

**LOCAL LETTERS OF SUPPORT****January 18, 2010**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position/Organization</b>
1	Chris Benge	House Leadership, Majority
2	Glenn Coffee	Senate Leadership, Majority
3	Danny Morgan	House Leadership, Minority
4	Tad Jones	State Representative
5	Jeff Mills	Oklahoma State School Boards Association
6	Steve Crawford	The Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration
7	Lela Odom/Becky Felts	Oklahoma Education Association
8	Ed Allen	Oklahoma City - American Federation of Teachers
9	Tom McKeon	Oklahoma Council of Presidents
10	Phil Berkenbile	Oklahoma Department of Career Technology Education
11	Glen Johnson	Chancellor, Higher Education
12	Steadman Upham	President, University of Tulsa
13	Gregg Garn	K20 Center
14	Tom McKeon	University President's Council
15	Ken Levit	George Kaiser Family Foundation
16	Phil Lakin	Tulsa Community Foundation
17	Robert Ross	Inasmuch Foundation
18	Emily Stratton	Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence
19	Richard Hess	Oklahoma Society of Association Executives
20	Lori Dickinson	The Foundation for OKC Schools
21	Michael Cawley	Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation
22	Lynn Schusterman	The Charles & Lynn Schusterman Foundation
23	Karen Patterson	Holdenville Education Foundation
24	Natalie Shirley	Oklahoma Secretary of Commerce & Tourism
25	Steve Hendrickson	Governor's Council on Workforce & Economic Development
26	Dick Rush	Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce
27	Roy Williams	Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce
28	Mike Neal	Tulsa Chamber of Commerce
29	Ken Moore	Edmond Chamber of Commerce
30	David Myers	Ponca City Development Authority
31	Wes Stucky	Ardmore Chamber of Commerce
32	Nathan Verner	Chairman of the Ardmore Chamber of Commerce
33	Stanley Lybarger	Oklahoma Business & Education Coalition
34	Stacy Schusterman	Samson
35	Wade Edmundson	Summit Bank
36	Bruce Heine	Magellan
37	Chet Cadieux	Quiktrip
38	Rachel Hutchings	American Airlines
39	David Bartz	Spirit Aerosystems
40	Rand Berney	ConocoPhillips
41	Peter Delaney	Oklahoma Gas & Electric
42	Bryan Gonterman	AT&T Oklahoma
43	J. Brad Parker	Parker Pest Control
44	Karl Springer	Oklahoma City Public Schools
45	Keith Ballard	Tulsa Public Schools
46	Ruth Ann Carr	Ardmore Public School
47	Tom Friedman	Francis Tuttle Technology
48	Kathie Price	SW WIB Director
49	Jack Chapman	Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth
50	Rebecca Cook	National Center for Disability Education & Training

51	Ted Gilispie	Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation
52	Roy Gordon	Oklahoma AFL CIO
53	Lisa Guinn	Talking Leaves Job Corps
54	Senator John Ford	Chair of Education Committee, Oklahoma State Senate
55	Senator John Ford	Bartlesville Public Schools
56	Marilyn Burr	Office of Disability Concerns
57	Jon Brock	Oklahoma Employment Security Commission
58	Jimmy Fish	Oklahoma Building and Construction Trades Council
59	Bill Edwards	Northeast Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board
60	John Hawkins	Integrated Insurance Services
61	Gary Miller	Oklahoma Department of Human Services
62	Janelle Lackey Robinson	Stonewall McLish
63	Blaine Smith	Association of South Central Governments
64	Chris Pittman	South Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board
65	Bob Klabenes	Oklahoma State University - Okmulgee
66	Jimmy Curry	AFLCIO- OKC
67	Eddie Foreman	Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board
68	Phil Parduhn	PELCO
69	Dennis Shockley	Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency
70	Pamela Pittman	University of Oklahoma - Community Engagement Center
71	Kellie Steele	Shawnee Educational Foundation
72	Kerry Manning	Southern Workforce Board
73	Joyce Madewell	Spiritbank
74	Ken Busby	Tulsa Arts & Humanities Council
75	Don Walker	Arvest Bank
76	Richard Boone	St. John Foundation
77	Sylvia Fooshee	Sand Springs Educational Foundation
78	Marilyn Feaver	Southwest Oklahoma Impact Coalition
79	Darcy Melendez	Workforce Tulsa
80	Kara Gae Neal	Tulsa Technology Center
81	Earl Denning	Hillcrest Healthcare
82	Stuart Solomon	Public Service of Oklahoma
83	Dr. Gerald Clancy	University of Oklahoma -Tulsa
84	Pleas Thompson	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
85	Sundra Flansburg	Midwest City-Del City Public Schools Foundation
86	Larry Pulliam	Southern Oklahoma Memorial Foundation
87	Mary Kate Wilson	Cornerstone Education Initiative
88	Senator Johnnie Crutchfield	State Senate
89	Curtis Davidson	First National Bank & Trust of Ardmore
90	Stephen Prescott	Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
91	Joel Guthridge	Clinical Immunology, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
92	Roy Peters	Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance
93	Donna Wood	Tulsa Community College
94	Karen Davidson	Southeast Workforce Investment Board
95	Jane Nelson	Oklahoma Nurses Association
96	Howard Hendrick	Oklahoma Department of Human Services
97	Bill R. Beierschmitt	Rogers State University - Bartlesville
98	Hardy Watkins	Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department
99	Governor Bill Anoatubby	Chickasaw Nation
100	Bruce Lawrence	Integrus Health
101	Chief Chad Smith	Cherokee Nation
102	Harve Allen	Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission

103	Sheila Groves	Oklahoma Parent Teacher Association
104	Rep. Earl Sears	House of Representatives - Bartlesville
105	Shane Frye	Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce
106	Edd R. McNeil	Davis Public School Foundation
107	Chief Gregory Pyle	Choctaw Nation
108	Morris Philpott	Walters Public Educational Foundation
109	Julie Mathis	Students, Teachers, Education, Parents
110	Caroline Gist	Putnam City Public Schools Foundation
111	Perry Willis	Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools
112	Mike Rutledge	City of Mustang
113	Becky Julian	Mustang Chamber of Commerce
114	Stan Wilson	Mustang Public School Foundation
115	Douglas Major	Meridian Technology Center
116	Tresa Hackney	Farmers and Merchants Bank, Maysville
117	Edward	Mayor of Maysville
118	Chad Blankenship	Kiefer Fire Department
119	Debbie Whitchurch	Kiefer Kid Care
120	Randy Green	Kiefer Chamber of Commerce
121	William Adams	Kiefer Public Schools Foundation
122	Jimmy Reynolds	Alternative Academy
123	Jayne Bowen	Bixby Educational Endowment Foundation
124	Dr. Edna Manning	Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics
125	Uli LeBlanc	Okmulgee Education Foundation
126	Angela Hill	Grove Parent Teacher Organization
127	Lynn Pagels-Jones	Grove Public Schools Long Range Statistics Planning Committee
128	Kristi Wallace	Grove Education Foundation for Excellence
129	Carol Ammons	Big Five Community Services, Inc.
130	Gail Lapidus	Family & Children's Services
131	Justin Jones	Oklahoma Department of Corrections



Office of the Speaker  
Oklahoma House of Representatives  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

January 11, 2010

Secretary Arne Duncan  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan,

As a leader of the Oklahoma legislature, we recognize that strong public schools are an essential foundation for the building of strong communities across our districts and across our state. We strongly endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. It is vital that our teachers and school leaders have the data and tools necessary to increase student graduation rates and their postsecondary success these investments in education will secure the competitive future of Oklahoma and the nation.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* proposal is about more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformation opportunity to dramatically improve achievement and graduation rates among all students in Oklahoma public schools. This initiative will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Chris Benge in cursive.

Chris Benge  
Speaker

Handwritten signature of Glenn Coffee in cursive.

Glenn Coffee  
President Pro Tempore





# House of Representatives

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

**Danny Morgan**  
Democratic Leader

State Capitol Building  
2300 North Lincoln Blvd., Rm 548  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

(405) 557-7368  
1-800-522-8502  
dannymorgan@okhouse.gov

Home:  
4706 NBU • Prague, OK 74864  
(405) 567-4786

Committees:  
Energy & Utility Regulation  
Economic Development &  
Financial Services  
Appropriations & Budget

January 11, 2010

## Support Statement

Education is undeniably the great equalizer, and strong public schools are vital in advancing our students and our state forward. As the House and Senate Democratic Minority Leaders in the Oklahoma Legislature, we wholeheartedly endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* Initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform. We understand, however, that Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools, which in turn will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We look forward to making the most of this opportunity to advance the state's public schools, and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Danny Morgan in black ink.

Representative Danny Morgan  
Democratic Leader  
Oklahoma House of Representatives

Handwritten signature of Charlie Laster in black ink.

Senator Charlie Laster  
Democratic Leader  
Oklahoma State Senate

**TAD JONES**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

P.O. BOX 2524  
CLAREMORE, OK 74018  
(918) 520-4307



COMMITTEES:

Common Education Committee  
Rules Committee  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
On Revenue & Taxation

## Tad Jones

Majority Floor Leader

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Representative Tad Jones endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 13, 2010

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Date

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Oklahoma House of Representatives

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Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tad Jones".

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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Oklahoma State School Boards Association endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
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- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

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January 6, 2010

Date

Oklahoma State School Boards Association

Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. B. Wells", is written over a horizontal line.

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

Oklahoma State School Boards Association  
2801 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 125  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
405.528.3571 • 888.528.3571  
405.528.5695 • www.ossba.org



## CCOSA

The Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration  
2901 N. Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

January 7, 2010

### RACE TO THE TOP DELIVERY INTENT STATEMENT

CCOSA is the only professional entity in Oklahoma organized and properly affiliated with capable practitioners and national educational organizations to present and deliver professional development programs to Oklahoma school administrators. Our goal is to successfully prepare school leaders for the challenges set forth in the Oklahoma Race to the Top application; specifically in relation to the criteria for improving teacher and principal effectiveness based on performance.

Continued learning is critical for **new and experienced** administrators. **New school leaders** need greater support and mentoring opportunities during the first few years of their career in order to be successful in their administrative role. **Veteran school leaders** need to remain current and proactive regarding the latest research to ensure a quality educational experience for students and staff. All program activities will focus on research components, emphasizing data-based decision making, team building and governance components molded together with the expectation of school improvement and on-going assessment of professional and school performance. Participation in CCOSA professional development programs allows administrators to increase their knowledge-base, while honing their skills under the watchful eye of mentors, expert facilitators and colleagues.

