



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

December 31, 2012

Via E-mail

Dr. Wallace E. Boston, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer
American Public Education, Inc.
111 West Congress Street
Charles Town, WV 25414

Re: American Public Education, Inc.
Form 10-K
Filed February 28, 2012
File No. 001-33810

Dear Dr. Boston:

We have completed our review of your filings. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filings and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ Terry French for

Larry Spigel
Assistant Director

.cc William I. Intner, Hogan Lovells US LLP