Resolution in support of Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School "STEM School Designation" Proposal and "Straight A Grant Fund" Proposals

Whereas Northwestern School District wishes to continue pursuit of increased rigor and project-based instruction. Northwestern School District is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School; and

Whereas the Northwestern School District looks forward to improving the success of our students in all areas with a STEM emphasis Evidence of rigorous, diverse, integrated, project-based curriculum in grades K-12 focusing on

- Science, Technology, Engineering, Math in promoting economic progress and innovation
- Scientific inquiry by design and technological design
- Including the arts and humanities
- Emphasize personalized, individualized learning and teamwork with emphasis on LDC (Literacy Design Collaborative) and MDC (Math Design Collaborative)

Whereas Northwestern Schools have the resources, desire, ability, and commitment to attract and retain quality instructors and school leaders who support the rigorous curriculum and principles of STEM – challenging, diverse, integrated, project-based curriculum for college and career readiness – 21st C skills; and

Whereas the Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for continually improving opportunities through project-based instruction and success of our students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, innovation/creative problem-solving skills as well as humanities and the arts; and

Whereas the Northwestern School District has existing partnerships with the following organizations through our STEM programs: The University of Akron, Wayne Community College, Stark State College, Sinclair Community College, North Central State College, HSTW (High Schools that Work), MMGW (Making Middle Grades Work), SREB (multi-state Southern Regional Education Board), LuK USA, Smith Dairy, Buhler's, G&S Titanium, Stanley Gault Foundation, Society of Manufacturing Engineers Education Foundation, 4-H, Tri-County Educational Service Center, and The BioScience Consortium of Northeast Ohio, BioOhio, Quasar Energy, OARDC (Ohio State University Agricultural Research and Development Center), ATI (Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute), The Weltmer Foundation, The Romich Foundation, Wayne County ESC, Magni-Power Inc., Akron STEM Network; and other partners.

Whereas the Northwestern School District intends to support STEM programs in all grades with emphasis on grades 5-12, enhancing the education of our children, and is pleased to support the Northwestern Middle School and High School ***STEM School Designation*** and emphasis.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Northwestern Board of Education supports and believes strongly in the importance of emphasizing the STEM disciplines and college and career readiness in both the middle grades and in the high school and its emphasis on 21st Century Education as well as college and career readiness.

Signed: Charles B Beck Dated: 3 / 21 / 14
President of the Northwestern Board of Education

Signed: Jeffrey N. Layton Dated: 3 / 21 / 14
Northwestern District Superintendent

March 26, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

The Wayne Economic Development Council (WEDC) fully supports Northwestern Local Schools in their pursuit of the following two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School.

The WEDC looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of their students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district that has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Both the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently have a large number of effective STEM programs in place that positively impacts our students and our schools.

The WEDC is pleased to support Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives.

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Rodney Crider
President

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

OBIC Bioproducts Innovation Center

152 Howlett Hall
2001 Fyffe Ct.
Columbus, OH 43210-1066
Phone 614-292-2922
FAX 614-247-4739

April 7, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee,

The OBIC Bioproducts Innovation Center (OBIC) at The Ohio State University supports partner Northwestern Local Schools in their pursuit of two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant" proposal, and
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

OBIC looks forward to this designation and an ongoing collaboration with Northwestern.

OBIC assists entrepreneurs, researchers, and companies around the world commercialize biobased innovations, such as plant-based and renewable fuels, products, and energy. OBIC has developed a suite of curriculum, professional development opportunities, and experiential activities for educators and students to ensure the continued expansion and success of the biobased industry, which depends on the next generation of inventors, scientists, engineers, technicians, educators, and communicators.

OBIC is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives, and strategies. Specifically, OBIC is partnering with Northwestern to:

- Provide biobased curriculum and resources, and facilitate professional development workshops;
- Connect Northwestern educators and students with OBIC's global network of biobased companies, researchers, and entrepreneurs;
- Partner on future grants; and
- Participate in additional opportunities, which may include hosting student internships, serving in an advisory role, and other collaborative activities.

Northwestern is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and creative problem-solving skills. The school has also systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines and these proposals will enhance the opportunities for the school to inspire and train our future workforce.

OBIC is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with these grants to support STEM programs in grades 6-12 and enhance the education of their children.

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit and will support their efforts to see that their students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of graduates.