Funding for this program enables the fulfillment of the *Race to the Top* criteria and allows Oklahoma principals to identify school building leadership standards as defined by **Oklahoma Nine Essential Elements** and the National Association of Elementary School Principal's **Leading Learning Communities: Standards for What Principals Should Know and Be Able To Do**. The establishment of CCOSA's *Race to the Top* academy and auxiliary programs allow administrators to go beyond "highly qualified", as they improve their skills in data-driven decision-making, student assessment and achievement, and teacher supervision and evaluation. The process of improving student achievement includes many variables; and principals, like teachers, need quality professional development that is on-going and pervasive. In addition, the opportunity for practice and implementation in between sessions ensures that the administrators are both reflective and accountable to the evaluation process at the district and state level.

Areas of content include specialized topics such as: enhanced evaluation of teachers as set forth in *Race to the Top* criteria; instructional programming and improvement strategies; decision-making based on value-added analysis; management of time and site funding for instructional improvement; effective communication with staff and community regarding increased academic standards; and methods of conflict resolution and other issues associated with pay for performance assessment. Preference will be given to administrators serving School Improvement sites, as defined by the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

CCOSA has a long-standing partnership with the State Department of Education in providing school administrator training and would continue to work closely with officials in the development and delivery of this professional development program.



## CCOSA

2901 N. Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
405-524-1191 / 405-524-1196 fax  
[www.ccosa.org](http://www.ccosa.org)

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration (CCOSA) endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. Representing public school administrators and having been involved in the development phase of the application, I believe that our mission is clearly focused on children and improving their educational opportunities.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
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Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

CCOSA will be actively involved in the implementation of this program, if funded, to ensure that schools and children are the benefactors. We believe strongly that we can make a difference and "failure is not an option".

Steven Crawford, CCOSA Executive Director

# OKLAHOMA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

BECKY FELTS  
President

LINDA S. HAMPTON  
Vice President

LELA ODOM  
Executive Director

January 13, 2010

## Letter of Support:

The Oklahoma Education Association is proud to support Oklahoma's Race to the Top initiative. We believe strongly that student achievement and graduation rates will be increased with the full implementation of the four key areas outlined in our grant application. Those areas are:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

We appreciate being included on the Race to the Top Steering Committee and for the leadership our state continues to take in moving our schools forward. Throughout our 120 year history we have been proud to support education innovations in Oklahoma. From innovations like universal pre - kindergarten to legislation requiring improved data systems, we have been at the forefront. We see this as one more great opportunity.

We realize that our work to implement the transformation in our schools and communities is just beginning and, when Oklahoma is awarded this grant, we look forward to being a partner for implementation. Please be assured that we are willing to commit the time and energy it will take to meet our goals.

For the Association,



Becky Felts  
President

Great public schools for every child.



## OKLAHOMA CITY AFT

Local 2309, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO  
2915 Classen Boulevard., Suite 420  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73106  
PHONE: (405) 528-0801 FAX: (405) 525-8425  
www.okcaft.org E-MAIL: comments@okcaft.org

January 13, 2010

Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma City AFT, Local 2309 endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Oklahoma City AFT  
Local 2309

Ed Allen, President

EA:gf

opelu#381  
afi-cio





# OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

*Improving our future by degrees*

January 13, 2010

Secretary Arne Duncan  
Race to the Top  
Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan:

Please accept this letter of support for Oklahoma's Race to the Top application. Higher education has been proud to work with our colleagues in common and career and technical education to produce a plan that makes certain that more students graduate ready for the challenges of the global economy.

Though a variety of factors influence a student's failure to complete college, no single factor contributes more to these challenges than academic preparation. Getting behind academically at any age or stage of education handicaps odds for high school completion and many times puts collegiate degree completion out of reach. These challenges to the educational pipeline must be addressed by all educational partners to ensure significant progress in increasing graduation rates. The RTTT plan outlines several significant academic preparation reforms that will formally involve the State System of Higher Education, the State Department of Education, and the State System of Career and Technical Education working toward seamless alignment of curriculum, standards, and assessments. Additional areas of emphasis on STEM education, teacher preparation and professional development, and maximizing the use of data through the new Longitudinal Data System, will establish unprecedented cooperation between the educational enterprise and its many constituencies in business, industry, and government.

Oklahoma's Race to the Top plan will build upon proven programs and services and establish new interventions where gaps exist. The state's application is built around the principles of better academic preparation for success in college and the workforce and ensuring instructional effectiveness to support that overarching goal. The statewide Council of Presidents – representing all public universities and colleges in the state – enthusiastically supports this plan to increase student achievement and provide an even brighter future for all Oklahomans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas K. McKeon". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Thomas K. McKeon  
President, Tulsa Community College  
Chair, Oklahoma Council of Presidents



January 12, 2010

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

1. Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy
2. Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction
3. Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most
4. Turning around our lowest-achieving schools

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Very important to our CareerTech system, in addition to the four key areas above, are the Degree Completion Initiative and the emphasis on STEM strategies also mentioned in the grant. Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.



Phil Berkenbile, Ed.D.  
State Director



# OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

*Improving our future by degrees*

January 13, 2010

Secretary Arne Duncan  
Race to the Top  
Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

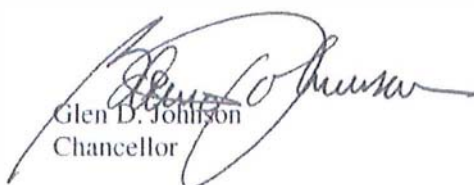
Dear Secretary Duncan:

Please accept this letter of support for Oklahoma's Race to the Top application. During the past months, statewide planning and discussion surrounding the development of a plan for RTTT has brought unprecedented cooperation between education, business, and community interests around the state. We enthusiastically support this plan to better prepare students for success in college and the workplace and look forward to participating in these important projects that impact student performance and instructional effectiveness along all points of the educational pipeline.

Because it is important that the initiatives outlined in Oklahoma's plan are coordinated to have a unified impact, the State System of Higher Education is committed to work with the common and career and technical education systems to bring proven initiatives to scale, cover gaps via the academic preparation components of the plan, and foster innovation in priority areas such as teacher preparation and STEM initiatives. In particular, higher education is committed to ensuring that the new curriculum, standards, and assessment framework bridging common and higher education provides early alert for student progress and informs our instructional effectiveness interventions, especially with at-risk students and underperforming schools.

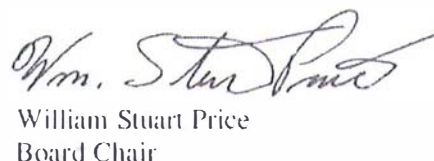
To ensure that Oklahoma achieves educational excellence and enhances economic development, the State System of Higher Education continues to pursue the goals of increasing access points to higher education, increasing the number of college graduates, and better preparing those graduates to compete globally. Toward those objectives and with the added momentum of the RTTT initiatives, the system will continue to focus on student preparation to ensure a common message and expectation of how students must be academically prepared to succeed in college and compete in the workforce. Partnering with numerous organizations, Oklahoma's public colleges and universities are increasingly connecting with their regions, impacting young people, adults, and community leaders to develop a more successful future for our state. Because of this capacity to lead and enact change, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education pledges all support necessary to successfully implement the goals and activities of the proposed RTTT plan.

Sincerely,



Glen D. Johnson  
Chancellor

GDJ/hdd



William Stuart Price  
Board Chair



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 7, 2010

Kathy Taylor  
Governor's Chief of Education, Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
Attn: Becky White

Ref: Stakeholder Support Statement

Dear Ms. Taylor:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, The University of Tulsa endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,



Steadman Upham  
President



## The University of Oklahoma

K20 CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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January 7, 2010

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Date

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K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal

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Name of Organization

---

Gregg Garn, Ph.D.

K20 Center Director

# GEORGE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION

1000 North Lincoln Street, Suite 1000, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

January 7, 2010

Secretary Duncan  
Race to the Top  
Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan:

The George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF) is focused upon intervening in the cycle of poverty at the earliest possible stage. To this end, we believe in the importance of improving the educational opportunities for Oklahoma's children. The Foundation has been engaged with and has supported the Race to the Top Application process and believes this grant will provide a tremendous opportunity to change the educational landscape in the State.

As a member of the broader philanthropic community in Oklahoma, we recognize that strong public schools are an essential element for the building of strong communities and a strong economic future. GKFF will work with private funders to provide \$5 million dollars in additional private support to accelerate the teacher and principal effectiveness portion of this grant through a pilot within the Tulsa Public Schools, the state's largest school district. This effort could then be implemented across the entire state.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* proposal is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates and to promote the kind of bold reform needed to make a difference for the next generation.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the Oklahoma's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are ready to assist in meeting that challenge. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Ken Levit,  
Executive Director, George Kaiser Family Foundation



TULSA COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

CHARITY *With* CHOICE

January 10, 2010

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Secretary Duncan  
Race to the Top  
Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan,

I am pleased to support Oklahoma's Race to the Top proposal on behalf of Tulsa Community Foundation (TCF).

As the largest community foundation in the nation, TCF strives to be the recognized, community-owned institution that initiates, teaches and encourages personal and corporate charitable giving today to ensure the philanthropic needs of Oklahomans can be met for all generations. TCF has been actively engaged with the Race to the Top application process and believes this grant will provide a tremendous opportunity to improve the educational landscape of our state.

TCF recognizes that strong public schools are an essential element for building strong communities. TCF will work with private funders to provide at least \$5 million dollars in additional support to accelerate the teacher and principal effectiveness portion of the grant proposal through a pilot program in Tulsa Public Schools, the state's largest district. This effort, based on effectiveness, could later be expanded to include districts across Oklahoma.

Oklahoma's Race to the Top proposal is about more than securing grant funds for the state; it is about transforming our schools and communities to give each child the best education possible, and thus the best opportunities for the future. We acknowledge that transforming Oklahoma's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all our state's key stakeholders and stand ready to assist in meeting this challenge.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if I may be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Phil Lakin, Jr.  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tulsa Community Foundation



# INASMUCH FOUNDATION

EDITH KINNEY GAYLORD, FOUNDER  
1916 - 2001

ROBERT J. ROSS  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

January 13, 2010

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Inasmuch Foundation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 14, 2010  
Date

Inasmuch Foundation

Name of Organization

Robert J. Ross

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



# Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence

recognizing and encouraging academic excellence in our public schools

DAVID L. BOREN  
Founder and Chairman of the Board

January 12, 2010

Re: Stakeholder Support Statement

Please know of our support of the Oklahoma application for the *Race to the Top* public education initiative. As a statewide education nonprofit organization, the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence compliments the efforts of the U.S. Department of Education to increase student achievement by offering states the opportunity of financial grants to help achieve education innovation and reform.

