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The New Max Hayes Project 2010 Year-end Report to Stakeholders

WIRE-Net continues to champion a critically important process to provide on-going support for the new Max Hayes Career and Technical High School in Cleveland, OH. The process has shifted from planning to implementation but the goal remains the same: to prepare students from our urban core for 21st Century jobs in manufacturing, construction, transportation and information technology sectors. Students will also be exposed to the latest in arts and design, environmental sustainability, as well as entrepreneurial ventures. We expect students graduating from the New Max Hayes to both continue their education after high school, and to start better paying careers in the future that will help increase the economic stability of their families and the region. The project is a collaboration of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD), WIRE-Net, TEAM Academy, the Greater Cleveland Partnership, local foundations, businesses, colleges and the community.

After community engagement meetings concluded in August 2010, an implementation steering committee was formed. This small team, co-chaired by CMSD's Ahmed Abanomah and WIRE-Net's Executive Director, John Colm, includes Max Hayes leaders, Alex Murphy, David Mikita, and Todd Leveck; Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) leaders, Karen Thompson and Annette Darby; and Shana Marbury of the Greater Cleveland Partnership. The committee has met 4 times since the report was accepted by Dr. Sanders, and is now organizing task-groups focused on governance, curriculum and professional development (including a summer 9th grade orientation program for 150 students), funding models, principal/teacher recruitment, external partnerships, facilitation of an MOU with the CTU, and communications.

WIRE-Net is seeking commitments for another round of foundation funding that will enable us to fund the implementation of the recommendations. CMSD and school leaders are utilizing the report to guide the work that has continued since it was finalized in August. We plan to build a robust set of industry, business, community and educational partnerships, develop an independent board for the new school, negotiate an agreement with the Cleveland Teachers Union, and guide principal and teacher selection, just for starters. Support from our stakeholders will be critical to our ultimate success as we look forward to the opening of the new Max Hayes High School in September 2014. The first class of New Max Hayes 9th grade students will enroll this coming September 2011.

We believe that many factors contributed to the success of the New Max Hayes planning project. WIRE-Net's ability to attract individuals, employers and organizations from across greater Cleveland to lend their ideas, resources and talent to the project/process was invaluable. Members of the Technical

Steering Team were committed, hard working, and participated fully in completing assignments and recruiting new partners.

We owe a debt of gratitude to project manager Leslie Yerkes, Catalyst Consulting, for a unified, coordinated effort managing the process. Big Picture Learning's Charlie Mojkowski was the project lead and provided support and coaching when off-site, and led most of the engagement and Technical Team meetings. Concordia / Big Picture Learning guided our process and leveraged their experience and expertise to ensure a robust community engagement process, with relevant deliverables and an innovative educational design.

We want to thank all who were involved in the planning phase of this unique project, especially the funders of the project who display continued interest in this project. We believe that while WIRE-Net was the glue that helped bring many partners together to successfully complete the organization and planning for the New Max Hayes Project, it will take many years of financial and technical support to guarantee the first class entering the program will graduate with a clear pathway to post-secondary education or trade career.

2010 Summary of Activities

With the financial support of eight local foundations, WIRE-Net conducted several major stakeholder group engagement activities utilizing the knowledge and skills of more than 100 participants.

- A Max Hayes Technical Team was organized and met monthly to align CMSD staff and external partners with this project. Team members include Eric Gordon, CMSD; David Reiman, Principal-Max Hayes; David Mikita, Coordinator, TEAM Academy at Max Hayes; Judith Crocker, MAGNET; Karen Herpel, MAGNET; Shana Marbury, General Counsel, Greater Cleveland Partnership; John Colm, WIRE-Net; Dominic Ozanne, Ozanne Construction; Jack Schron, CEO, Jergens Inc. & Tooling U; Tom Schumann, Kitzel & Sons; John Volpe, Volpe Millworks. In addition, several other key CMSD personnel were involved in these meetings (Lee McQuigan, Christine Fowler-Mack, Gary Sautter, Annette Darby, Karen Thompson, et al).
- The first Cleveland meeting of the Technical Team lead by the Concordia / Big Picture Learning consultants (Steven Bingler, Bobbie Hill, Elliot Washor and Charlie Mojkowski) was held in January 2010. The Concordia / Big Picture Learning team toured Cleveland neighborhoods, Max Hayes High School and the sites under consideration for relocating the New Max Hayes. They attended the roll out presentation by Dr. Sanders of the CMSD Transformation Plan. During their second day in Cleveland they facilitated the Technical Team in a mission and visioning process. The meeting was held at the Nela Park STEM high school and included presentations by the principal and students.
- The Technical Team expanded to include representation of students and all of the industry sectors (manufacturing, construction, transportation and information technology). This Team met monthly with the Concordia /Big Picture Learning consulting team through June 2010.
- Best Practice Site visits were made by members of the Technical Team in February and March. There were two types of site visits -- those that represent high-performing career tech education, and those that represent educational innovations we should consider integrating into our design for Max

Hayes. Site visits were made to nine best practice sites in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, Toledo, Dayton, Chicago, and Oklahoma City. Ideas from each were integrated into the design recommendations.

- The Concordia / Big Picture Learning Team conducted initial interviews with key CMSD leadership. The large community stakeholder meeting facilitated by the Concordia / Big Picture Learning Team and kicked off by Dr. Sander's was held on March 31st. Smaller industry focus groups were held in March as well.
- Parent, Teacher, Business focus groups were organized to gain input from these critical stakeholders.
- A final report was delivered to CMSD CEO, Dr. Eugene Sanders, in August 2010. Copies were distributed to CMSD project members and to staff at Max Hayes High School. Copies are also available for download at WIRE-Net's website: <http://www.wire-net.org/MHProject.html>

About WIRE-Net:

Founded in 1986, WIRE-Net is a non-profit, economic development organization that provides services to manufacturing leaders to strengthen their businesses to create healthy communities and fuel economic growth.

With more than 300 member companies, WIRE-Net works with manufactures in Greater Cleveland, Ohio, and, through its wind initiative, GLWN, companies in 30 states, Mexico and Canada. WIRE-Net's programs include: New Markets Initiative, manufacturing assistance and innovation; peer-to-peer learning groups and events; adult and youth workforce development; and real estate redevelopment programs to assist companies with site selection, expansion, and infrastructure planning. For more information, visit <http://www.wire-net.org>.

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