Sincerely,

Dennis W. Hall
Director

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

OBIC Bioproducts Innovation Center

152 Howlett Hall
2001 Fyffe Ct.
Columbus, OH 43210-1066
Phone 614-292-2922
FAX 614-247-4739

Purchased Services with Northwestern Local Schools

Work to be performed:
Conduct professional development workshops for Northwestern educators on biobased and renewable energy, fuels, and products curriculum and experiential activities. Workshops will include kits with copies of the full curriculum and supplies. Bioenergy and Bioproducts Education Master Teacher Trainers will be hired to attend and co-facilitate the workshops.

Design and facilitate an experiential research experience for educators and students on the campus of The Ohio State University.

Finally, Dustin Homan will oversee the work to be performed, design the workshops, adjust curriculum to fit the needs of Northwestern educators, serve in an advisory role, and connect educators and students with OBIC's global network of biobased companies, researchers, and entrepreneurs to provide additional educational opportunities external to the classroom.

Budget: $10,000

- 5% FTE of Dustin Homan's salary = $5,000
- Master teacher(s) to attend and co-facilitate professional development workshops: $500/workshop * 2 workshops = $1,000
- Materials and supplies: $1,000/workshop * 2 workshops = $2,000
- Travel expenses = $1,000
- On-campus research experience: $1,000

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Ohio State ATI

1328 Dover Road
Wooster, OH 44691-9000

330-287-1331 Phone
330-287-1333 Fax

ati.osu.edu

March 25th, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

The Ohio State ATI fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

Ohio State ATI looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. Ohio State ATI is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

Ohio State ATI looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

- 4 - year High School Biomedical Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- 4 - year High School Engineering Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- Over 100 school high school students - 1/3 of the high school population - are enrolled in one or more of these two STEM programs
- 2013 Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status
- Three years ago Northwestern began a Competitive High School Robotics Club with weekend competitions outside of school - participating in Columbus and Cleveland competitions
- Earned the prestigious "Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:

√ Technology Class – all 6th grade students
√ Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
√ Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
√ Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
√ Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade
(launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)

- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

Ohio State ATI is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. Ohio State ATI supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways (feel free to select only what you might be willing to support):

_√ this support letter
__ financially through donations and monetary contributions
__ in-kind contributions
√ involvement and participation in Future Fridays and other presentations within the schools
√ as a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
__ through student internships
__ entrepreneurship and consulting services
√ through innovative collaboration and research
√ shared training and professional development opportunities
__ through other partnerships
√ visitations at Ohio State ATI
√ other collaborative activities

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

James E. Kinder

Dr. James E. Kinder
Director, Ohio State ATI

quasar
energy group

March 25th, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

quasar energy group fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

quasar energy group looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. We are committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

quasar energy group looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

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- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years

- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - ✓ Technology Class – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
  - ✓ Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
  - ✓ Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

quasar energy group is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. We support Northwestern's regional initiatives through this support letter and is open to consider:

__ in-kind contributions
X involvement and participation in Future Fridays and other presentations within the schools
__ membership of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
X student internships
__ entrepreneurship and consulting services
X innovative collaboration and research
__ shared training and professional development opportunities
__ through other partnerships
X visitations at our place of business

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Caroline Henry
quasar energy group

Romich Foundation

www.romichfoundation.org

1022 Heyl Road Wooster, OH 44691 Tel: 330-262-1984 ext. 211 Email: bromich@aol.com

March 25, 2014

Jeffrey N. Layton
Superintendent
Northwestern Local Schools

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for the opportunity to write in support of the proposed "Straight A Grant" focused on STEM education. As you well know, STEM education is a passion for me. As an engineer, I recognize that STEM education can be a significant key to success for students who resonate in this area.

My connections with local businesses confirm that STEM education is valued by them. They need a strong applicant pool for filling the jobs that today often mean looking outside the local area. From what I have read of your intentions with this grant, the topics covered are right on in terms of what is important to our community now and in the future. There will be many benefits in this initiative to our students, the school and the local community. I am happy to offer the resources of organizations with which I am affiliated to support Northwestern Local Schools in this initiative.

Past Romich Foundation support of Northwestern Local Schools has given me some familiarity with your impressive programs and successes. I have referenced Northwestern many times as the model to follow in our area and you are obviously working to maintain that reputation.

Congratulations on your accomplishments and best wishes with this application! I look forward to working with you in moving ahead in this important area.

Sincerely,

Barry Romich

Barry Romich, P.E.

