



DESCRIPTION OF NATURE OF CONSORTIUM RELATIONSHIP

An education consortium is an association of two or more school districts, school buildings, community schools or STEM schools pooling resources to share human and material assets and link academic and administrative resources with the objective of participating in the development and execution of a Straight A Fund grant application.

In order to ensure the effective implementation of the Straight A Fund throughout the state, each education consortium must identify each member of the education consortium and attach a description of each respective member's role and responsibilities.

Each member of the education consortium is responsible for the following assurances:

- 1. Be knowledgeable about the consortium's Straight A Fund grant proposal and application, including advocacy of the Straight A Fund program.
2. Sign and accept the Straight A Program Grant Assurances.
3. Maintain familiarity with the consortium's members and services to enhance the proposal, including specific goals and practices.
4. Demonstrate a commitment to clear roles and responsibilities of each consortium member as it relates to the grant proposal and application.
5. Sustain consistent communication among consortium members and stakeholders with a shared vision of the goals of the grant proposal.
6. Ensure consortium members have appropriate access to data for purposes of grant program improvement and evaluation in accordance with state and federal law.
7. Develop a clear project management plan to sustain the grant project over time.

Education Consortium Signatures

Lead Applicant/Consortium Member

Name: Brenda Boeke
Title: Superintendent
IRN: 045948
Phone: 419-628-3397
Email: brenda.boeke@minsterschools.org
Address: 50 East Seventh Street
City: Minster
State: Ohio
Zip: 45865

Sign: [Signature]
Date: 10/15/2013

Secondary Applicant/Consortium Member

Name: Shelly Vaughn
Title: Superintendent
IRN: 048595
Phone: 419-375-4139
Email: vaughn@fortrecoveryschools.org
Address: 400 East Butler Street
City: Fort Recovery
State: Ohio
Zip: 45846

Sign: [Signature]
Date: 10/15/2013



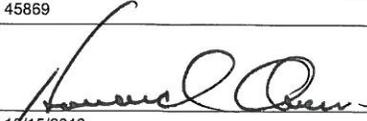
Consortium Member (if applicable)

Name: Mike Pohlman
 Title: Superintendent
 IRN: 048553
 Phone: 419-925-4294
 Email: pohlman@marionlocal.org
 Address: 7956 State Route 119
 City: Maria Stein
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 45860

Sign: 
 Date: 10/15/2013

Consortium Member (if applicable)

Name: Howard Overman
 Title: Superintendent
 IRN: 045955
 Phone: 419-629-8606
 Email: howard.overman@newbremenschools.org
 Address: 901 East Monroe Street
 City: New Bremen
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 45869

Sign: 
 Date: 10/15/2013

Consortium Member (if applicable)

Name: Kim Waterman
 Title: Superintendent
 IRN: 045963
 Phone: 419-753-2431
 Email: kwaterman@nk.k12.oh.us
 Address: 345 South Main Street
 City: New Knoxville
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 45871

Sign: 
 Date: 10/15/2013

Consortium Member (if applicable)

Name: Rod Moorman
 Title: Superintendent
 IRN: 048587
 Phone: 419-678-4834
 Email: moorman.rod@apps.sthenryschoos.org
 Address: 391 East Columbus Street
 City: St. Henry
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 45883

Sign: 
 Date: 10/15/2013

Consortium Member (if applicable)

Name: _____
 Title: _____
 IRN: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Zip: _____

Sign: _____
 Date: _____

Consortium Member (if applicable)

Name: _____
 Title: _____
 IRN: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Zip: _____

Sign: _____
 Date: _____





DESCRIPTION OF NATURE OF PARTNERSHIP

A partnership is an association between a grant applicant and educational stakeholder(s) in which the stakeholder agrees to provide human and material assets or access to academic and administrative resources to the grant applicant to develop or execute a Straight A Fund grant application. However, in a partnership, only the grant applicant is responsible for ensuring the grant is developed and executed according to the terms of the grant agreement with the Straight A Program Governing Board. Grant applicant partners are responsible only to the extent provided in their Partnership Agreement with the grant applicant.

In order to ensure the effective implementation of the Straight A Fund throughout the state, applicants are encouraged to partner with education stakeholders. Each applicant must identify its partners and attach a description of each respective partner's roles and responsibilities.