The Foundation for Excellence was established 24 years ago when community leaders from across the state saw the need of private support for public education. With the mission of recognizing and encouraging academic excellence in Oklahoma public schools, we have worked through the years with Oklahoma's education institutions and other educational organizations to improve our public schools. Several of our programs are unique to this state, and we believe they have added to the progress that is being made.

Each year, our Academic Awards Program salutes 100 outstanding high school seniors as Academic All-Staters and five exceptional educators as Medal for Excellence winners. With the awards banquet broadcast throughout the state on public television, Oklahomans recognize that the celebration of these honorees promotes a standard of excellence for other students and teachers to emulate.

A special relationship with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation has helped Oklahoma fifth-grade teachers revolutionize the way they teach colonial American history. Oklahoma is second in the nation in the number of teachers—more than 500—who have attended the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute and first in the nation in the number of Electronic Field Trip school subscriptions, which bring interactive historical reenactments to classrooms via public television. Our Foundation is collaborating with other Oklahoma groups to expand early-American history education. Oklahoma was selected by George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens to be the first recipient of a two-year grant for a George Washington Ambassador Program that promotes the teaching of George Washington and the founding era in classrooms across the state.



Our Foundation is committed to school improvement by encouraging teachers to enhance their teaching skills through professional development. With our Teacher Scholarship Program, we have worked with school personnel to target schools where the need is the greatest and to steer teachers to national conferences that could help them bring about systemic change for their schools. Oklahoma is the first state in the nation to participate in the Fund for Teachers program, which awards grants to teachers for self-designed summer learning activities. Through this remarkable program, Oklahoma teachers have traveled from the plains and forests of Oklahoma and the ecological wonders of Costa Rica to the classical ruins of Rome and the Great Wall of China. Currently supported through bridge funding from the national organization, 439 Oklahoma teachers have brought the excitement and knowledge they gained from their educational journeys to their classrooms and are opening up the world to their students.

Through our outreach services to local education foundations, our Foundation has helped to build one of the nation's largest and most effective networks of public school foundations, with more than 200 to date. These citizen-led nonprofits have raised millions of dollars to promote academic excellence in their districts and have encouraged community involvement in their local schools.

Our newest program is the Boren Mentoring Initiative that has helped to promote the growth and development of school-based mentoring statewide. As our program has become known, it has become the "go-to place" for information about mentoring and what programs are available in Oklahoma.

The above programs show the engagement of private citizens in the effort to improve Oklahoma's public schools. As we look forward, our Foundation is interested in any way that we can help improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates, which are key factors in shaping the future of our economy and quality of life.

The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence readily joins the *Race to the Top* team to become a stakeholder in however we can help further Oklahoma's plan to transform our state's public schools.

Date: *January 13, 2010*

Name of Organization: *Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence*

Signature of Executive Director: *Emily Syrett*



OKLAHOMA SOCIETY of ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES

6412 N Santa Fe Ave  
Suite C  
Oklahoma City, OK 73116-9111  
405-879-0027  
Fax 405-879-0304  
osae@rhess.com  
www.ok-osae.org

Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Oklahoma Society of Association Executives endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

Date

Oklahoma Society of Association Executives

Name of Organization

Richard Hess, CAE; Executive Director

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

Sheri Penner, CAE  
President  
Oklahoma Society of  
Professional Engineers

Tawni Phelan, CAE, CMP  
President-Elect  
Oklahoma Society of CPAs

Creta Stewart, CAE  
Past-President  
Oklahoma Primary Care Assn.

J. Scott Hopkins  
Secretary/Treasurer  
National Electric  
Contractors Association

Scott Dewald  
Vice President - Meetings  
Oklahoma Cattlemen's Assn.

Mark Bledsoe, CAE  
Vice President - Membership  
LISSA

Jan Gilmore-Loftis  
Vice President - Communications  
Gilmore Communications

Ken King, CAE  
Vice President - Education  
Oklahoma State Medical Assn.

Brian Ferrell, CMP  
Strategic Partner Liaison  
factor110

Sheila Smith  
Strategic Partner Liaison  
Embassy Suites, Norman

Richard L. Hess, CAE  
Executive Director  
Richard Hess & Associates

OKLAHOMA



THE  
FOUNDATION  
FOR OKLAHOMA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Chairman  
Dave Lopez

Chair-Elect  
Robert J. Ross

Secretary/Treasurer  
Christopher C. Turner

Past Chairman  
Stanley F. Hupfeld

Board Members

Ray Ackerman  
John L. Belt  
Chris Black  
William Bullard  
William Cameron  
Len B. Cason  
Sean Cummings  
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Bruce Day  
Bryan Gonterman  
Stuart Graham  
Dale Hageman  
Bob Hammack  
David Harlow  
Brent Hensley  
Dudley Hyde  
Lou Kerr  
Jenny Love Meyer  
Marcia Matthews Hutton  
Susan McCalmont  
Daniel Medley  
Harry Merson  
Pam Newby  
Cynda Ottaway  
Alvaro Posadas  
Tom Price  
Scott Pruitt  
Wendi Schuur  
Tony Shinn  
Helen Sullivan  
Donita Thomas  
Miles Tolbert  
Paul Trimble  
Pam Troup  
Kevin R. White  
Carol Wilkinson Troy  
Robert Zahl

Ex-Officio Members

David Castillo  
Hispanic Chamber  
  
Mick Cornett  
Mayor, Oklahoma City

Drew Dugan  
Greater OKC Chamber

Joyce Henderson  
South OKC Chamber

Angela Monson  
Board Chairman,  
OKC Public Schools

Karl Springer  
Superintendent,  
OKC Public Schools

Executive Director  
Lori M. Dickinson

Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, The Foundation for Oklahoma City Public Schools endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 8, 2010

Date

The Foundation for Oklahoma City Public Schools

Name of Organization

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

**Michael A. Cawley**  
President

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January 13, 2010

**Stakeholder Support Statement**  
*Oklahoma's Race to the Top Application*

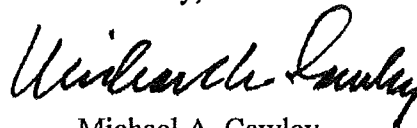
To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, I am pleased to endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

In recognition of the fact that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, we realize that Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools. This in turn will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming Oklahoma's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders. We look forward to this opportunity that will assist the state in making changes that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Cawley

MAC:mkw



January 8, 2010

Secretary Arne Duncan  
Race to the Top  
Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan,

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Lynn Schusterman  
Chair



## Holdenville Education Foundation

P.O. Box 641  
Holdenville OK 74848  
[www.hef4ourkids.com](http://www.hef4ourkids.com)

January 11, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Holdenville Education Foundation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* Team to revitalize public education through the Race to the Top initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Karen Patterson  
President



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NATALIE SHIRLEY  
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE & TOURISM

---

January 12, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC) is the lead economic development agency for the state of Oklahoma. Successful economic development depends on a skilled and trained workforce which starts with strong public schools. ODOC endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge. ODOC is committed to providing any assistance we can to support Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* efforts.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Very truly yours,

Natalie Shirley

Secretary of Commerce and Tourism





GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR WORKFORCE  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. EMPLOYMENT.

590 N. Stiles Avenue P.O. Box 26980, Oklahoma City, OK 73126-0980 . 405 615-5276

January 12, 2010

RE: Letter of Support for Race to the Top Initiative

The Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development wholeheartedly supports Oklahoma's Race to the Top application. The purpose of the Council is to serve as the States Workforce Investment Board and to make recommendations that will lead to development of a workforce system that will support the states economic development efforts. This Race to the Top grant opportunity will help to chart the path toward providing the education system that is needed to prepare workers for the jobs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century that do not know even exist.

Education has been a tremendous partner in the work of the Council and our education agencies have been very engaged in working on Council initiatives. The Race to the Top grant would advance the partnerships and collaborative efforts that have already been developed and make them even stronger, allowing Oklahoma to reach higher in our efforts to grow a greater Oklahoma.

Specific accomplishments that have resulted from these partnerships are included below and are an example of what the partnership between education, employment programs, economic development and employers has done. The Race to the Top grant would provide even greater opportunities to continue these and other efforts

- Skills gap reports for Industry sectors have been produced, providing guidance to our education systems in needed curriculum development to support these key industries.
- Career Pathways are being mapped that will provide enhanced and expanded career guidance for students in the educational system.
- A career planning website, [okcareerplanner.com](http://okcareerplanner.com), has been launched for the purpose of providing common tools to our education and training partners that will help students make informed career decisions.
- The State Board of Education has approved Work Keys assessments as alternate end of instruction test. WorkKeys is a key assessment used by various partners in Oklahoma as part of our workforce system assessment process.
- Many of our local school systems have been partners in helping to obtain the "Certified Work Ready Community" designation. This designation indicates that the workforce in an area is highly skilled and requires an 82% graduation rate, or 82% of the graduating seniors have to have relieved the Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) about 20% of Oklahoma's communities have received this designation and the schools systems in those areas have played a key part.
- Project MOVES has provided summer externship opportunities for teachers to get hands on experience in advanced manufacturing so that they can better communicate and teach these skill needs to their students

As you can see, much has been accomplished due to the partnership between workforce, education and economic development. The Race to the Top grant will provide added incentives to keep the momentum going, thus the Council supports this effort 100%.

Sincerely,

Steve Hendrickson, Chair  
Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development  
The Boeing Company





January 13, 2010

Ms. Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Becky:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, The State Chamber of Oklahoma endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Richard P. Rush, CCE



## Stakeholder Support Statement

High quality education is critical to economic development and prosperity. The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber recognizes that our schools are responsible for our most important resource our employers and members— highly educated and skilled workers. For over a decade we have been working to improve our education systems at both the state and local levels. We must continue to push our educators to continuously improve. We strongly support and endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

We applaud the U.S. Department of Education for utilizing competition to implement the *Race to the Top* program. We know that competition will force states to be innovative, creative and forward thinking. We applaud implementation of reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible and improving our economy. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among students in our public schools.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1/14/2010

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Date

---

Greater OKC Chamber

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Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy Williams".

