



October 22, 2013

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of Ashland University – Elyria Professional Development Services, I am writing to express our support for the Lorain County Educational Services Center for their Innovate21 Initiative being proposed to the 2013 Straight A Fund grant. Members of the Ashland University team look forward to working with you and your very experienced team in meeting the goals of this project.

Ashland University's Professional Development Services (PDS) is the number one provider of professional development classes for credit in the state of Ohio serving over 400 school districts in all 88 counties with more affordable graduate credits for use in teaching and/or administration license renewal. Last year alone, we taught nearly 4,000 graduate credit classes annually to more than 14,500 teachers who earned over 20,000 graduate credit hours. We offer a wide variety of year-round class options as well as training onsite, online, or at our five convenient locations throughout Ohio.

Ashland University understands the importance of improving technology skills to meet the needs of 21st century learners. Our team will support your activities by providing graduate credit to those participants who have completed the course requirements upon the approval of the Lorain County ESC and Ashland University. We will also assist in providing input as the program is being developed to ensure that requirements are within the established guidelines.

Should you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Renee L. Yoder-Elias".

Renee L. Yoder-Elias  
Director, Professional Development