



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
CONGRESSMAN RUSH HOLT TO VISIT ACELERO LEARNING MONMOUTH COUNTY  
HEAD START PROGRAM FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2007**

*Visits Neptune site, plans to praise program for good results to date.*

US Congressman Rush Holt will visit the Acelero Learning Monmouth County Head Start program in Neptune on Friday morning, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 9:00 am. The Congressman will visit with program staff, teachers, family advocates, and parents to get an update on the progress Head Start has made since Acelero Learning was named the replacement grantee almost two years ago.

“We are very excited to have Congressman Holt come visit to help us kick off our new school year,” said Rosa Thorpe, Head Start Director for Acelero Learning Monmouth County. “Again this year we will serve 506 children county-wide, and we have worked to continue to offer expanded services to children and families.” At the Neptune site that Congressman Holt will visit, Acelero offers a “Kids Club” extended-day program that provides families with extra need additional hours of services before or after school. “Our Kids Club program means eligible families don’t have to worry about where their child is while they are at work – they can stay right here in our center, and keep having great learning experiences,” said Ms. Thorpe.

Since Acelero Learning has taken over administration of the program in November 2005, enrollment has increased from 330 to 506, the average teacher salary has increased by 60%, and the annual days of service provided to families has expanded by 21% --- all for the same amount of Federal dollars. “I am excited to visit Acelero Learning Monmouth County to witness first hand these positive changes. In an era of limited federal funds, we need new approaches like those Acelero has brought to Monmouth County to make sure we get the best possible services for children and families,” said Congressman Holt.

*Congressman Holt will arrive at the center at 9:00 am,  
tour classrooms, and read with children and have press availability at 9:30 am.*

**Location: Acelero Learning Monmouth County**

**NEPTUNE CENTER**

(Memorial Methodist Church)  
101 West Sylvania Avenue  
Neptune City, NJ 07753  
(732) 776-6248

**Date:**

Friday, September 14, 2007

**For additional information contact:**

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