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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

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## TULSA METRO CHAMBER

The Tulsa Metro Chamber endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education. The Chamber recognizes the importance of closing the achievement gap, supporting all children through to graduation and providing them with a plan to move on to further education and training after high school. As our country emerges from the recession, we will again face a global shortage of highly skilled and educated workers. In order to compete for those workers and jobs, Oklahoma must transform our public education system to better prepare students for the demands of this century's workplace. We look forward to supporting the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. This is an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge. The Chamber has worked over the past 25 years to build a network of over 1,250 business and community partners for Tulsa's public schools and we will engage them as needed to support our schools' plans for change.

January 13, 2010

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Date

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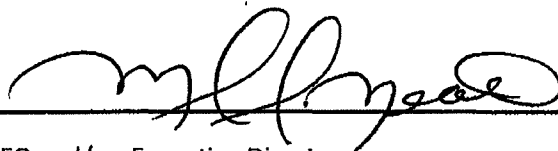
Tulsa Metro Chamber

---

Name of Organization

---

Michael S. Neal



---

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

---

Dear Becky:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Edmond Area Chamber of Commerce, endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. *Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ken Moore' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ken Moore  
President & CEO

CC: Dr. David Goin



102 South 5th, Ste. 3  
Ponca City, OK 74601  
(580) 765-7070

January 11, 2010

Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Ponca City Development Authority wishes to offer our enthusiastic endorsement of Oklahoma's efforts in the Race to the Top initiative designed to revitalize public education.

As the economic development organization serving the Ponca City Micropolitan Area, we see first hand the importance of education in our economy. It continues to be the most important incentive to economic growth, individual development and national economic and physical security. Everyday, we witness exciting innovations in businesses in our region and across the nation. We simply must inspire this same type of innovation in our schools.

Preparing students to compete in the global economy should be the imperative to avoid leaving these children behind. We strongly support the aspects of this initiative which promote and encourage innovation and allow students to learn as they will work in the future. This will involve insuring that we are pursuing dynamic changes in our education system that are meet the challenges of tomorrow head on, rather than adhere to rigid, outdated formulas or benchmarks not tied to real economic success.

As we all know, the transformation of our education system to improve our graduation rates and prepare all of our state's students for the future will take time and money. We cannot succeed without appropriate funding and we strongly support the efforts to secure Oklahoma's share of grant funds for this project.

Sincerely,

DAVID J. MYERS  
Executive Director



Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Ardmore Chamber of Commerce endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Dated the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2010.

Ardmore Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Weston Stacky". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

D. Weston Stacky, President & CEO





Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Ardmore Chamber of Commerce endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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Dated the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2010.

Ardmore Chamber of Commerce

Nathan Verner, Chairman of the Board



January 13, 2010

Ms. Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

To Whom It May Concern Regarding Race for the Top:

The Oklahoma Business and Education Coalition is a business-led, nonpartisan, nonprofit education reform organization focused on improving Oklahoma public schools. Founded in 2000 by business leaders, OBEC supports raising standards; graduating all students from high school ready for work and college; improving transparency and accountability for results; attracting, preparing, and retaining high quality teachers; and having a fair school funding system.

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, OBEC endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Stanley Lybarger  
Chairman of the Board





Samson Plaza  
Two West Second Street  
Tulsa Oklahoma 74103-3103  
USA  
918 591-1791  
Fax 918 591-1796

08 January 2010

Secretary Arne Duncan  
Race to the Top  
Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Samson Investment Company endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Stacy Schuster'.

Stacy Schuster  
Chairman and CEO  
Samson Investment Company



# SUMMIT BANK

[www.summitbankok.com](http://www.summitbankok.com)

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Wade W. Edmundson  
Chief Executive Officer  
(918) 477-3606  
(918) 481-8825 (fax)  
[wedmundson@summitbankok.com](mailto:wedmundson@summitbankok.com)

## Business Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, Summit Bank endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

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January 12, 2010

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Summit Bank

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Wade Edmundson, CEO



DON WELLENDORF  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
One Williams Center MD 28  
Tulsa, OK 74172  
(918) 574-7001  
[don.wellendorf@magellanlp.com](mailto:don.wellendorf@magellanlp.com)

January 13, 2010

Mr. Arne Duncan  
Secretary of Education  
United States Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan:

Magellan Midstream Partners is the owner and operator of our nation's longest refined petroleum products pipeline system. We also have significant distribution infrastructure for renewable fuels like ethanol and biodiesel. Our company is based in Tulsa, Oklahoma and we have operations in twenty-two states.

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, we endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Thank you in advance for consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Wellendorf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D".

Don Wellendorf



January 13, 2010

Mr. Arne Duncan  
US Secretary of Education  
Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20202

RE: **Business Support Statement**

Dear Mr. Duncan:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, QuikTrip Corporation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chet Cadieux', written over a horizontal line.

Chet Cadieux  
Chairman/CEO

# AmericanAirlines®

Rachel D. Hutchings  
Manager  
Corporate Relations

Rachel D. Hutchings  
American Airlines  
3900 N. Mingo Rd., MD 164  
Tulsa, OK 74116  
[Rachel.hutchings@aa.com](mailto:Rachel.hutchings@aa.com)

January 12, 2010

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, American Airlines endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Very respectfully,



Rachel D. Hutchings  
Corporate Relations Manager  
American Airlines



### Business Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, Spirit AeroSystems endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

01/13/2010

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Date

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Spirit AeroSystems, Inc.

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Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David P. Bartz". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned over a horizontal line.

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Signature of David P. Bartz, Vice President & General Manager



## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, ConocoPhillips endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

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Date

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ConocoPhillips

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Name of Organization

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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director





January 15, 2010

U S Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, OGE Energy Corp. endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter B. Delaney".

Peter B. Delaney  
Chairman, President and CEO



Bryan L. Gonterman  
President

AT&T Oklahoma  
405 North Broadway  
Suite 105  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

T: 405.236.6131  
F: 405.236.2510  
bryan.gonterman@att.com

### Business Support Statement

AT&T is a firm believer in improving education across the nation. Our national and community success depends on the quality of our workforce and we continuously invest in making sure our children and more importantly our future workforce are given the skills and training to make sure they will succeed in the world of work.

We know that our public schools are entrusted with our most valuable asset but we also know they must be given support and encouragement. We support the effort of our Governor and others involved in Oklahoma Race to the Top Team that is seeking to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. We are also encouraged by the creative approach to utilizing a competitive process to challenge government to seek innovative ways to improve. Competition is always good.

WE truly hope that the federal government will recognize that Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* application is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 15, 2010

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Date

AT&T Oklahoma

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Name of Organization

---

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



*"Whatever It Takes"*

3616 Lake Road / Ponca City, OK 74604-5171

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Parker Pest Control endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- ❖ Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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- ❖ Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- ❖ Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

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January 12, 2010

*J. Brad Parker*  
President, Parker Pest Control, Inc.

HOTLINE:

**1-800-324-BUGS (2847)**

**Ponca City**  
(580) 762-6614

**Stillwater**  
(405) 743-0992

**Tulsa**  
(918) 455-5616

**Oklahoma City**  
(405) 728-0973

**Enid**  
(580) 233-4529

**Wichita**  
(316) 524-4311

Fax (580) 765-4613  
[www.parkerpestcontrol.com](http://www.parkerpestcontrol.com)



900 N. Klein ★ Oklahoma City, OK 73106

Karl Springer, Superintendent of Schools  
900 N. Klein ♦ Oklahoma City, OK ♦ 73106  
Office: 405.587.0448 ♦ Fax: 405.587.0443 ♦ [superintendent@okcps.org](mailto:superintendent@okcps.org)

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma City Public Schools endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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January 12, 2010

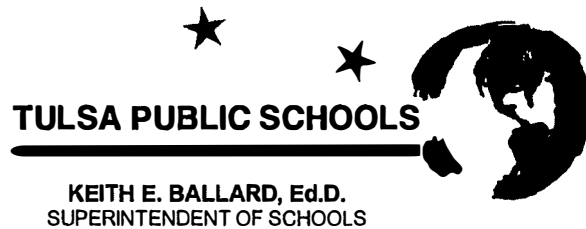
Date

Oklahoma City Public Schools

Name of Organization

Karl Springer

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



January 11, 2010

Sandy Garrett, State Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State Department of Education  
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Superintendent Garrett,

Tulsa Public Schools ("the District") is committed to collaborating with the State Department in furthering the purposes and goals of the State of Oklahoma's Race to the Top application. Additionally, the District is dedicated to fulfilling its roles and responsibilities as specified in the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) should Oklahoma be awarded Race to the Top funding.

The Tulsa Public Schools Board of Education has approved and signed the attached MOU in complete reliance on your representations and assurances to our legal counsel that the District can opt out of the MOU at any time up to 90 days after the State is awarded Race to the Top funding

Sincerely,

Keith Ballard, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Tulsa Public Schools

Dr. Lana Turner-Addison  
President  
Tulsa Public Schools Board of Education



# Office of Superintendent

Dr. Ruth Ann Carr, Superintendent

January 13, 2010

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, as a member of the Steering Committee and Chair of the Great Teachers and Leaders Subcommittee, I endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 13, 2010

Date

Ardmore City Schools

Name of Organization

Signature of Superintendent



**Stakeholder Support Statement**

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Francis Tuttle Technology Center endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1/12/10  
Date

Francis Tuttle Technology Center

Name of Organization

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



January 12, 2010

**Stakeholder Support Statement**

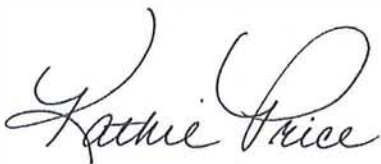
Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Southwest Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
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- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders, and we are up for the challenge.



Kathie Price, Executive Director  
Southwest Workforce Investment Board



## OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

January 12, 2010

### STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth proudly endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. Through our community development work, we recognize that strong public schools are an essential component to building strong communities.

When awarded, The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth will play its part in Oklahoma's efforts to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Smith".