Each member of the partnership is responsible for the following assurances:

1. Be knowledgeable about the applicant's Straight A Fund grant proposal and application, including advocacy of the Straight A Fund program.
2. Maintain familiarity with the partner's services to enhance the proposal, including specific goals and practices.
3. Demonstrate a commitment to clear roles and responsibilities of each partner as it relates to the grant proposal and application.
4. Sustain consistent communication among partners and stakeholders with a shared vision of the goals of the grant proposal. This includes participating in regularly scheduled meetings for project management and identifying areas for improvement.
5. Ensure partners have appropriate access to data for purposes of grant program improvement and evaluation in accordance with state and federal law.
6. Develop a clear project management plan to sustain the project over time.

Partnership Signatures

Applicant

Name: Brenda Boeke
 Title: Minster Local School District
 IRN: 045948
 Phone: 419-628-3397
 Email: brenda.boeke@minsterschools.org
 Address: 50 East Seventh Street
 City: Minster
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 45865

Sign: _____
 Date: 10/23/2013

Primary Partner

Name: Jared Ebbing
 Title: Community / Economic Development Director
 Tax ID/IRN: [REDACTED]
 Phone: 419-586-4209
 Email: Jared.Ebbing@mercercountyohio.org
 Address: 101 W. Main St - Rm 102
 City: Cellna
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 45828

Sign: Jared Ebbing
 Date: 10/23/2013



Secondary Applicant (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
FPO: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Secondary Parent (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
Tax ID/EIN: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Conductive Education Unit
through the Connecticut
Learning Division
Kevin Sweeney

Secondary Applicant (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
FPO: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Secondary Parent (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
Tax ID/EIN: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Secondary Applicant (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
FPO: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Secondary Parent (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
Tax ID/EIN: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____



Secondary Applicant (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
IRN: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Secondary Applicant (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
IRN: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Secondary Applicant (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
IRN: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____

Secondary Partner (if applicable)

Name: Pearson Connections Learning - Rick Casciero
Title: Virtual Learning Specialist
Tax ID/IRN: _____
Phone: 443-873-1743
Email: rcasciero@connectionseducation.com
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: 10/23/2013

Secondary Partner (if applicable)

Name: ACE Academy - Deb Munis
Title: Director of Educational Options
Tax ID/IRN: 000288
Phone: 419-738-4572
Email: dmunis@auglaizeesc.org
Address: 1130 E. Albert Street
City: Lima
State: Ohio
Zip: 45804

Sign: _____
Date: 10/23/2013

Secondary Partner (if applicable)

Name: _____
Title: _____
Tax ID/IRN: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____

Sign: _____
Date: _____





Business Office: 1130 E. Albert St.
Lima, OH 45804
Phone 419-738-4572

Tutoring Site: 1045 Dearbaugh Suite 2
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
Fax: 419-738-4591

ACE Academy

To Whom It May Concern:

The staff at Auglaize County Educational Academy overwhelmingly supports the consortium's application for the Straight A grant. Many of the schools within the consortium have worked with ACE Academy on developing online possibilities for their students. Much of the collaboration has been centered on preparing students for the high level of technology that will occur within the educational environment they will encounter. The schools have encouraged students to participate in courses that typically were not available within their districts, to stretch their curriculum to match their skill level and to remediate credit that was not obtained. The most exciting projects that the districts and ACE are undergoing involve Northwestern University (Evanston, IL) and Rhodes State College (Lima, OH). Northwestern is working with the staff to develop courses that meet the educational as well as social and emotional needs of gifted students. This will allow districts to reach more of their gifted students in grade levels and areas that they have not been able to serve for a variety of reasons. Rhodes State and the team have been working on developing a variety of certificate courses that has a majority of the coursework delivered online with the essential labs provided onsite. This will allow students to remain in their peer group and still obtain certificates and or college credit before graduation. Districts have used ACE Academy to create online formative assessments that are used to determine student skill attainment. Intervention specialists use ACE Academy to assess students to determine performance levels for IEPs and ETRs. The staff has also provided professional development for the teachers on 21st Century Learning and Teaching. This provided teachers with methods to differentiate instruction and use technology effectively for students and increase the capacity of everyone.