WILRESEARCH

March 24th, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

WIL Research fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

WIL Research looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. WIL Research is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

WIL Research looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

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- 2013 Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status
- Three years ago Northwestern began a Competitive High School Robotics Club with weekend competitions outside of school - participating in Columbus and Cleveland competitions

P: 419-289-8700
Email: info@wilresearch.com
1407 George Road, Ashland, OH 44805
www.wilresearch.com

WILRESEARCH

- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - ✓ Technology Class – all 6th grade students
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- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

WIL Research is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. WIL Research supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways:

- this support letter
- involvement and participation in Future Fridays and other presentations within the schools
- as a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
- through student internships
- visitations at our place of business

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Michelle Hartley

Michelle Hartley
Senior Director, Human Resources

P: 419-289-8700
Email: info@wilresearch.com
1407 George Road, Ashland, OH 44805
www.wilresearch.com

HSTW Ohio Regions

HSTW NE Ohio Region
Diana Rogers
Regional Coordinator
4300 Amalgamated, Suite 100
Groveport, OH 43125
Phone: 614/830-0141
Fax: 614/830-0142
hstwne@efcts.us

HSTW NW Ohio Region
Nancy Pietras
Regional Coordinator
HSTW Northwest Region
HHS Room 3017A MS 119
2801 Bancroft Street
Toledo, OH 43606
Phone: 419/530-7229
Fax: 419/530-7240
nancy.pietras@utoledo.edu

HSTW Central/SE Ohio Region
Joyce Odor
Regional Coordinator
Licking County ESC
675 Price Rd.
Newark, OH 43055
Phone: 740/349-6098
Fax: 740/349-5016
jodor@laca.org

HSTW SW Ohio Region
Linda Radtke
Regional Coordinator
Greenhills Community Building
8 Enfield St., Room 217
Cincinnati, OH 45218
Phone: 513/619-2333
Fax: 513/851-4791
radtke@hstw.org

March 24, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

HSTW NE Ohio Region fully supports our partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

HSTW NE Ohio Region looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on their students and the HSTW and national networks.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. _HSTW_ NE Ohio Region is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

HSTW NE Ohio Region looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

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HSTW **Ohio Regions**

- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80 percent each of the past three years
- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
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  - ✓ Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

HSTW NE Ohio Region is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives.

HSTW NE Ohio Region supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways: this support letter, financially through donations and monetary contributions, in-kind contributions, through innovative collaboration and research, and shared training and professional development.

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Diana L Rogers

Diana Rogers
Regional Coordinator
HSTW NE Ohio Region

March 20, 2014

Kathy Hochstetler
8259 Gable Rd.
West Salem, Ohio 44287

Dear Straight A Grant Fund Committee,

We support Northwestern School District's pursuit of increased rigor and project-based instruction to continually improve the success of our students in all areas with a STEM emphasis. Northwestern Schools has the resources, desire, ability, commitment, and community support to attract and retain our dedicate school leaders and quality instructors who promote the rigorous curriculum and principles of STEM – challenging, diverse, integrated, project-based curriculum for college and career readiness.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for continually improving opportunities through project-based instruction and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, innovation/creative problem-solving skills as well as humanities and the arts.

The Weltmer Trust Fund recently supported the Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals in their pursuit of STEM Designation. We now support and believe strongly in the district's Straight A Fund Grant applications in the STEM areas as well as the importance of emphasizing the STEM disciplines and college and career readiness in both the middle grades and in the high school and its emphasis on 21st Century Education as well as college and career readiness.

The Weltmer Trust Fund looks forward to this designation and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on the students and the school, as well as the resulting improvement of the economical foundations and capacity-building throughout our region. The Weltmer Trust Fund is committed to active participation with Northwestern Schools. I have been a strong supporter this program and the schools toward this end.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hochstetler

Kathy Hochstetler

Sole Trustee
Weltmer Trust Fund
Hochkath@sssnet.com

MAGNI-POWER COMPANY

5511 EAST LINCOLN WAY, WOOSTER, OHIO 44691 PHONE 330/264-3637 FAX 330/264-7766

April 2, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

The Magni-Power Company fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

Magni-Power Company looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. Magni-Power Company is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

Magni-Power Company looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

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- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - ✓ Technology Class – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
  - ✓ Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
  - ✓ Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade
    (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

Magni-Power Company is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. Magni-Power Company supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways :

__ this support letter
__ financially through donations and monetary contributions
__ in-kind contributions
__ involvement and participation in Future Fridays and other presentations within the schools
__ as a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
__ through student internships
__ entrepreneurship and consulting services
__ through innovative collaboration and research
__ shared training and professional development opportunities
__ through other partnerships
__ visitations at our place of business
__ other collaborative activities

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue

developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Bala Venkataraman

Bala Venkataraman
President & CEO
Magni-Power Company
www.magnipower.com

G&S

G & S TITANIUM, INC.