Lisa Smith  
Executive Director



## The University of Oklahoma

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR DISABILITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### Oklahoma Race to the Top Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, The National Center for Disability Education and Training at the University of Oklahoma endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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January 12, 2010

Date

National Center for Disability Education and Training

Name of Organization

*Rebecca Cook, Director*

Signature of President, CEO and/or Executive Director





## Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation

3545 NW 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200

Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4725

(405) 525-2612 Fax (405) 525-0373 Email [octp@octp.org](mailto:octp@octp.org)

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation (OCTP) endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. *Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

**Date**

Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation

**Name of Organization**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted Gillispie".

**Ted Gillispie**

**Executive Director**

*Student Success through Quality Teaching*



# O K L A H O M A

Labor Management Coordination Program  
Business LABOR Government  
WIA • Dislocated Worker • Rapid Response

A

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C

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O

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma AFL CIO Labor Management Coordination Program endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 11, 2010

Oklahoma AFL CIO Labor Management Coordination Program

Roy Gordon, Director





# Talking Leaves Job Corps Center

P.O. Box 1066 - 5700 Bald Hill Road

Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74465

1-877-256-9950

Fax Number: 918-207-3489

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Talking Leaves Job Corps endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

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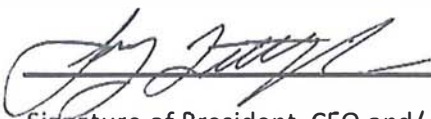
Date

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Talking Leaves Job Corps

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Name of Organization



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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

Operated by:  
Cherokee Nation for the U.S. Department of Labor



# Oklahoma State Senate

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
2300 N. LINCOLN BLVD.  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105  
(405) 521-5634  
fordj@oksenate.gov



DISTRICT 29  
CRAIG, NOWATA, WASHINGTON

COMMITTEES:  
Chairman-Education  
Vice Chair-Appropriations  
Education Subcommittee  
Appropriations  
Tourism & Wildlife  
Finance  
Rules

**JOHN W. FORD**  
*Majority Caucus Chair*

January, 2010

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is written to endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to acquire stimulus funds through the Race to the Top Initiative. I believe these financial resources will bring immense possibilities for improvement in our local schools and a brighter outlook for every one of our students.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John W. Ford'.

John W. Ford  
State Senator  
District 29  
OK Senate Education Chair



# Oklahoma State Senate

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
2300 N. LINCOLN BLVD.  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105  
(405) 521-5634  
fordj@oksenate.gov



DISTRICT 29  
CRAIG, NOWATA, WASHINGTON

COMMITTEES:  
Chairman-Education  
Vice Chair-Appropriations  
Education Subcommittee  
Appropriations  
Tourism & Wildlife  
Finance  
Rules

**JOHN W. FORD**  
*Majority Caucus Chair*

January, 2010

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: Race to the Top Application, Bartlesville Public Schools, Washington County,  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

This letter is written to endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to acquire stimulus funds through the Race to the Top Initiative. I believe these financial resources will bring immense possibilities for improvement in our local schools and a brighter outlook for every one of our students.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John W. Ford  
State Senator  
District 29  
OK Senate Education Chair



## OFFICE OF DISABILITY CONCERNS

2401 N.W. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Ste. 90 (located in Shepherd Mall)  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73107-2423  
(405) 521-3756 or 1-800-522-8224 Voice  
(405) 522-6706 TDD  
(405) 522-6695 Fax  
[www.odc.ok.gov](http://www.odc.ok.gov)

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Office of Disability Concerns endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

---

Date 1-12-10

Name of Organization

Office of Disability Concerns

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Signature of Executive Director of Office of Disability Concerns

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L. A. P.", written in black ink.

# Oklahoma Employment Security Commission



Jon Brock, Executive Director

Brad Henry, Governor

## Representing Employers

Douglas R. Major, Ed. D., Commissioner  
Gayle Harris, Commissioner

Representing the Public  
Rev. W.B. Parker, Chairman

## Representing Employees

Rev. Mike Wester, Commissioner  
Susan Stoll, Commissioner

January 12, 2010

U.S. Department of Education

Race to the Top Initiative

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

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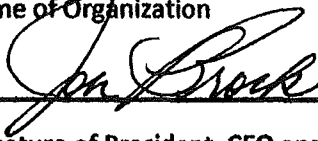
Date

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Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

---

Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Brock", written over a horizontal line.

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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

# OKLAHOMA STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

5315 South Shartel, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73109 [www.okbctc.org](http://www.okbctc.org)



**Jimmy Fish**  
**Executive Director**

Phone: (405) 650-5663  
Fax: (405) 632-5628  
Email: [Jimmy@okbctc.org](mailto:Jimmy@okbctc.org)

**Darren Jones**  
**President**

Phone: (405) 682-4571  
Fax: (405) 682-1327  
Email: [Darren@PP344.com](mailto:Darren@PP344.com)

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Oklahoma Building and Construction Trades Council endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

Oklahoma Building and Construction Trades Council

Jimmy Fish, Executive Director

### AFFILIATES:

Boilermakers

Bricklayers &  
Allied Crafts

Electrical  
Workers

Elevator  
Constructors

Heat & Frost  
Insulators

Iron Workers

Laborers

Operating  
Engineers

Painters &  
Allied Trades

Pipeliners

Plumbers  
& Pipefitters

Roofers

Sheet  
Metal  
Workers

Sprinkler  
Fitters



Do it Right with a UNION Craftsman - The Cost is LESS when you use the BEST.



## Northeast Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board

121 N. Main  
Miami, Oklahoma 74354

Pho 918-542-5561  
Fax 918-542-7505

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Northeast Workforce Investment Board endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

Date

Northeast Workforce Investment Board

Name of Organization

*Bill Edwards*

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, John Hawkins, CIC, of Integrated Insurance Services and member of the Governor's Council State Youth Council endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* Initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

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Date

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Integrated Insurance Services

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Name of Organization



---

John Hawkins

---

Signature of President, CEO and/or Executive Director





## OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Sequoyah Memorial Office Building  
2400 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
P.O. Box 25352  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0352  
(405) 521-3646 • www.okdhs.org



January 12, 2010

### Stakeholder Support Statement

The benefits of academic success and educational attainment are especially critical for the children who are being served by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for the success of these children and for building strong communities, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

Date

Oklahoma Department of Human Services

Name of Organization

Gary Miller

Director, Children and Family Services Division

STONEWALL-MCLISH EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
600 South Highschool  
Stonewall, OK 74871

Stakeholder Support Statement

BOARD

Janelle Robinson  
President

Katherine Howry  
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Todd Crabtree

Larry Hawkins

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Paul Roan

John M. Williams

Board Facilitator  
Gail Wood  
580-777-4777

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Stonewall-McLish Education Foundation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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\*Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;

\*Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and

\*Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

**Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds.** It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders, and we are up to the challenge.

Sincerely,

Janelle Robinson  
President



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CENTRAL  
OKLAHOMA GOVERNMENTS

January 12, 2010

Ms. Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Ms. White:

The Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG) fully supports the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. *Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. As a substate planning district, we see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. ASCOG acknowledges that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blaine H. Smith, Jr.", is written over a light-colored background.

Blaine H. Smith, Jr.  
Executive Director



**SOUTH CENTRAL OKLAHOMA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD, INC.**

POST OFFICE BOX 1647  
Duncan, Oklahoma 73534-1647  
580-252-0595 / 800-658-1466  
Fax: 580-252-6170

January 12, 2010

The South Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board fully supports the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. *Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,



Chris Pittman  
Chair



**INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY**

**Office of the President**

1801 East 4th Street  
Okmulgee, OK 74447-3901  
918 293 5258  
800 722 4471  
Fax 918 293 4644  
bob.klabenes@okstate.edu

January 13, 2010

Governor Brad Henry  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Henry:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life. OSU Institute of Technology works closely with numerous school districts throughout the state and is prepared to assist the *Race to the Top* Team to assure the project's success.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and OSU Institute of Technology is up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bob Klabenes  
President

**CREATE / INNOVATE / EDUCATE / GO STATE**



# Oklahoma State American Federation of Labor And Congress of Industrial Organizations

501 Northeast 27th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4213  
(405) 528-2409  
Fax (405) 525-2810  
www.okaflcio.org



**Jimmy C. Curry**  
*President*

**Myrna J. Burman**  
*Political Director*

**Chalk E. Norton**  
*Vice-President*

#### Executive Board Members

Ed Allen	Brad Ford	Tony Bennett	Susan Wells	Darren Jones	Tim O'Connor
Jimmy Fish	Andy Frye	Mike Burton	Henry Baskeyfield	Dave Ratcliff	John Gaines
Debra Graumann	John Browne	Paul Little	Perry Sneed	Joe Smith	Rick Boardman
Linda Gerster	Cynthia McNeilance	Susan Stoll	D'Ann Johnson	David Gray	
Harvey Swift	Larry Flowers	Bryan Jackson	Kenneth Parrick	Phil Sipe	

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma AFL-CIO endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Rate to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

 President  
Oklahoma AFL-CIO

January 13, 2010  
Date



# Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board

3813 N Santa Fe · Suite 135 Oklahoma City · OK 73118  
Phone: 405-622-2026 · Fax: 405-622-2032

January 13, 2010

The Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board recognizes that strong public schools are essential for developing a skilled workforce which builds strong communities. Therefore, we strongly endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma's Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through this initiative.

We understand and pledge to work diligently with this effort to foster educational innovation and reform, which will lead to increased gains in student achievement in four specific areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that will prepare students to succeed in the workplace, college and be able to compete in the global economy.
- Building a data system that will measure student growth and success, while informing educational institutions on how instruction may be improved.
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals that understand the need to equip their students with the proper skills that will lead to their success.
- Taking traditionally low achieving schools and improving student performance.

This initiative is about more than grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and how they will provide the pathway for every child in Oklahoma to receive the best education possible. This is a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve student achievement, while giving them the tools necessary to make them and thus the state successful. It is about the future in Oklahoma.

Oklahomans have always worked collaboratively to meet challenges caused by crisis. We understand that transforming public education will require time, energy and the commitment of all key stakeholders. Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board is committed to participating in this great opportunity that transformation will give us.

Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board, Inc.

Eddie Foreman, CEO



January 12, 2010

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Pelco Products Inc. endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Phil Parduhn

President





OKLAHOMA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

100 North Lincoln Street, Suite 1000

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103

P.O. Box 26720

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74112

Phone: (918) 581-1000

Toll Free: (800) 256-1489

TDD: (405) 640-7471

www.ohfa.org

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1/12/2010

Date

Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency

Name of Organization

President,

DENNIS SHOCKLEY



## The University of Oklahoma

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
TULSA

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, University of Oklahoma-Tulsa Community Engagement Center (OUCEC) and OUCEC Higher Ed Forum of Northeast Oklahoma, endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
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Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

---

Date: January 13, 2010

Name of Organization:

University of Oklahoma-Tulsa Community Engagement Center (OUCEC) and the  
OUCEC Higher Ed Forum of Northeast Oklahoma

---

Pamela S. Pittman, OUCEC Executive Director and  
Chair of OUCEC Higher Ed Forum of Northeast Oklahoma



**SHAWNEE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION  
P.O. BOX 3521  
SHAWNEE, OK 74802**

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January 13, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Shawnee Educational Foundation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* Team to revitalize public education through the Race to the Top initiative.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,  
Kellie Steele, SEF Board President

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Southern Workforce Board endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 13, 2010

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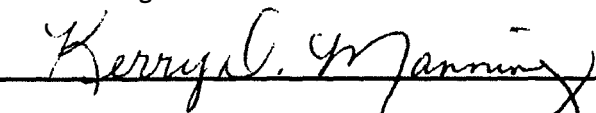
Date

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Southern Workforce Board

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Name of Organization

  
Signature of President, CEO and/or Executive Director

1800 South Baltimore • 918.295.7222



January 13, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, SpiritBank endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joyce Madewell", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Joyce Madewell

Executive Vice President Marketing

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO

Ken Busby

January 13, 2010

OFFICERS

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*President*

Jean Ann Fausser  
*President Elect*

Libby Johnson  
*VP Programs*

Victoria Bartlett  
*VP Development*

Greg Gray  
*VP Visual Arts Center*

Harry Dandelles  
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Carole Huff Hicks  
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Craig Rainey  
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Randi Wightman  
*At Large*

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Sandy Sober

Michelle Wiens

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Stacie Wilson

Nancy Wolov

Carolyn Woodard

EMERITUS DIRECTORS

Nancy Feldman

Pat Schroeder

Ben Windham

RE: Race to the Top Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.


