

# HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS

## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Triumph Learning Introduces *New York State Coach, Empire Edition for English Language Arts* – Series Supports New State Test**

New York, NY, December 8, 2009 — Triumph Learning, a market leader in state-specific, standards-focused learning that supports student instruction, and a Hights Cross Communications company, said today that it has introduced a major new edition of its highly regarded *New York State Coach, Empire Edition, for English Language Arts* (Grades 1-8). The new *Coach* series is fully aligned with New York performance indicators and supports the latest New York State English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum and the new New York State ELA test scheduled for April 2010.

“Triumph Learning has been working with New York teachers and curriculum specialists for over 25 years,” according to John Lawler, President of Triumph Learning. “We have maintained a deep commitment to evolving and expanding our well-respected *Coach* series to support the New York State testing program. We have worked to ensure that our *Coach* and other product lines are aligned with state standards as well as the style, format, and contents of each new generation of state tests.”

Specific features of the *New York State Coach, Empire Edition, English Language Arts* series include:

- Two full-length practice tests, modeled after the actual new New York State Test.
- Chapter reviews with questions in the format of the New York State Test.
- Fiction, nonfiction, and poetry reading passages.
- Coached reading sections with corresponding questions.
- "Getting the Idea" sections that introduce important concepts.
- Test-taking tips and strategies.
- Teacher's Guide with answer key; additional mini-lessons, including reproducible sheets for students to practice key skills; Standards Correlation Charts; Test Correlation Charts; and bubble sheets.

“We have heard from New York educators that our NY *Coach* series not only helps prepare their students for what to expect on testing day, but educators also feel that *Coach* contains solid instruction that they can depend on to supplement classroom teaching. These programs have been successfully utilized in a variety of settings to assist students to skill mastery. Students feel greater confidence and show improved performance after using our *Coach* books,” says Marc Keller, Triumph Learning’s Senior Vice President of Sales.

For more information about *Coach* and other Triumph Learning products, please visit [www.triumphlearning.com/NY](http://www.triumphlearning.com/NY) or contact Marc Keller at 212-652-0228 or [mkeller@triumphlearning.com](mailto:mkeller@triumphlearning.com).

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**About Triumph Learning, LLC:**

Triumph Learning is the tenth-largest supplemental educational publisher in the US, and a market leader in state-specific test-preparation materials. Its three imprints (*Coach*, *Buckle Down*, and *Options*) are based in New York City, New York and Littleton, Massachusetts.

**About Hights Cross:**

Founded in 1997 and based in White Plains, NY, Hights Cross Communications is a premier educational and library publisher dedicated to creating the finest books, audio products, periodicals, software and online services, serving the following markets: K-12 supplemental education, public and school libraries, and consumers. Hights Cross companies include: Triumph Learning, Buckle Down Publishing and Options Publishing, and Recorded Books. For more information, visit [www.hightscross.com](http://www.hightscross.com). Triumph Learning is HCC’s test-preparation and intervention business and is comprised of its *Coach*, *Buckle Down*, and *Options* brands. Recorded Books is a leading publisher of unabridged audiobooks and other audio media for libraries, schools, and consumers, with operations in the U.S., U.K. and Australia.

**Safe Harbor Statement:**

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the Company’s plans, intentions and expectations. Such statements are inherently subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. The forward-looking statements that we make in this Current Report are subject to a variety of risks, uncertainties, and other factors known and unknown that could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to the completion of the Company’s announced restructuring and planned operation of our business, including the outcome and impact on our business of any resulting proceedings under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Company makes no assurance that it will be successful in consummating the proposed Plan and restructuring or any other restructuring proposal on favorable terms if at all, which could also adversely affect the Company’s business plans and expectations. As a result, the Company makes no assurance that the treatment of creditors outlined in this report and the term sheet included in the Support Agreement will not change significantly. A more extensive discussion of the risk factors that could impact these areas and the Company’s overall business and financial performance can be found in the Company’s reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The risks included above are not exhaustive. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in the Company’s expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.