Specialists In Wire Drawing

PO BOX 1107 - 4000 East Lincoln Way
Wooster, Ohio 44691
PH. 330-263-0564 / Fax 330-262-1550

Electrolytic Cells, Fabricated Specialties

April 4th, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

G & S Titanium fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

G & S Titanium looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. G & S Titanium is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

G & S Titanium looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

- 4 - year High School Biomedical Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- 4 - year High School Engineering Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- Over 100 school high school students - 1/3 of the high school population - are enrolled in one or more of these two STEM programs
- 2013 Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status
- Three years ago Northwestern began a Competitive High School Robotics Club with weekend competitions outside of school - participating in Columbus and Cleveland competitions
- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years

- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - ✓ Technology Class – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
  - ✓ Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
  - ✓ Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade
    (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

G & S Titanium is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. G & S Titanium supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways:

X_ this support letter
X_ financially through donations and monetary contributions
__ in-kind contributions
__ involvement and participation in Future Fridays and other presentations within the schools
__ as a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
__ through student internships
__ entrepreneurship and consulting services
__ through innovative collaboration and research
__ shared training and professional development opportunities
__ through other partnerships
X_ visitations at our place of business
__ other collaborative activities

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Robert N. Geiser

Robert N. Geiser
G & S Titanium, Inc.

BGSU®
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY
NW Ohio Center for STEM Excellence

April 2, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

The Northwest Ohio Center for Excellence in STEM Education (NWO) at Bowling Green State University enthusiastically supports our partner, Northwestern Local Schools, and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

NWO looks forward to collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools and would be pleased to explore ways that we can support Northwestern's efforts as supported by a Straight A grant.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. NWO is committed to promoting adoption of active learning classroom practices and thus is pleased with the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

NWO looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has multiple effective STEM programs in place:

- 4 - year High School Biomedical Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- 4 - year High School Engineering Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- Over 100 school high school students - 1/3 of the high school population - are enrolled in one or more of these two STEM programs
- 2013 Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status
- Three years ago Northwestern began a Competitive High School Robotics Club with weekend competitions outside of school - participating in Columbus and Cleveland competitions
- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide

NWO/COSMOS
241 Math Science Building
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0212
(419)372-0563
fax (419)372-2738
http://cosmos.bgsu.edu/

- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - ✓ Technology Class – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
  - ✓ Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
  - ✓ Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

NWO is pleased to be a partner with Northwestern School District in this grant project to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and is pleased with their recent pursuit of STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. NWO supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways:

- this support letter
- as a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
- through innovative collaboration and research
- shared training and professional development opportunities
- other collaborative activities as opportunities arise

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

W. Robert Midden, PhD
Director of NWO/COSMOS

BioOhio

1275 Kinnear Rd. | Columbus, OH 43212-1155 | Ph 614.675.3686 | Fax 614.675.3687 | www.BioOhio.com

Accelerating Bioscience in Ohio

April 3rd, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

BioOhio fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

BioOhio looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. BioOhio is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

BioOhio looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

- 4 - year High School Biomedical Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- 4 - year High School Engineering Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- Over 100 school high school students - 1/3 of the high school population - are enrolled in one or more of these two STEM programs
- 2013 Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status
- Three years ago Northwestern began a Competitive High School Robotics Club with weekend competitions outside of school - participating in Columbus and Cleveland competitions

BioOhio

1275 Kinnear Rd. | Columbus, OH 43212-1155 | Ph 614.675.3686 | Fax 614.675.3687 | www.BioOhio.com

Accelerating Bioscience in Ohio

- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - ✓ Technology Class – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
  - ✓ Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
  - ✓ Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
  - ✓ Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

BioOhio is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. BioOhio supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways:

- This support letter
- BioOhio membership benefits, services and related opportunities
- Involvement and participation with Northwestern including presentations within the schools by BioOhio and/or our members
- As a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
- Entrepreneurship and consulting services
- Other collaborative activities

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

John F. Lewis, Jr.
President and CEO, BioOhio

CH2M HILL
1801 East 9th St,
Suite 1610
Cleveland, Ohio
44114
Tel 330-201-1945

April 10, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

CH2M HILL is a global leader in consulting, design, design-build, operations, and program management. As a company, we are deeply committed to educating a diverse and inclusive future workforce that will help solve the environmental and engineering challenges of tomorrow.