As the largest provider of arts education resources in Tulsa County, the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa witnesses daily the challenges faced by students, especially those from at risk and underserved populations. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools. This will help to improve the future of our economy and the quality of life that we all enjoy.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy, and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,



Ken Busby  
Executive Director & CEO

JIM WALTON  
Chairman

DON WALKER  
President & C.E.O.



(918) 631-1000  
502 SOUTH MAIN MALL  
TULSA, OK 74103-4425

To Whom It May Concern

Arvest Bank recognizes that strong public schools are essential for building a solid business community and a local economy. Arvest endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through this initiative. Due to the current economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we have seen that the need for a strong public school system has never been greater. Therefore, Arvest Bank is excited by the opportunity to pledge our support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's Race to the Top is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively and rising to meet a challenge. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders. As a member of the community, we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald E. Walker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Donald E. Walker

CEO and President of Arvest, Tulsa





## St. John Medical Center Foundation

*Thank you for remembering St. John in your will.*

Richard Boone, CFRE  
*President*

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, St. John Health System endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 13, 2010

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Date

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St. John Health System

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Name of Organization

President, St. John Medical Center Foundation

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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

# SAND SPRINGS EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

♦ Helping to Build a Brighter Future in Education ♦

P.O. Box 1541 ♦ Sand Springs, OK 74063

## STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT STATEMENT

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Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Sand Springs Education Foundation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy.
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1-13-2010

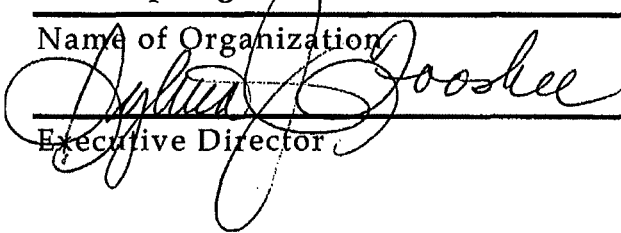
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Date

**Sand Springs Education Foundation**

---

Name of Organization

  
Executive Director

# Southwest Oklahoma Impact Coalition



Norma Noble  
Deputy Secretary of Commerce for Workforce Development  
Oklahoma Department of Commerce  
900 North Stiles Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104-3234

## **Re: Southwest Oklahoma Impact Coalition Letter of Support – Race to the Top**

Dear Ms. Noble:

The Southwest Oklahoma Impact Coalition (SOIC) is a unique, voluntary coalition formed by five institutions of higher education and two economic development planning districts in southwest Oklahoma to grow the economy and talent in a rural, twenty-county region. SOIC believes strong public schools are essential for growing and sustaining strong communities and fully endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see the *Race to the Top* initiative as an opportunity to dramatically transform and improve student achievement and graduation rates for all students in Oklahoma's public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

SOIC encourages this initiative to be funded. It will result in positive impacts for Oklahoma and the Nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hays".

Dr. John Hays  
Chairman of the Board

# WorkforceTulsa

growing talent  growing opportunity

Workforce Tulsa  
3638 S. Memorial Drive  
PO Box 477200  
Tulsa, OK 74147

918.796.1276  
www.workforcetulsa.com  
dmelendez@workforcetulsa.com

January 13, 2009

Governor Brad Henry  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Room 212  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Henry,

It is my pleasure to send this letter of support for Oklahoma's bid in *Race to the Top*. Workforce Tulsa (Tulsa Area Workforce Investment Board) has experienced firsthand the difference the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds can make in transforming education and training systems and the resulting impact on students and at-risk youth. Our forty-five member board is comprised of business and institutional leaders who in their daily work and volunteer time are an integral part of supporting and creating progressive changes in teacher education, teacher performance, and student achievement and graduation rates.

We need innovation and transformation in our public schools. You have put together a strong strategy and a very capable, broad-based team to implement the Oklahoma Plan. In my 25 years of participating in and leading development efforts, I have never witnessed a stronger coalition for creating meaningful change in our educational system.

You have Workforce Tulsa's full support to make Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* initiative a success. Please let me know how we can serve to help meet this critical challenge.

Sincerely,



Darcy Melendez  
Executive Director



January 13, 2010

P.O. Box 477200  
Tulsa, OK 74147

918.828.5000

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR OKLAHOMA'S RACE TO THE TOP APPLICATION

**Administrative Offices**  
6111 E. Skelly Dr.  
Tulsa, OK 74135

**Broken Arrow Campus**  
4600 S. Olive Ave.  
Broken Arrow, OK 74011

**Memorial Complex**  
*Career Services Center*  
3420 S. Memorial Dr.  
Tulsa, OK 74145

*Health Sciences Center*  
3350 S. Memorial Dr.  
Tulsa, OK 74145

*Lemley Campus*  
3420 S. Memorial Dr.  
Tulsa, OK 74145

*Training Center*  
3638 S. Memorial Dr.  
Tulsa, OK 74145

**Peoria Campus**  
3850 N. Peoria Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74106

**Riverside Campus**  
801 E. 91 St.  
Tulsa, OK 74132

**Sand Springs Campus**  
500 N. Adams Rd.  
Sand Springs, OK 74063

Oklahoma has a component that sets this state apart in its application for Race To The Top funds: The finest system of Career and Technical Education (CTE) in the nation.

No state has the ability to support high-tech training for students and teachers like Oklahoma. The opportunity to link teacher effectiveness and student progress, along with measurable data, will be maximized through the network of local tax-supported Career Tech districts.

Oklahoma's Career Technical Education system is a separately funded and operated educational division with 29 districts throughout the state. Not a part of higher education or common education, the OCTE serves as a ready partner to sending school districts in the Career Tech districts.

The Career Techs' partner k-12 sending schools are supported with Career Advisement in middle schools and a myriad of career training opportunities provided free of charge to high school juniors and seniors in public, private and home schools.

All CTE districts emphasize training for students and teachers in STEMS..science, technology, engineering and math. Over 900 students across the state are currently enrolled in Oklahoma's Career Tech Pre-engineering programs, grades 9-12.

The Career Techs throughout the state offer the finest quality of technical training for teaching professionals at all levels, pre-k-12, community college and even to those enrolled in collegiate teacher preparation programs.

Additionally, the OCTE system is the state's largest trainer of business and industry's new, expanding and incumbent workforce. Dropout recovery training includes underemployed as well as unemployed through OCTE.

There is nothing to compare with Oklahoma's level of coordination and cooperation between our three educational systems: Pre k-12, Higher Education and Career Technical Education. Race To The Top funds will further develop the already exceptional advances being made in this state to eliminate redundancy, maximize dollars, advance teacher preparedness and classroom effectiveness.

Assisted with Race To The Top funds, Oklahoma will set the pace for the rest of the nation.

Sincerely,

Kara Gae Neal, Ed. D.  
Superintendent and CEO



January 14, 2010

**Business Support Statement**

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, **Hillcrest Healthcare System** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Earl Denning".

Earl Denning  
President and CEO  
Hillcrest Healthcare System  
OK Division, Ardent Health Services





Public Service Company  
of Oklahoma  
212 East Sixth Street  
Tulsa, OK 74119  
PSOoklahoma.com

Stuart Solomon  
President & COO

918-599-2555  
Fax 918-599-3322

January 14, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Public Service Company of Oklahoma fully supports the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education in our state through the Race to the Top initiative. We recognize that effective public schools are essential for building strong business communities, and in this current economic climate, the need for strong public schools has never been greater.

Therefore, we strongly endorse the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster reform and innovation in education.

Oklahoma's Race to the Top effort can truly transform our schools and our communities, giving every child in our state the best education possible. It will dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates, and in so doing, improve our state's future economy and quality of life.

We are excited about the opportunities that the Race to the Top initiative provides for our children and our future.

Sincerely,

Stuart Solomon  
President and Chief Operating Officer





# The University of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
TULSA

## Business Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong business communities, OU-Tulsa endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. With the economic situation that has unfolded over the past eighteen months, we believe that the need for strong public schools has never been greater. Therefore, we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1-14-10

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Date

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OU-Tulsa

---

Dr. Gerard Clancy, President OU-Tulsa



# NAACP Tulsa Branch



National Association For The Advancement Of Colored People • P.O. Box 6246, Tulsa, OK 74148 • (918) 592-7989

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, The Tulsa Branch NAACP 6143 endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the Race to the Top Initiative.

Race to the Top is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key area:

Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college  
and

The workplace and to compete in the global economy;

Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform Teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;

Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and Principals, especially where they are needed and most; and

Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

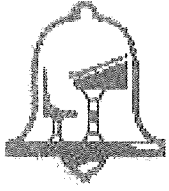
Oklahoma's Race to the Top is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We will acknowledge that transforming the state's public school will require the time, energy and commitment of all the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 14, 2010

Tulsa Branch NAACP 6143

Pleas A. Thompson, President



# Midwest City-Del City Public Schools Foundation

*Inspiring Excellence in Education*

## Board of Trustees

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*President*

Sherri Miller

*Vice President*

Carolyn Specht

*Secretary*

James Finch

*Treasurer*

January 14, 2010

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Matt Blue

John Croak

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Terry Henson

Dessa Inman

Todd Isaac

Jimmy Jordan

Tracy Krebs

Hank Martin

Amy Mikeman

Tracy Treps

Scott Warfel

Cindy Welch

Becky White

Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation

State Capitol Building

2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122

Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Ms. White,

The Midwest City-Del City Public Schools Foundation is please to support our state's submission for the Race to the Top initiative.

