school at AYS, David's grades were very poor. When he took home his first report card from AYS, his mother could hardly believe it – David received all A's and B's!

Kendra,* a student at AYS in spring 2007, was an especially motivated student. She was scheduled to be suspended from her home school and not allowed on any USD 500 campus until Christmas 2007. A senior, Kendra wanted to graduate on time – but her suspension would prevent her attending summer school or otherwise obtaining all necessary credits for graduation. While at AYS, she was encouraged to pursue her goal of graduation and she wrote an appeal to the principal in charge of her suspension. She expressed herself eloquently, apologizing for the behavior for which she was suspended, and the principal was moved to give her another chance to prove herself. Kendra will be allowed to attend a USD 500 summer school in the summer of 2007, and will be able to graduate on time. Her motivation and high work ethic kept her studying hard while at AYS, including preparing to take the ACT exam. Kendra hopes to go to college and study law.

*Name changed to protect privacy.