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**Weller of Avison Young negotiates 3,200 s/f sublease to Stride Funding, Inc. at 262 Washington St., Boston**

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Boston, MA According to Tom Collins, principal and managing director of Avison Young's Boston office, the firm has negotiated a sublease on behalf of Stride Funding, Inc. (Stride) at 262 Washington St. The 3,200 s/f space is near the center of Downtown Crossing in the city's Financial District and will enable the financial services provider to relocate its headquarters from a co-working facility into its first dedicated space.

Avison Young vice president Kirk Weller, who is based in the Boston office, represented Stride in the negotiation with Tallan, Inc., a software developer that is the master tenant in the space.

The agreement puts Stride in a top-floor space fully furnished with workstations, a kitchen, conference room and meeting rooms.

"We are delighted to have helped Stride secure a space of their own in one of the busiest financial districts in the country," Weller said. "Subleasing has created some fabulous pockets of opportunity in the office market, and in this case, it provided an ideal location for our client to pursue an aggressive growth plan."

Stride is a female-founded, mission-driven fintech (financial technology firm) that seeks to provide flexible, affordable funding to students of all backgrounds. The company provides income share agreements, deferred tuition agreements and other payment plans for students across higher education and alternative education programs.

Stride has doubled in size this year to approximately two dozen team members and is on track to grow its headcount to 50 by year's end. The new headquarters is large enough to accommodate that growth and provide open areas for collaboration.

"It's really special to commit to a space in Boston where we were founded, and Avison Young did an amazing job helping us find a space that matched our needs," said Tess Michaels, chief executive officer at Stride Funding. "We are a people-first culture, and our team really values collaborating, having quality in-person time, and bonding over group activities and office game nights, so we see the investment in this space as an investment in our team. We are excited to grow here."

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