Our state recognizes that public education is critical to the quality of life and the economic health of our state and its many communities. We see the Race to the Top as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools.

Oklahoma has a strong network of organizations and people working to support and improve public education. The Mid-Del Public Schools Foundation is one of many committed to this work, and strongly supports the state's efforts to establish high standards, provide school and teacher support for reaching them, and transform low performing schools into the educational institutions that our children deserve.

Sincerely,

Sundra Flansburg  
Executive Director

*Ex Officio*

Bill Scoggan

*Superintendent*

Rick Bachman

*Director of*

*Secondary*

*Instruction*

Jamie McCoy

*Faculty*

*Representative*

Jimmie Nolen

*Board of Education*

Sundra Flansburg  
*Executive Director*

[sflansburg@middleschoolfoundation.org](mailto:sflansburg@middleschoolfoundation.org)

P.O. Box 10630, Midwest City, OK 73140  
[www.middleschoolfoundation.org](http://www.middleschoolfoundation.org)

7217 S.E. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Midwest City, OK 73110  
Tel 405.737.4461 ext. 245



## Stakeholder Support Statement

For many years, the Southern Oklahoma Memorial Foundation has supported public schools with financial and volunteer staff assistance because we believe that effective public schools are essential for building strong communities. We are pleased to see the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the U.S. Department of Education's *Race to the Top* initiative.

The key points of the *Race to the Top* initiative are consistent with types of programs we have previously supported:

- Standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace;
- Data systems that measure student growth and success, enabling teachers and principals to improve instruction;
- Programs to recruit, develop, reward, and retain effective teachers and principals, and
- Efforts to turn around our lowest-achieving schools.

I am convinced that Oklahoma's effort to engage in the *Race to the Top* initiative is not just for the pursuit of funding. It is about continuing to transform our schools to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans have faced and worked collaboratively to overcome many daunting challenges in our past. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders, and we are up for the challenge.

Southern Oklahoma Memorial Foundation, Inc.

January 12, 2010

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Larry A. Pulliam'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Larry A. Pulliam, President



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION, INC.

(580) 223-7765 / FAX (580) 223-7825

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Ardmore Chamber of Commerce endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Dated the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2010.

Cornerstone Education Initiative  
Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Inc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Kate Wilson".

Mary Kate Wilson, Chairman  
Cornerstone Steering Committee

# Oklahoma State Senate



## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **Oklahoma State Senator Johnnie Crutchfield** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Johnnie C. Crutchfield".

Oklahoma State Senator Johnnie C. Crutchfield

January 12, 2010



**FIRST NATIONAL BANK  
AND TRUST COMPANY OF ARDMORE**

Ardmore • Lone Grove • Marietta • Ringling • Airpark • Sulphur • Velma

January 12, 2010

**Stakeholder Support Statement**

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, First National Bank & Trust Company of Ardmore endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1/12/10  
Date

First National Bank & Trust of Ardmore  
Name of Organization

Curtis Dawson  
Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



STEPHEN M. PRESCOTT, M.D.  
President

OKLAHOMA MEDICAL  
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

825 Northeast 13th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104  
405-271-7210  
OMRF.org

January 14, 2010

Kathy Taylor  
Governor's Chief of Education, Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Room 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Kathy,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write in unqualified support for you and your team's work in putting together this coherent, well integrated, and critically important program to revitalize Oklahoma's public education system. We at OMRF understand very well the need for innovation and outreach to Oklahoma's students and teachers. Indeed our own educational programs function along many of the same lines you describe and contribute in a small way to raising the level of scientific understanding and involvement among Oklahoma's citizens. In fact, three of our approximately sixty faculty members were the very products of our Fleming Scholar program in their formative years, and I am proud to say that they are among our most successful, innovative, and productive scientists.

The Race to the Top program you've developed is a comprehensive state-wide educational plan which goes far beyond the marquee topics of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering and improves educational effectiveness at many levels. The result will surely be a steady improvement in the standards of achievement, as measured both by traditional parameters as well as by the innovative assessment criteria you've created.

The effects of this transforming approach will be felt in Oklahoma for many years to come as the current students become leaders and teachers and carry these initiatives forward. We at OMRF are firmly committed to improving the educational standard in Oklahoma and we support your efforts to bring these proposals into reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen M. Prescott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen M. Prescott, MD  
President





**Clinical Immunology Program**  
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation  
825 NE 13<sup>th</sup> Street, MS#53  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104  
Phone: 405 271-4987  
Fax: 405 271-7063  
[www.omrf.org](http://www.omrf.org)

January 14, 2010

To: Kathy Taylor  
Governor's Chief of Education, Strategy & Innovation  
State Capitol Building, 2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

From: Joel Guthridge, Ph.D.  
Associate Research Member, Clinical Immunology Program  
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation

Kathy,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Oklahoma's Race to the Top application.

Improving Oklahoma's education through the transformations outlined in the application in the four key areas: 1.) improving standards and assessments, 2.) building the infrastructure to measure student growth and success, 3.) recruiting, retaining and rewarding effective teachers and leaders and 4.) identifying and turning around the lowest achieving schools are critical steps that must be taken to ensure students in Oklahoma get the best education possible.

As a member of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) steering committee for this application, I would also like to reemphasize my support for the integration of STEM focused initiatives into the transformation efforts. Improving Oklahoma's STEM educational opportunities will ensure that Oklahoma students will be leaders in tomorrow's technology driven world. As a parent, mentor, educator and professional in the biomedical/biotechnology industry, I have seen firsthand the excitement and desire to learn that Oklahoma students possess. I have also seen how these students excel when given the right encouragement, mentorship and exposure to what is possible.

We have to be able to do more! The funds that are sought to carry out the proposed transformations in Oklahoma's Race to the Top application would enable Oklahoman's to do more.

In short, you have my fullest support for this application! I look forward to continuing to work with you to transform Oklahoma's educational opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joel Guthridge".

Joel Guthridge



January 14, 2010

To Whom It May Concern

Our organization understands that strong communities are built on a foundation of strong public schools. It is with unreserved support that the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance endorses the efforts of the *Oklahoma Race to the Top Team* to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

The Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance sees this as a transformational opportunity and one that will have a dramatic impact on our state's future workforce. That will, in turn, result in a more progressive industry sector. We're proud that Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing a share of grant funds. It is about improving achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools, helping shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy, and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely

Roy V. Peters, Jr., Ed.D.  
President



Tulsa Community College

January 14, 2010

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Tulsa Community College Academic Affairs endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna G. Wood".

Donna Wood, Ed.D.  
Associate Vice President  
Academic Affairs

# SOUTHEAST WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

JANUARY 13, 2010

## CHOCTAW

Patty Mink  
Pauline Moffatt  
Steve Rouse  
William Smith

## HASKELL

M.H. "Duke" Dunn  
Roxanne Honeycutt

## LATIMER

Stephen Bryan, Chair  
Chris Hale  
Steve Fields  
Sue Mings  
John Noah

## LEFLORE

Gail Gilpin  
Bobbie Hull  
Jeff Shockley  
Barbara Tyson  
Brandon Webb  
Jodie White

## MCCURTAIN

Cody Cox  
Chyrel Fortner  
Wanda Graham  
Terry Martin  
William McDonald

## PITTSBURG

Galen Ciunn  
Mike Green  
Chris Kennedy  
Greg McNeil  
Roberta Taylor  
Mike Ward  
Mike Williams

## PUSHMATAHA

Annette Cusher  
Justin Jackson  
Dewitt King

## AT LARGE

Roy G. Gordon

## STAFF

Karen Davidson  
WIB Director

Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Ms. White:

On behalf of the Southeast Workforce Investment Board, we offer our support with your endeavors for the Race to the Top Project, funded by the Secretary of Education, to develop the next generation of assessments for the Department of Education. We look forward to providing input and support on how best to develop assessments, and use the many promising practices being employed across the nation.

As you know, the Workforce Investment Boards in Oklahoma are successfully using the WorkKeys and KeyTrain Assessments. In November of 2009, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce recognized Southeast Oklahoma's thirteen county area as the leader in the State as Oklahoma's Premier Work-Ready Region. In order to obtain the certification, the region had to meet qualifications of 3 percent of the existing workforce career-ready certified; 25 per cent of the available workforce career-ready certified; and, 82 percent high school graduation rate for high school seniors. The Southeast Workforce Investment Board used existing Adult Education Programs to prepare clients to take the WorkKeys assessment. Currently the Southeast Workforce Investment Board is working with Public School Systems to implement WorkKeys and Career Readiness Certificates.

We pledge to work with our education partners to develop, implement, and assess the processes for the highest level of standards to prepare Oklahoma Youth to succeed in today's global economy.

Respectfully,



Karen Davidson

Southeast Workforce Investment Board, Director



January 14, 2010

The Honorable Arne Duncan  
United States Secretary of Education  
US Dept. of Education  
Washington D.C.

Dear Secretary Duncan:

As Oklahoma's largest organization representing registered nurses the Oklahoma Nurses Association (ONA) has strong interest in the educational system of the state. ONA has worked closely with our state's health care workforce center on the issue relating to the nursing shortage. Many of our members are college or university nurse educators, school or public health nurses involved in the education system or nurse administrators charged with recruiting nurses in an ever more competitive workforce. Recognizing that strong public education system is essential for building strong, healthy and economically viable communities, the ONA endorses efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

ONA is excited to support Oklahoma's Race to the Top application. ONA has a stake in each of the key areas of the application:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy. Nurses will need to be trained increasingly in health information technology as well as health care practice. Nursing students need to arrive at college ready to achieve at the highest levels;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction. Nursing schools need to know what types of academic preparation best prepare students for success in the profession;
- Turning around our lowest achieving schools and recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most will provide a path for many new students to consider the nursing profession where poor science and math preparation has created obstacles previously.

