

ATTACHMENT B

Letter of Support for The Village of Success Mentoring Program

March 5, 2015

Governor John Kasich
Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
77 South High Street 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor Kasich,

I strongly encourage the Community Connectors program to fund the Village of Success Mentoring Program proposed for operation within the Maple Heights City School District.

The Village of Success Mentoring Program is a wonderful program that will bring volunteer adult mentors, students and their families together so as build the self-esteem and academic achievement of youth within our community. It is all about promoting improvements in parent-youth relations, educational outcomes, youth self-esteem, attitudes toward school, attendance, and the likelihood of attending college—the very same features of our organization that operates within the Maple Heights City School District.

I am a member of both the Principal's Advisory Committee and I serve at the "Top D.O.G." in the Watch D.O.G.S. Both of these groups work to support the teachers and administration with our students. Our goal is to increase the involvement with our community and families in the Maple Heights City Schools. We want to give the parents a way to express themselves and help create programs for all kids. We have parents who are capable of teaching basic reading and math up to calculus. They support students by being available to come to before and after school tutoring, parents serve as crossing guards during and after school. We, also, have parents making phone calls for events, providing information for free immunizations and offering tutoring for those struggling in classes. Some of us act as active mentors to students. We try to use athletics, crafts and outings to reach the kids in a way that is informal. Using open gym, chess club, movie night and other events to show a different side of parents and staff to find out the needs of the individual child and better support him or her. We are very excited about the work here at Milkovich Middle School and the support from teachers and administration.

If I can answer any questions or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 330-475-2796.

Sincerely,



Sterlie Jones, IV
PAC & Watch D.O.G.S.