October 23, 2013

Mount Vernon Nazarene University
800 Martinsburg Road
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050

Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Straight A Fund Reviewers,

Mount Vernon Nazarene University (MVNU) is excited to partner with Heath City Schools in their innovative project “Creating a Culture of Data and Accountability”. This project will provide amazing learning opportunities for district and building leaders with online and blended learning to improve student learning through administrative coaching. Administrative coaching provides vital support in the development of leadership skills and leads to accelerated changes in practice (Owston, Wideman, Murphy, & Lupshenyuk, 2008). This professional development will allow for a more intentional use of student, building, and district data to drive meaningful data to guide instructional decision-making that will improve learning for every student.

MVNU will bring our expertise of providing high quality professional development to this endeavor. As a stakeholder in Heath’s project, MVNU will partner in a series of professional development sessions focusing on the use of a learning management system, Quality Matters, and student assessment. We require all of our professional development to be aligned to Ohio’s Standards for the Teaching Profession, Ohio’s New Learning Standards, and MVNU’s Teacher Education Conceptual Framework. We look forward to building a meaningful project that will have such a profound impact in education and the lives of Heath’s students.

Sincerely,

C. Damon Osborne, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Education and Professional Studies
Mount Vernon Nazarene University