

FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF C304621@TRBVN.COM

From the South Florida Business Journal:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/news/2016/03/07/billionaire-jeff-greene-to-open-k-8-school.html>

Billionsaire Jeff Greene to open nonprofit school

Mar 7, 2016, 1:10pm EST

Palm Beach billionaire Jeff Greene and wife Mei Sze plan to open a K-8 school for high-performing students in West Palm Beach.

Greene invests in real estate nationwide and has recently been acquiring property for development around West Palm Beach. He has pending development applications for major mixed-use and residential projects in the city.

Greene said the Greene School will be a nonprofit and some students who are well qualified and from families with financial need will have their tuition covered.

“We are really trying to pool all the resources I have from all of my contacts and spend whatever it takes to build something special,” said Greene, who has taken the Warren Buffett Giving Pledge to give away most of his fortune during his lifetime.

Greene said he and his wife, who have three school-age children, feel that Palm Beach has quality schools but they aren’t on the level of the world-class schools in the Northeast. After meeting with friends in the Hamptons and



Jeff Greene

hearing about the top private schools in the New York area, Greene decided that Palm Beach needed such an institution. Greene said many wealthy people from the Northeast are hesitant to move to Florida because of the schools.

"We are spending whatever it takes to bring in the best teachers from around the country," Greene said. "All teachers have at least a master's degree. It's a school for high potential kids and parents who want to push kids at a little faster pace."

He plans to build the 20,000-square-foot school at 2001 S. Dixie Highway. Greene owns the real estate through one of his companies. Greene said he's doing interior renovations on the former car dealership and he's going to build a soccer field, tennis courts and an organic garden behind the building.

The school building was designed by **Arquitectonica** with consulting from architect Carlo Ratti.

Nan Wodarz was named head of school. She previously led the Sage School for gifted students near Boston.

The Greene School curriculum would focus on a global viewpoint, foreign language, innovation, coding and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math). Greene said students will have personalized learning to match their skills.

The Greene School is set to open for Pre-K, kindergarten, first and second grades in September. Its first meeting for prospective students and their parents will be on March 9 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Malcolm's in the Tideline Ocean Resort & Spa at 2842 South Ocean Boulevard in Palm Beach.

Brian Bandell

Senior Reporter

South Florida Business Journal