Therefore, as a volunteer for Northwestern Local Schools representing CH2M HILL, I fully support Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. For CH2M HILL, the following programs and achievements are particularly important:

- 4 - year High School Engineering Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- Over 100 school high school students - 1/3 of the high school population - are enrolled in one or more of these two STEM programs]
- 2013 Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status
- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School

As an employee of CH2M HILL, I am pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 6-12, enhancing the education of our children, and I am pleased to support Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways:

1. This support letter
2. In-kind contributions
3. Involvement and participation in Future Fridays and other presentations within the schools
4. As a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee

I wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

If you have any questions or need to contact me, please feel free to reach me at my home office information listed below.

Sincerely,

James L. Borton
Senior Operations Specialist
CH2M HILL
james.borton@ch2m.com
Office/Cell: 330-201-1945
8858 W. Old Lincoln Way
Wooster, Ohio 44691

STARK STATE COLLEGE

Changing Lives ... Building Futures

April 4, 2014

Dr. Susan Tave Zelman
Executive Director, Straight A Fund
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215-4183

Dear Dr. Zelman and the Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

Stark State College fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the following two Straight A Fund Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century Systemic, Sustainable Energy/Environmental Blended-learning Project; and
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM Project.

The College looks forward to the opportunity for ongoing collaboration with Northwestern and for the positive impact these projects will have on northeast Ohio's students and schools.

Northwestern Local School District provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied blended learning, science, technology, engineering and math content at their High School and Middle School. Stark State College is committed to active participation in the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School grant proposals through dual enrollment and other opportunities.

Through these projects, the College seeks to enhance our growing partnership with Northwestern Schools and impact the academic success of their students in the strategic areas of environmental studies, technology, science and math. Expertise in these areas is critical to building the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated and innovative regional workforce.

From our perspective, Northwestern Local School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success for students in the areas of technology, applied math/engineering and science, as well as innovation and creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines and achieve the following successes through their initiative:

- Four-year High School Biomedical Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM Program
- Four-year High School Engineering Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM Program
- Over 100 high school students – 1/3 of the high school population – enrolled in one or more of these two STEM programs
- Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status in 2013
- Three years ago, Northwestern began a Competitive High School Robotics Club with weekend competitions outside of school, including participation in Columbus and Cleveland competitions.
- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide

- Built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - Technology Class – all 6th grade students
  - Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
  - Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
  - Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
  - Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the middle school
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project requiring mentorship, shadowing and presentation of the project
- Last year, implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

Stark State College is pleased to support Northwestern Local School District's STEM program activities and Straight A Fund grant initiatives for grades 7-12 through our dual enrollment partnership. To that end, the College respectfully submits this letter of support for the District's Straight A Fund submissions and asks the Committee to give their innovative proposals the attention they deserve.

Sincerely,

Lada Gibson-Shreve, Ph.D.
Provost and Chief Academic Officer

ASHLAND

March 24th, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

Ashland Inc. fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of the two Straight A Grant initiatives:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal
- Renewable Energies Magnet STEM "Straight A Grant" proposal.

Ashland Inc. looks forward to these grant initiatives and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. Ashland Inc. and our employees are committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

Ashland Inc. looks forward to further strengthening our partnership with Northwestern Schools in an effort to improve the success of Northwestern students in the strategic areas of our environment, technology, science, and math areas. These build the necessary capacities for future economic growth and a prepared, educated, and innovative workforce.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

- 4 - year High School Biomedical Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- 4 - year High School Engineering Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
- Over 100 school high school students - 1/3 of the high school population - are enrolled in one or more of these two STEM programs
- 2013 Northwestern named to select "School of Honor" status
- Three years ago Northwestern began a Competitive High School Robotics Club with weekend competitions outside of school - participating in Columbus and Cleveland competitions

- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years
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- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

Ashland Inc. is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as these STEM Straight A Fund grant initiatives. Ashland Inc. supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways :

__ this support letter
__ financially through donations and monetary contributions
__ involvement and participation in Future Fridays and other presentations within the schools
__ as a member of the Northwestern STEM advisory committee
__ through student internships
__ entrepreneurship and consulting services
__ through innovative collaboration and research
__ shared training and professional development opportunities
__ through other partnerships
__ visitations at our place of business
__ other collaborative activities

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Mark Shriver
Ashland Inc.

