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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 3, 2011

Shenandoah High School's First Homecoming Event Highlights the Big Picture

Shenandoah High School, El Dorado Union High School District's first public charter school, will present its **First Homecoming Event on January 19** featuring Elliot Washor, Ed.D., guest speaker and co-founder of Big Picture Learning. Big Picture is a nonprofit educational reform group dedicated to the fundamental rethinking of schooling. Shenandoah exemplifies the Big Picture philosophy to educate one student at a time by providing a personalized education program unique to each student.

The educational strategy of the Big Picture program uses a different approach to preparing students for college by creating a curriculum that relates to each student's interest, engaging the student to learn the needed skills and problem-solving strategies crucial for success beyond high school. The student is later placed in a real-world setting through the school's internship program, based on the student's interests.

Shenandoah administrator Debby Hanson invites the public to attend the event; however, she especially encourages middle school parents and students to attend to learn in more detail about the school's curriculum and how it will meet their student's educational needs. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet and speak with Shenandoah students and their parents, staff, and alumni; view student projects and presentations; and learn about the academic program, internships, job shadowing, college pathways, and partnership with Folsom Lake College. The school will be accepting applications for the 2011–12 school year through January 28.

The event will held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. next door at the Union Mine High School Theater, 6530 Koki Lane, El Dorado. For more information prior to the event, contact the school at (530) 622-6212.