

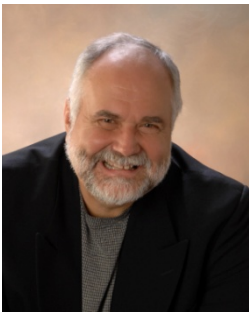
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tampa, Florida—October 19, 2009. Stephen Barkley, executive vice president of Performance Learning Systems, Inc. (PLS) will return to schools in Hillsborough and Lake counties to work with teachers and administrators on techniques for coaching teachers. He will also visit the Suncoast Area Teacher Training Honors Program (SCATT), the Anchin Center at USFS, and the Florida and the Islands Regional Comprehensive Center at ETS. Accompanying Barkley are five Aruban educators who are studying methods used by teachers coaching teachers. The Aruban educators have been studying coaching training with Barkley for nearly two years and are receiving three-hour graduate credit through Wilkes University, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, for completing a course that will combine all of their findings. As a final project, the Aruban participants will prepare a detailed plan for the implementation of coaching at the Aruba Institute of Pedagogy and at the schools across Aruba.

According to Ingrid Kuiperdale, codirector of the Teacher Training Institute in Aruba, "The Aruban coaching network established a culture of coaching among teachers in the schools to improve teachers' competencies, student participation, and student achievement." According to Kuiperdale, she and the other teachers from the Teacher Training Institute will develop their own coaching policies and model this to primary and secondary educators throughout Aruba. The Teacher Training Institute in Aruba is a grant program developed through the Aruban government to provide coaching instruction to the Aruba Institute of Pedagogy.

Prior to this event, the five Aruban educators attended a conference with Barkley at the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning, in Lawrenceburg, Kansas. From there they traveled to Tampa where the Hillsborough County Florida Reading Program will host the five Aruban educators. They will observe and practice coaching skills in classrooms in Hillsborough County and Lake County schools from October 16 to 20, working side-by-side with coaches and conducting teacher coaching sessions.

About Steve Barkley



Stephen G. Barkley, executive vice president of Performance Learning Systems, began his career in education 30 years ago as an elementary school teacher. For the past 20 years he has served as a consultant to school districts, teacher organizations, state departments of education, and colleges throughout the United States and Canada. Barkley has been a keynote speaker and presenter at state and national conferences. He has presented for the European Council of International Schools, the Mediterranean Association of International Schools, the Near East South Asian Council of Overseas Schools, Aruba Institute of Pedagogy, and Enka Schools of Istanbul, Turkey. Barkley has also worked in London, Geneva, and Dubai. Recently, Steve has concentrated his efforts on working with several districts in leadership training, coaching skills, and teacher growth. With the publication of his recent books *Quality Teaching in a Culture of Coaching*, *WOW: Adding Pizzazz to Teaching and Learning*, *Tapping Student Effort: Increasing Student Achievement*, and his newest publication, *Questions for Life: Strategies That Guide Critical Thinking*, due out later this year, Steve stands out as an authority on developing and sustaining quality school mentoring and coaching programs.

About PLS

Performance Learning Systems, Inc. is a comprehensive educational-services company that has been in the business of designing quality graduate education courses since 1969. PLS offers a range of services that collectively support the learning needs of practicing educators through on-site and online graduate courses, professional development services, and published products.

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