

Youngstown Academic Distress Commission
Youngstown, OH
Resolution No. 10.17.2013—1

***RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF YOUNGSTOWN CITY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATION IN
THE MAHONING STRAIGHT A PROPOSAL REGARDING “COUNTY-WIDE
INITIATIVE TO REMOVE OBSTACLES FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS TO DO
BLENDED AND ONLINE LEARNING THUS INCREASING COURSE OFFERINGS AND
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT, DUAL CREDIT, AND CREDIT
RECOVERY”***

WHEREAS, in order to assist the Youngstown City School District (the “District”) to improve the District’s academic performance and pursuant to R.C. 3302.10 the Superintendent of Public Instruction established the Academic Distress Commission for the Youngstown City School District (the “Commission”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.C. 3302.10 the Commission has adopted and updated an Academic Recovery Plan (the “ARP”) for the District and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction has approved such Commission actions; and

WHEREAS, the Mahoning County Superintendent contacted the Chair of the Youngstown Academic Distress Commission requesting a resolution of support, as required by the proposal application question 7 (<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Straight-A-Fund/Application-Materials>), from the Academic Distress Commission for the District’s participation in a Straight A Fund proposals; and

WHEREAS, the proposal is described as a “County-Wide initiative to remove obstacles for students and teachers to do blended and online learning thus increasing course offerings and opportunities for Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, and credit recovery;” and

WHEREAS, this proposal is not in conflict with the Ohio Department of Education approved plans for academic improvement in the District; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Youngstown Academic Distress Commission hereby supports the District’s participation in this proposal.

WHEREFORE, the foregoing Resolution was moved by *Michael Garvey* seconded by *Dr. Paul Williams*, and duly adopted on October 17, 2013, upon roll call further resulting in four yeas and none nays.



Date: October 23, 2013

Subj: Mahoning Valley Academic Cloud - Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this Letter of Support for the Mahoning Valley Academic Cloud (MAC). ACCESS fully supports this proposal, and will bring our full effort to the project.

ACCESS is one of twenty-two Information Technology Centers (ITCs) in the State of Ohio, responsible for delivering technology services to schools in Mahoning and Columbiana counties. ACCESS provides two services which will be critical to the success of this project, namely Internet/Email services, as well as Student Information System (SIS) services, as described below.

As part of our Internet and Email service offerings, we will enable this project through both access and identity management. ACCESS provides a Wide Area Network (WAN) that connects all of the schools in both counties together. Further, ACCESS has the ability to provide a managed wireless service to the schools, enabling wireless deployment anywhere in the district or building, removing a significant barrier to access for both school-owned devices and student-owned devices. ACCESS also provides every teacher, administrator, and student with an username, password, and email account through the Google Apps for Education service offering. The student accounts are created automatically upon enrollment in a school building, and the username and password are also available to the teacher through the Student Information System (SIS) as well as their online gradebook program. Districts can control what programs and features are available to their students.

ACCESS maintains the ProgressBook Suite's "Student Information" SIS program. This SIS manages, among other things, all student demographics (including e-mail username and password), as well as all teachers, courses, and course enrollments. As part of this project, ACCESS will write the software programs necessary to integrate the SIS with the MAC, ensuring that all of the school setup, teacher accounts, student accounts, courses, and course enrollments are up-to-date. This level of integration will ensure the absolute minimum of administrative overhead necessary to use the MAC, enabling the teachers and students to focus on teaching and learning rather than administrative busywork.

ACCESS is fully engaged and excited to be part of this innovative project! Please do not hesitate to contact me directly for any clarification or additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John LaPlante". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John LaPlante
Executive Director, ACCESS



October 23, 2013

Dr. Richard Ross
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Dr. Ross:

As President and Principal of Cardinal Mooney High School, a parochial secondary educational institution in Youngstown, Ohio, we would like to be considered as a secondary applicant in the Ohio Straight A Funding Grant. We would like to be part of the Mahoning Valley Regional Educator Talent Cloud Consortium. We feel that with our historic high academic standards and faculty dedication and expertise we would provide an excellent addition to this fine group of schools.

