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Contact: Carter Bentzel – Educational Options, Inc.
703-243-7460
cbentzel@edoptions.com

EdOptions™ CEO Tom Sawner Keynote Speaker At Venture Capital in Education Summit 2009

Summit Connects Venture Capitalists with Education Companies

Stanford, CA, May 29, 2009 – Tom Sawner, CEO and President of **EdOptions™** (<http://www.edoptions.com/>), was the featured keynote speaker at the inaugural Venture Capital in Education Summit 2009 sponsored by investment bank Berkery Noyes and Stanford University. The Summit brought together an elite group of leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs, and investors to learn more about the K-12 and postsecondary education sectors and to build stronger bridges between the early-stage investment community and the dynamic businesses transforming the education landscape.

As keynote speaker, **Dr. Sawner** (<http://www.edoptions.com/about/ceo.html>) spoke to the future of education and how customized learning approaches are needed for different generations. Generations learn differently and past standard methods simply do not work. "No matter how much harder we work, no matter how many hours we spend, no matter how much passion we have, yesterday's solutions do not meet tomorrow's needs."

"The Venture Capital in Education Summit is the only gathering of early-stage investors and innovative companies with the mission of closing the gap in funding available to nascent education ventures versus that available to later-stage education businesses," explains Christopher Curran, managing director of Berkery Noyes. "By bringing together a diverse collection of experts and thought leaders to speak to the emerging trends within the transformative education sector, the Summit will serve as a catalyst for further advancement and innovation in education."

About Educational Options, Inc.

EdOptions™ is an award-winning education technology firm located in Arlington, Virginia. Its premier product, **Stars Suite®** (<http://www.edoptions.com/products/stars/index.html>), currently serves more than 275,000 students nationwide and features 46 middle and high school courses as well as Web-based solutions for state test preparation, high school preparation and GED study. Other products include **Blue Ridge International Academy™** (<http://www.blueridgelearning.com/>), a triple-accredited online high school designed to support both public and non-traditional educational institutions with **rigorous curriculum**, powerful **Web-based technology**, and certified-teacher support. For more information, visit <http://www.edoptions.com/>.

About Berkery Noyes

Berkery Noyes is one of the pre-eminent merger and acquisition firms serving the education and information industry, having completed more than 400 transactions since its inception. Among the most recent education transactions include Rockbridge Growth Equity's acquisition of Northcentral University, KUE Digital's acquisition of Excelsior Software, Leeds' acquisition of Ex Libris and eInstruction's acquisition of Interwrite Learning. Berkery Noyes' clients include private companies seeking a buyer, most of the major international information companies, and private equity firms who use the firm's expertise in locating, analyzing and negotiating with acquisition candidates and in managing divestitures. For more information, visit <http://www.berkerynoyes.com>.

About Stanford University School of Education

The Stanford University School of Education is a leader in groundbreaking, cross-disciplinary research and analysis that help shape educational practice and policy. Internationally distinguished faculty integrate practice and research by working collaboratively with administrators, teachers and policy leaders around the world. The school develops the knowledge, wisdom and imagination of its students to enable them to take leadership positions as teachers, researchers, administrators and policy makers. For more information, visit <http://ed.stanford.edu/>.