

October 22, 2013

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in support of Canal Winchester Schools' Safe and Supportive Schools' Straight A Fund grant proposal.

The Safe and Supportive School program was implemented in the Canal Winchester Middle School 3 years ago, the two elementary schools 2 years ago, and is being implemented in our high school this year. Results have shown that the Safe and Supportive School program has made and will continue to make a significant positive impact in the lives of our students, their schools and our community.

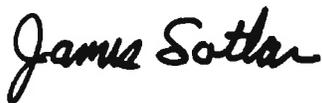
We are impressed not only with the model but also with the outcomes achieved in Canal Winchester Schools to date. With the Safe and Supportive Schools program, our students have even more opportunity to contribute to their class, school, and community and experience the satisfaction, sense of belonging, and enhanced motivation that comes from such involvement.

The Ohio Department of Education's approval of this proposal will ensure that we will be able to continue implementation of this program through 2014 and beyond. We have already observed increased student interest in learning, improved student behavior and enhanced school climate. We expect over time to realize an overall benefit in the areas of curriculum, instruction and supervision.

We will continue to share our Safe and Supportive School results with other districts as the program moves forward. The Safe and Supportive Schools program is one which can benefit every single student in all schools.

Please let me know if I can be of any other assistance in consideration of this grant proposal.

Sincerely,



Mr. James Sotlar
Superintendent



October 22, 2013

To Whom it may concern:

The Educational Council (EC) is a non-profit organization formed in 1986 to provide cross-district programs and services for the sixteen public schools districts in Franklin County which includes approximately 10,000 teachers and 160,000 students. The EC's Board is composed of the 16 Superintendents from the districts across the county. A favorite part of my job as Chief Executive Officer of EC is to collaborate with and support the development and implementation of innovative educational opportunities.

Through funding from ADAMH, the Safe and Supportive Schools program is being implemented in Canal Winchester Local Schools but with additional funding from the Straight A Fund can be implemented in the feeder patterns of Columbus City Schools-Independence High School and Whitehall City Schools. A total of 10,000 students in these three school districts will be impacted by implementation of the Safe and Supportive Schools program.

Safe and Supportive Schools is an essential program that these three school districts have recognized as critical to the social and emotional learning of their students. Safe and Supportive Schools helps students raise expectations with regard to respect, proper communication and peer interactions. Social and emotional learning programs benefit students and the entire school community by changing behaviors, thereby improving school climate, attendance, and academic achievement.

The Educational Council is prepared to support and implement the Safe and Supportive Schools program upon proposal acceptance and approval. We are hopeful that the Straight A Fund of Ohio will consider funding the Safe and Supportive Schools program to benefit the students and communities of Canal Winchester, Whitehall City Schools and Columbus City Schools (Independence High School feeder pattern) so that the program can be replicated and implemented in schools and communities across Ohio and the nation.

Thank you for your support of this truly significant and much needed program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Farley".

John Farley, Ph.D.

Chief Executive Officer



WHITEHALL CITY SCHOOLS

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Whitehall, Ohio 43213

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October 22, 2013

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Whitehall-Yearling High
School

Rosemore Middle School
Beechwood Elementary
School

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Kae Avenue Elementary
School

To Whom It May Concern:

Whitehall School District is pleased to be writing this letter of support for Canal Winchester **Schools' Safe and Supportive Schools** Straight A Fund grant proposal. We are prepared to implement this program in our school district January 2014.

Whitehall Schools in central Ohio serves a diverse population of students from economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. Our students have great potential and we know they are capable of being successful in our schools. However, a huge barrier to our student's academic success is their deficit in the area of social and emotional learning.

We believe that the Safe and Supportive School program will make a significant positive impact in the lives of our students and schools. In particular, the fact that this program begins with the early developmental needs of our elementary school students through high school has particularly gained our interest.

We have thoroughly reviewed this program and are impressed not only with the model but also with the outcomes achieved at Canal Winchester Schools to date. Our belief is that when implemented in Whitehall Schools, the Safe and Supportive School program will provide students with the opportunity to contribute to their class, school, and community and experience the satisfaction, sense of belonging, and enhanced motivation that comes from such involvement.

The Ohio Department of Education's approval of this proposal will ensure that we will be able to implement this program in January, 2014. We predict that in addition to our students' increased interest in learning, we will see improved student behaviors which will result in an overall change in school climate and economic benefit from cost savings in the areas of curriculum, instruction and supervision.

We look forward to sharing our results with other districts as this program moves forward.

Please let me know if I can be of any other assistance in consideration of this grant proposal.

Sincerely,

WHITEHALL CITY SCHOOLS

Brian D. Hamler
Superintendent