TRI-COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

741 Winkler Drive
Wooster, Ohio 44691
Carmela Lioi, Superintendent

Phone 330-345-6771
Fax 330-345-7622
www.tricountyesc.org

March 28, 2014

Dear Straight A Fund Grant Committee:

Tri-County Educational Service Center fully supports partner Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their pursuit of a Straight A Grant initiative:

- 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project "Straight A Grant proposal

Tri-County ESC looks forward to this grant initiative and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on our students and our schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Blended learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. Tri-County ESC is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School Grant Proposals.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of students in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has the effective STEM programs in place:

- 4 - year High School Biomedical Nationally Accredited Project Lead the Way STEM program
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- Earned the prestigious "***Governor's Thomas Edison High School STEM Science Award of Excellence***" distinction in 2012 with a handful of elite schools statewide
- Has built the capacity for and increased Algebra I completion of 8th grade middle school students from 14% of students in 2006-2007 to over 80% each of the past three years

- Implemented the Middle School PLTW STEM Gateway to Technology programs:
  - Technology Class – all 6th grade students
  - Flight & Space – all 6th grade students
  - Automation & Robotics – 7th grade
  - Pre-engineering Design & Modeling – 8th grade
  - Medical Detectives Biomedical Course – 8th grade
    (launched in 2012-2013, now in its second year)
- Math and Science Nights outside of school hours involving staff, students and parents at the Middle School
- 7th year of the Northwestern Senior Seminar graduation required research course and capstone project – requiring mentorship, shadowing, and presentation of the project
- Last year implemented a similar capstone project requirement in the 8th grade

Tri-County ESC is pleased to be an active partner with Northwestern School District with this grant to support STEM programs in grades 7-12, enhancing the education of our children, and was pleased to support the pursuit of their recent STEM designation as well as this STEM Straight A Fund grant initiative. Tri-County ESC supports Northwestern's regional effort in the following ways:

- this support letter
- in-kind contributions
- through innovative collaboration and research
- shared training and professional development opportunities
- other collaborative activities

We wish every success to Northwestern in their pursuit of STEM School Designation and will support their efforts through collaboration to see that our students and community continue developing the rigor, relevance, and relationships which will strengthen job and career skills of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Carmela A. Lioi

Carmela Lioi
Superintendent
Tri-County Educational Service Center

TRI-COUNTY

Tri-County ESC, 741 Winkler Drive, Wooster, OH 44691 Phone: 330.345.6771 Fax: 330.345.7622

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OhioCollegeTechPrep
Ready for College. Ready for Life.

March 31, 2014

Dear Straight A Grant members:

The Tech Prep (Central Region College Tech Prep) fully supports partnering with Northwestern Local Schools and their building principals and teachers in their application of the Straight A Grant for 21st Century systemic, sustainable energy/environmental blended learning project. Tech Prep looks forward to this designation and the ongoing collaboration with Northwestern for the positive impact it will have on their students and their schools.

Northwestern provides opportunities for students in our region by providing rigorous applied Science, Technology, Engineering and Math content in Northwestern High School and Northwestern Middle School. Tech Prep is committed to active participation of the agreed-upon curriculum, objectives and strategies within the Northwestern Elementary School and Northwestern Middle School.

Northwestern School District is an innovative district with demanding goals and strategies for improving opportunities and success of student in areas of technology, applied math/engineering, science, and innovation/creative problem-solving skills. Northwestern Schools has systemically implemented STEM programming across all disciplines. Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern High School currently has many effective STEM programs in place. Tech Prep supports Northwestern' s goal to expand and strength these STEM programs.

Tech Prep has worked closely with their PLTW Biomedical and Engineering programs to create pathways to post-secondary education. We will continue to work with Northwestern Schools to support their growth of STEM programming and to assist with development of new post-secondary pathways for their students.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Tom Kluding
[illegible]

Thomas B. Kluding
Chief Administrator, Central Region Tech Prep

2441 Kenwood Circle, P.O. Box 698, Mansfield, OH 44901-0698
419-755-5659 ◊ 888-755-4899 ◊ Fax 419-755-4781