The schools within this consortium are on the verge of great things for students through the use of technology. While there are a variety of options, this grant would allow the schools to develop a continuum of opportunities for students that include 21st century skills which are embedded in their everyday activities. The high motivation to serve students and families makes this consortium a stand out over all other applicants the committee will receive.

Sincerely,

Deborah Munis
Director of Educational Options
Auglaize County Educational Options



**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

Together, We Can ...

Mercer County Courthouse
101 N. Main Street - Rm. 102
Celina, Ohio 45822

Ph: 419-586-4209
Fax: 419-586-1714

Email: jared.ebbing@mercercountyohio.org
www.mercercountyconnect.com

October 22, 2013

To whom it may concern:

As the Mercer County Economic Development Director, I am writing this letter to show my strong support for the MERCER/AUGLAIZE SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM'S Straight-A Grant proposal. Their "GROW" grant application is exactly the type of imaginative, pro-active approach needed as we strive to more efficiently work together in connecting the educational needs of our students with the future career demands across the State of Ohio.

One year ago, our office began to work very closely with these same local schools on an initiative called HometownOpportunity. Although it began with an idea and a simple website (www.HometownOpportunity.com), it is quickly evolving into something even more promising as we look to make meaningful connections between our educators, students, and the local business community.

As a part of their "GROW" grant application, an outreach specialist is indentified as an instrument to implement even more imaginative and efficient ways of creating a sustainable link between our businesses and our schools' educational/guidance staff. As we all look for ways to modernize traditional platforms of reaching students, I can think of no better way than to have a specialist focus solely on "connecting the most important dots" in a student's career path journey. Our local Economic Development offices are and will continue to make a commitment to sustain this initiative. Upon the expected approval and implementation of this grant, our local business and industry leaders have committed to funding the outreach specialist position after the first year (and into the future) as the benefits are undeniable.

Respectfully,

Jared C. Ebbing, Director
Mercer County Community/Economic Development

THE VILLAGE of NEW BREMEN

214 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET - POST OFFICE BOX 27
NEW BREMEN, OHIO 45869-0027
PHONE: (419) 629-2447 - FAX: (419) 629-2302
WWW.NEWBREMEN.COM



Mayor JEFF PAPE (419) 629-2827
Administrator WAYNE YORK (419) 629-2827
Fiscal Officer DIANE GAST (419) 629-2447

RE: GROW project by Auglaize/Mercer Consortium

The Economic Development Office for the Village of New Bremen is a strong supporter of the Auglaize/Mercer Consortium GROW project. The economic development professionals of the region are committed to the development of the pipeline as a part of the needs of local industry.

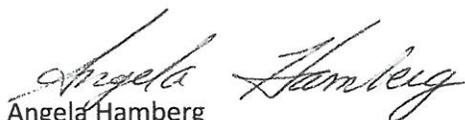
Career readiness begins in the formative years and continues to develop as students prepare for adulthood. It is essential to deliver awareness of surroundings as well as opportunity beyond. Every community member has a responsibility of nurturing our youth to find a path of success. K-Job (Kindergarten-Job) requires partnership between businesses, economic development and educators.

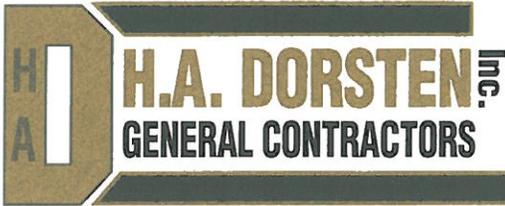
As educators, employers, economic development professionals and community residents, we are all responsible for how we want our communities to look in 5-10 years. The common thread to our vision is the need to retain our greatest asset: youth.

Our region has a stellar record for post-secondary students being highly recruited for internship programs in the urban areas. Groundwork needs to be laid to 'recruit' those students as interns in our local area, versus trying to win them back after they have left the area. Innovative and collaborative efforts need to educate the students on how their learning can be applied, right here, in their own backyards.

Presently our office supports numerous initiatives that attempt to segue into other programs. While Auglaize & Mercer counties have a great deal to be proud of, regarding complementary grass-root efforts of many, the missing piece is a single individual responsible to build on the foundation and provide the linkage. The acquisition of an Outreach Specialist would fill this void. The Outreach Specialist would be the resource that links all the programs together, providing continuity. While the programs have been developed to build on the previous program, the students do not retain the awareness from the previous program. The Outreach Specialist would be able to 'connect those dots' for the students.

