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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## BART Announces New Principal

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ADAMS, MA – June 19, 2013 – Berkshire Arts & Technology (BART) Charter Public School proudly announces April West as the school’s new principal. This decision is the conclusion of a rigorous 4-month process that included the input of the board of trustees, faculty, staff, students and parents.

April West joined the BART faculty in 2006 as a Humanities and English Language Arts teacher. While at BART, she initiated an Advanced Placement (AP) program and taught AP Language and Composition and AP Literature. She has served in a number of teacher-leader roles and, in her tenure, has demonstrated exceptional commitment to the mission of BART and to BART’s students. Ms. West holds a B.A. from Bennington College in Social Justice, a M.A. in Comparative Studies from Ohio State University, a M.A.T. in Social Studies and is currently completing a C.A.G.S. in Educational Leadership from MCLA.

“Ms. West was an exceptional candidate who has already demonstrated commitment to our school community, a deep understanding of our student population, and an eagerness and ability to drive continued improvement to our curriculum and instruction. I am confident that she will be able to lead our faculty and students to greater achievements,” said Executive Director Julia Bowen.

Ms. West will start in her new role as principal on July 1, 2013. Outgoing principal Ben Klompus is leaving BART to pursue a doctorate in education at Harvard University.

West stated, on her new position, “I’m excited to build on the tremendous success that BART has achieved over the past 5 years under the guidance of Principal Klompus. I know that we have a team in place that will continue to prepare 100% of our graduates for college and the workforce and I am honored to lead this effort.”

BART is a nationally recognized, award-winning, tuition-free public middle and high school focused on preparing students for college. One hundred percent of BART’s graduates have passed a college course and have been accepted into college prior to graduation. BART does not discriminate in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its services, programs or activities, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, homelessness or age

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