Wilkins Harry T Form 4 February 16, 2011

## FORM 4

#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

**OMB APPROVAL** OMB 3235-0287

Number: January 31,

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** Wilkins Harry T | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  | AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION INC [APEI]               | (Check all applicable)                           |  |  |  |

(Middle)

Director 10% Owner \_X\_\_ Officer (give title \_ Other (specify

111 W. CONGRESS STREET

(First)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/15/2011

below) EVP, Chief Financial Officer

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

CHARLES TOWN, WV 25414

| (City)                                 | (State)                              | (Zip) Ta   | ble I - Non | -Derivati    | ve Sec    | curities Ac  | quired, Disposed   | of, or Benef  | icially Owned                                  |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|-------------|--------------|-----------|--|--|---|--|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)   | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (Execution Date, if any Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8)  (A) or |             |              | ed of (D) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |  |
| Common<br>Stock, par<br>value<br>\$.01 | 02/15/2011                           |  | S           | 2,500<br>(1) | D         | \$<br>38.079<br>(2)  | 88,661   | D   |  |
| Common<br>Stock, par<br>value<br>\$.01 |                                      |  |             |              |           |  | 34,111.5   | I   | By Wilkins<br>Asset<br>Management,<br>Inc. (3) |
| Common<br>Stock, par<br>value<br>\$.01 |                                      |  |             |              |           |  | 350  | I   | By son (4)                                     |

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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

> 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of | 2.          | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed         | 4.         | 5.                  | 6. Date Exerci | sable and  | 7. Title  | and      | 8. Price of |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|------------|-----------|----------|-------------|
| Derivative  | Conversion  | (Month/Day/Year)    | Execution Date, if | Transact   | iorNumber           | Expiration Da  | te         | Amoun     | nt of    | Derivative  |
| Security    | or Exercise |                     | any                | Code       | of                  | (Month/Day/Y   | (ear)      | Underl    | ying     | Security    |
| (Instr. 3)  | Price of    |                     | (Month/Day/Year)   | (Instr. 8) | Derivative          | e              |            | Securit   | ies      | (Instr. 5)  |
|             | Derivative  |                     |                    |            | Securities          |                |            | (Instr. 3 | 3 and 4) |             |
|             | Security    |                     |                    |            | Acquired            |                |            |           |          |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | (A) or              |                |            |           |          |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | Disposed            |                |            |           |          |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | of (D)              |                |            |           |          |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | (Instr. 3,          |                |            |           |          |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | 4, and 5)           |                |            |           |          |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |                     |                |            |           |          |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |                     |                |            |           | Amount   |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |                     | Date           | Expiration |           | or       |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |                     | Exercisable    | Date       |           | Number   |             |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |                     |                |            |           | of       |             |
|             |             |                     |                    | Code V     | $^{\prime}$ (A) (D) |                |            |           | Shares   |             |

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Wilkins Harry T 111 W. CONGRESS STREET CHARLES TOWN, WV 25414

EVP, Chief Financial Officer

### **Signatures**

/s/ Harry T. 02/16/2011 Wilkins

\*\*Signature of Date
Reporting Person

# **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The sales reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 Sales Plan adopted by the reporting person on November 21, 2008, as modified on May 29, 2009 and November 23, 2010, which is intended to comply with Rule 10b5-1.
- The price of \$38.079 per share represents a weighted average of sales prices ranging from \$37.68 to \$38.48 per share. The reporting person undertakes to provide upon request by the Commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares purchased or sold at each separate price.
- The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership, except to the extent of his pecuniary benefit, of the securities owned by Wilkins (3) Asset Management, Inc., and this report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of the securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

Reporting Owners 2

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(4) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by his son, and this report should not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of his son's shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.