We, the community, are responsible to ensure our communities continue to be vibrant. Funding from 'Straight A Fund' would be able to provide the seed money for the continued development of well-educated and career-ready students. The GROW project will be able to provide students the necessary tools to make informed and decisive career plans.


Angela Hamberg
Economic Development Director
Village of New Bremen



146 North Main Street
P.O. Box 156
Minster, Ohio 45865
(419) 628-2327 ♦ Fax (419) 628-4026
www.hadorsteninc.com

This letter is in support of the request for Straight A Grant funds being made by the consortium of Minster, Ft. Recovery, Marion, New Bremen, New Knoxville and St. Henry Local School Districts. Their Graduate all, Reach all, Opportunities for all to develop the local Workforce (GROW) project includes requesting startup funds for a Workforce Outreach Specialist position.

I serve as the newly elected President of the Board of Directors for the Auglaize/Mercer Business – Education Alliance” [AMBE Alliance]. The primary purpose of our organization is to:

- provide opportunities for students’ career exploration
- assist schools and students to understand workforce opportunities offered by local businesses
- bring resources to enrich the curriculum of local schools
- assist in identifying school teaching that is relevant to skills required of industry
- improve the education setting through upgrading facilities or equipment
- connect schools with local businesses
- assist with curriculum development, new learning opportunities and skill development
- provide businesses with learning experiences and understanding of the educational system
- integrate students into the labor market by involving them in cooperative education experiences
- meet the labor market needs of business and industry

Our first order of business is to raise funds in order to hire a Workforce Outreach Specialist. The job description for the Workforce Outreach Specialist includes being the primary liaison between local industries and the school system. The main responsibility will be to facilitate and develop programs that will encourage the appropriate skills in workforce to meet the needs of Auglaize and Mercer County businesses. The AMBE Alliance is committed to sustaining the Workforce Outreach Specialist position. Receiving startup money will allow our organization to impact the lives of students sooner. This organization has an approved Code of Regulations and prepared our Articles of Organization. We have elected a nine member Board of Directors and will next begin the 501 [c] [3] application process. We are committed to creating this position and the Straight A Grant startup money will help us succeed

Your assistance in granting the funding request for the Workforce Outreach Specialist as part of the GROW project is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Dorsten', written over a light-colored background.



305 W. FIRST ST.
PHONE (419) 628-3407

P.O. BOX 107
FAX (419) 628-2021
www.buschurelectric.com

MINSTER, OHIO 45865
OH LIC #20968

October 18, 2013

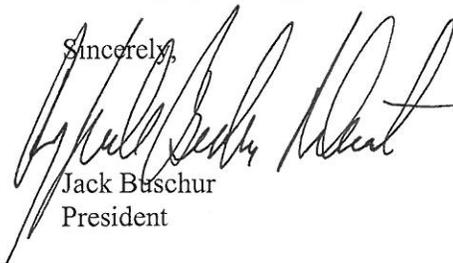
To whom it may concern,

This letter is in support of the request for Straight A Grant funds being made by the consortium of Minster, Ft. Recovery, Marion, New Bremen, New Knoxville and St. Henry Local School districts. Their Graduate all, Reach all, Opportunities for all to develop the local workforce (GROW) project includes requesting startup funds for a Workforce Outreach Specialist position.

The Workforce Outreach Specialist position is being implemented through the Hometown Opportunities Organization. This organization is a direct result of the collaboration among businesses and school officials in Auglaize and Mercer County. The job description for the Workforce Outreach Specialist includes being the primary liaison between local industries and the school system. The main responsibility will be to facilitate and develop programs that will encourage the appropriate skills in the workforce to meet the needs of Auglaize and Mercer County businesses. The local businesses in Auglaize and Mercer County have committed to sustaining the Workforce Outreach Specialist position. We have created the Auglaize/Mercer Business-Education Alliance (AMBE Alliance). We have approved a code of regulations for the alliance and prepared the Articles of Organization. We have elected a nine member Board of Directors and will next begin the 501 [c] [3] application process. The organization is committed to funding the Workforce Outreach Specialist position in the future.

Your assistance in granting the funding request for the Workforce Outreach Specialist as part of the GROW project is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Jack Buschur
President