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October 24, 2013

Mr. William Fritz
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To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the proposal "K-12 Blended Learning Toolbox" being submitted to the Straight A Funds program by the College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services at the University of Cincinnati. This project strongly supports Learn 21's mission to use technology to support, share, and create new instructional delivery methods to provide high quality innovative learning experiences for students, and professional development for educators in a cost effective manner.

Currently, the twenty school districts that are part of the Ohio Learn 21 consortium are increasingly being called upon to create and present digital content in either a fully online or blended format to their students. At the same time, schools need both necessary equipment and creation software and support in training their teachers in pedagogical and design best practices for creating digital content. The financial support this grant offers will allow our teachers to receive training from a top-notch higher educational institution in a format that meets their busy schedules. We have no doubt that the University of Cincinnati's project will encourage our teachers to be more innovative in how they teach Common Core standards and assist them in leveraging technology to improve critical thinking and problem based learning in their classrooms. We also hope that creation of a public space for teachers to share digital projects can increase classroom innovation state-wide and beyond.

We look forward to consulting with UC on this project, and are hopeful that this grant will improve opportunities to create quality digital content and experiences for the teachers and students we work with. In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of the University of Cincinnati College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services as they seek external funding to support a program designed to build our ability to develop and integrate quality eLearning content for our teachers and students.

Sincerely,

William D. Fritz
Executive Director, Learn 21