November 25, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write a letter of support for the Epicenter grant application that is being pursued by Marietta City Schools and the Building Bridges to Careers (BBC) organization. Currently, Belpre City Schools is collaborating with the BBC on various career and/or college readiness efforts. The Epicenter will create a deeper partnership that allows for students to earn flex credit for career-related courses and the opportunity for mentoring with local business owners. Further, our teachers will have opportunities for professional development centered on career-education and there will be great community involvement with the small businesses that operate within the Epicenter.

The Epicenter Flex Credit will provide our students with the opportunity to create their own learning experience while addressing core curricular components. This option will be included in Belpre High School’s curriculum guide for students. In order to further develop this option and other opportunities for our students, the resources provided by Building Bridges to Careers will be included in our Career Advising Policy. Specifically, this community resource can help train employees on how to advise students and can provide students with support in transitioning to postsecondary destinations. In addition, the Epicenter will allow all of the school districts in Washington County to have access to career learning modules and entrepreneurship activities.

Sincerely,

Tony Dunn,
Superintendent of Belpre City Schools