

SUNDERLAND RICHARD W JR
 Form 4
 January 19, 2018

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 SUNDERLAND RICHARD W JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION INC [APEI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 111 WEST CONGRESS STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/15/2018

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP, Chief Financial Officer

CHARLES TOWN, WV 25414

(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 | 01/15/2018 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | | 8,038 | A | \$ 0 42,250 | D |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 | 01/17/2018 | | F ⁽²⁾ | | 1,139 | D | \$ 25.9 41,111 | D |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 | 01/17/2018 | | F ⁽³⁾ | | 761 | D | \$ 25.9 40,350 | D |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number. SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SUNDERLAND RICHARD W JR 111 WEST CONGRESS STREET CHARLES TOWN, WV 25414 | | | EVP, Chief Financial Officer | |

Signatures

/s/ Richard W. Sunderland, Jr. 01/19/2018
 **Signature of Reporting Person Date

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) Deferred Stock Unit granted pursuant to the American Public Education, Inc. 2017 Omnibus Incentive Plan. Award vests in three equal annual installments, with one third vesting on January 15, 2019, one third vesting on January 15, 2020 and one third vesting on January 15, 2021.
 - (2) The issuer withheld shares of Common Stock from the reporting person to pay the tax withholding obligations related to the vesting of restricted shares of Common Stock held by the reporting person.
 - (3) The issuer withheld shares of Common Stock from the reporting person to pay the tax withholding obligations related to the vesting of Restricted Stock Units.

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.