We at Cardinal Mooney would provide an excellent group of teachers and curriculum specialists to facilitate this blended curriculum proposal. In sharing with the public school districts in the Mahoning Valley we can share our talents along with the many talents of the Mahoning Valley teachers and becoming an integral part of this talent cloud. Our students would gain so much with the many online opportunities and our staff would be very active in this online connection.

At Cardinal Mooney we have implemented a "bring your own device policy" this school year. It has met with so much success far beyond our greatest expectations. All of our students have constant wireless access and connectivity throughout the day. This will provide for smooth interaction between all 16 high schools.

Cardinal Mooney has 158 different course offerings for our students. We see this proposal as an excellent opportunity to expand our students' opportunities and diversify their choices to help them face the challenge of our one global world. Our students will have much more control over their own learning opportunities should we be included in this wonderful shared learning community.

Thank you for your time and commitment to bettering the educational opportunities of our students in the Mahoning Valley and across Ohio.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald DeLucia".

Reverend Gerald DeLucia
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Young '68".

John Young '68
Principal



Youngstown
Christian School

THE YOUNGSTOWN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

4401 Southern Blvd. Youngstown, Ohio 44512



Youngstown
Christian School

Phone: 330-788-8088

Elementary Fax: 330-788-7440

High School Fax: 330-788-2875

October 22, 2013

Straight-A Fund Governing Board
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4183

Dear Dr. Ross and the Governing Board,

On behalf of Youngstown Christian School, I am writing to acknowledge our support for and desire to partner with the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center on the "Mahoning Valley Regional Educator Talent Cloud" project.

Youngstown Christian School (068403) is a chartered, non-public, Pre-K12 school serving more than 600 students. Established in 1975, Youngstown Christian School has been proactively involved in engaging and reforming educational philosophy and practice in the context of the Youngstown City School district. Youngstown Christian School employs highly qualified, state-certified teachers, assesses student achievement using public school assessments, and utilizes educational technology to the fullest in and outside the classroom.

It is our pleasure to partner with Mahoning County Career and Technical Center on this important project. We believe that extending access to technology and blended learning opportunities to as many students as possible in the Mahoning Valley is critical to ensuring that the students we serve are fully competent in 21st century skills. This creative, innovative, and timely project will help us to continue to fulfill our mission.

Sincerely,

Joshua D. Reichard, PhD, EdS

Academic Dean

Youngstown Christian School

Phone: 330-788-8088

Email: jreichard@youngstownchristian.org

Preparing the next generation for a life of Christian Service



October 23, 2013

Straight-A Fund Governing Board
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215-4183

Dear Dr. Ross and the Governing Board:

On behalf of Lumen Christi Catholic Schools (LCCS) the governing structure of six schools within the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown, I am writing to inform you of our support and desire to partner with the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center on the *Mahoning Valley Regional Educator Talent Cloud* project.

Lumen Christi Catholic Schools is a Catholic, non-public school. We are a system made up of 1,250 students, serving children from Pre-school age to grade eight. LCCS was established in 2012, within the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown. There are six schools within our system; Holy Family in Poland, St. Christine in Youngstown, St. Nicholas in Struthers, St. Patrick in Hubbard, St. Joseph and Immaculate Heart of Mary in Austintown and St. Charles in Boardman. United as one in faith, service and the formation of Christian leaders, we are stronger as one in cutting-edge instruction, academics, and technology-rich learning. Our teachers hold a valid State of Ohio license or certificate, students are assessed, and we integrate technology throughout our classes.

We are happy to partner with the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center on this important project as technology and blended learning opportunities will ensure that our students are fully competent in 21st century skills to provide a service to the Mahoning Valley.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lois Cavucci".

Dr. Lois Cavucci
President/CEO
Phone: 330-788-6106
Email: lcavucci@youngstowndiocese.org