We at ONA are excited to see an application that has been so inclusive of the concerns of Oklahoma's leading employers and professions. The application's focus on improving academic preparation for all students, especially in science, technology and mathematics, is encouraging to the nursing profession.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life. We know that the reforms brought about by Race to the Top will pay off in a new generation of dedicated health care professionals; as well as other vital workforce needs. Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we at ONA want to do our share.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane Nelson, CAE  
Executive Director





**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Sequoyah Memorial Office Building  
2400 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
P.O. Box 25352  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0352  
(405) 521-3646 • www.okdhs.org



January 12, 2010

**Stakeholder Support Statement**

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma Department of Human Services endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Date 1/13/2010

Oklahoma Department of Human Services

Name of Organization

*David H. Hendrick, Director*

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



BARTLESVILLE CAMPUS  
401 S. DEWEY  
BARTLESVILLE, OK 74003  
918.338.8000

January 13, 2010

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**Stakeholder Support Statement**

Recognizing the scope of influence that the Bartlesville Public Schools have upon the future development of the City of Bartlesville and the state of Oklahoma, Rogers State University - Bartlesville, strongly endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

We believe that Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* grant project will provide the resources and accountability to enhance an environment of excellence in the Bartlesville schools; reflected in higher standards of achievement and assessment, an increased quality of professional development of teachers and administrators, and also improve the quality of education for each student in the Bartlesville community.

We acknowledge that the proposed task will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and Rogers State University – Bartlesville is proud to participate as a supporter of Bartlesville Public Schools in the Oklahoma Race to the Top.

Sincerely,

Bill R. Beierschmitt  
Provost and Chief Operating Officer



## Oklahoma Race to the Top

### Stakeholder Support Statement

OKLAHOMA TOURISM &  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

120 NORTH ROBINSON  
SUITE 600  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK  
73102

P.O. BOX 52002  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK  
73152

405-230-8300

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Hardy Watkins, Executive Director

1-13-10

Date







OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
The Chickasaw Nation  
Post Office Box 1548 • Ada, Oklahoma 74821  
(580) 436-2603 • Fax (580) 436-4287  
<http://www.chickasaw.net/~cnation>

BILL ANOATUBBY  
GOVERNOR

January 15, 2010

Governor Brad Henry  
2300 North Lincoln Boulevard, Room 212  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Henry,

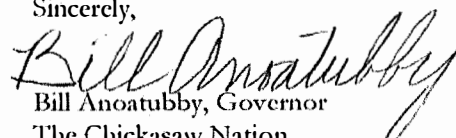
Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Chickasaw Nation is pleased to support and proudly endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

We, Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,  
  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

January 15, 2010

**Business Support Statement**

C. Bruce Lawrence, FACHE  
President and CEO

INTEGRIS Health is a firm believer in improving education in Oklahoma. Our business success depends on the quality of our workforce and we continuously invest in improving the training and preparation our children receive. We are steadfast in our support of charter schools and other innovative approaches to improving education.

We not only show our support with financial support and assistance but we roll up our sleeves and get involved. INTEGRIS is proud to be the founder and leading supporter of the Stanly Hupfeld Academy at Western Village. This school has been recognized as one of the leading charter schools in the nation. We provide leadership, volunteers/mentors, financial support and most importantly a vision for providing high expectations for the students and teachers.

While we are pleased with our success, we know that our community, state and nation must do better. Therefore we are excited by the opportunity to pledge support to the State of Oklahoma's application to the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform. We hope this application will help our state move forward on:

- A state wide student records system
- A comprehensive pay-for-performance plan for our educators
- Improved charter school legislation so more districts can take advantage of innovations created by charter schools
- Improved flexibility for urban districts that face unique challenges.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and increase graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 15, 2010

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Date

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INTEGRIS Health

---

Name of Organization



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Signature of President and CEO



CHEROKEE NATION  
**CHEROKEE NATION®**

OHGJ  
Chad "Comtassel" Smith  
Principal Chief

JLO@ JCh@  
Joe Grayson, Jr.  
Deputy Principal Chief

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Cherokee Nation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 13, 2010

Date

Cherokee Nation

Name of Organization

  
Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



## OKLAHOMA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

January 15, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

It's no secret that the success of any state or nation can be traced back to how well educated and highly trained its citizens are. Whether early childhood education or post-secondary education, Oklahoma's public and private leaders understand just how critical education is to the future prosperity of our state. Academic preparation for our young people, especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, is indispensable if we as a state and nation are to successfully compete in this increasingly global society.

Oklahoma has a rich legacy in aviation and aerospace, one of the three pillars of our state's economy. The aviation and aerospace industry is responsible for nearly 150,000 jobs across the Sooner State, with a \$5 billion payroll and a \$12.5 billion economic output—10 percent of the state's total! The average salary of an employee in our aerospace industry is \$55,000; the salary of an average Oklahoman is \$30,000. These are good jobs, the kind that we must keep and increase to lift our state up. The largest military and commercial aircraft repair facilities in the world, Tinker Air Force Base and Tulsa's American Airlines Maintenance and Engineering Base, are located in Oklahoma. These facilities comprise the foundation that makes Oklahoma one of the seven centers in the world for the maintenance, repair and overhaul of aircraft.

A well-educated and competent workforce is the lifeblood of our aviation and aerospace industry. Indeed, this is the main reason we have the industry that we do. Consequently, a public education system that is responsive to the needs of the industry is critical to its viability and growth. This is why I unequivocally endorse our state's effort to obtain a "Race to the Top" grant. Receipt of such a grant would certainly enhance our efforts as a state to transform and revitalize our public education system. We can either educate the child or take care of the adult. Oklahoma has chosen to educate the child so that the child, upon becoming an adult, can take care of himself or herself. This will undoubtedly help us with the most important service that we can provide our citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration for this very worthy initiative.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victor N. Bird".

Victor N. Bird  
Director  
Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission



### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Oklahoma Congress of Parents and Teachers (Oklahoma PTA) endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 15, 2010

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Date

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Oklahoma Congress of Parents and Teachers (Oklahoma PTA)

---

Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila Jones".

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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

Oklahoma PTA      2801 N. Lincoln Blvd, Ste 214      Oklahoma City, OK 73105      (405-681-0750)

# EARL SEARS

State Representative  
House District 11



State Capitol Room 300C  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
phone: 405-557-7358  
toll free: 800-522-8502  
fax: 405-962-7686  
email: [earl.sears@okhouse.gov](mailto:earl.sears@okhouse.gov)

## Committees:

*Vice Chair*, Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Education  
Administrative Rules and  
Agency Oversight Committee  
Wild Life Committee  
Common Education Committee

## House of Representatives

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1721 Cherokee Place  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003  
918-336-4855

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, State Representative Earl Sears endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- \* Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 11, 2010

Date

Oklahoma House of Representatives, District 11

Name of Organization

Earl Sears State Representative District 11

**Stakeholder Support Statement**

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, The Bartlesville Regional Chamber of Commerce endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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January 15, 2010  
Date

Bartlesville Regional Chamber of Commerce

Name of Organization

*Shane Frye*

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



*Davis Public School Foundation, Inc.*  
*P.O. Box 333*  
*Davis, Oklahoma 73030*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Edd R. McNeil  
Randy Moore  
Casey Killblane  
Karen Kapella

Don Brittin  
Barbara Pirkle  
Pam Henley

January 15, 2010

The Race to the Top  
ATTN: Dr. Karen A. Rose, Director  
Local Education Foundation Outreach  
Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence

The Davis Public School Foundation recognizes that strong public schools are necessary for building strong communities. We support the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to improve public education through the U. S. Department of Education's Race to the Top initiative designed to nurture education innovation and reform, which should lead to real gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and administrators about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and administrators, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's Race to the Top Team is concerned about much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It recognizes the need to transform our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best possible education. We view this as an opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of their lives and our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working together to meet great challenges. We acknowledge that transforming Oklahoma's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of our citizens. We welcome the challenge.

Yours truly,

Edd R. McNeil, President



# Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

P.O. Box 1210 • Durant, OK 74702-1210 • (580) 924-8280

**Gregory E. Pyle**  
Chief

**Gary Batton**  
Assistant Chief

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1/15/2010

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Date

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Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

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Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gregory E. Pyle", is written over a horizontal line.

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

**WALTERS PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

**418 S. Broadway  
Walters, Oklahoma 73572**

January 14, 2010

Ms. Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Ms. White:

Our opportunity to endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* to help public education in our state is gratifying to the Walters Public Educational Foundation of Walters, Oklahoma. We know that education is essential to building strong communities like ours and the entire state.

The four areas of reform and innovation involved with the grant competition through the U.S. Department of Education should lead to tremendous change for the public schools. It should :

- Prepare students to succeed in college, the workplace, and the global economy.
- Measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction.
- Recruit, develop, reward, and retain effective teachers and principals.
- Turn around lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about making Oklahoma's schools the best that they can be—about helping all of the students in the state achieve at all levels. We think that Oklahoma schools can dramatically improve and the quality of life for each of them can be better.

This will not be an easy task, but we think that with the efforts of the many involved in the public schools in the state, it can be done. There are thousands upon thousands who want to see this program undertaken.

Sincerely,



Janell Philpott, President  
Walters Public Educational Foundation

S.T.E.P.  
Student, Teachers, Education and Parents  
Kiefer Public Schools  
Kiefer, OK 74041

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **STEP (Students, Teachers, Education, and Parents)** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- \* Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- \* Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
  - Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

11/7/2010

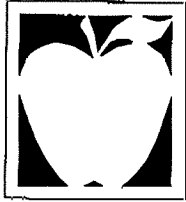
Date

S.T.E.P.

Name of Organization

Julie Mathis

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



# Putnam City Public Schools Foundation

5401 N.W. 40th • Oklahoma City, OK 73122 • (405) 495-5200 • Fax (405) 491-7525

January 14, 2010

### BOARD MEMBERS

Priscilla Cude  
First Bethany Bank

Sherry Fair  
City Arts Center

Celine Ferguson  
Coppermark Bank

Richard Hinkle  
C.H. Guernsey

David Holt  
Office of the  
Mayor of Oklahoma City

Jeff Kysar  
Devon Energy

John Limber  
Swiss Cleaners

Mark McCoy  
Bank of Oklahoma

Wes Milbourn  
KFOR/KAUT-TV

Kelli Neuenschwander  
Patron

Todd Pauley  
Sagac Public Affairs

Trisha Sims  
Patron

Lisa Taylor  
Patron

Ken Whittington  
Granite Re, Inc.

### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Paul Hurst  
Superintendent,  
Putnam City Schools

Steve Lindley  
Communications Director,  
Putnam City Schools

Gail LoPresto  
President,  
Putnam City  
School Board

Caroline Gist, CFRE  
Executive Director

Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Re: Race to the Top Initiative

Dear Ms. White,

On behalf of the Putnam City Public Schools Foundation, we wish to endorse the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* Team to revitalize public education through the Race to the Top initiative. Formed in 1987, our Foundation recognizes that strong public schools build stronger communities.

It is evident that the Race to the Top innovative grant competition will help foster education reform and will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement. The four key areas of 1)adopting standards and assessments to prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace; 2)building data systems that measure student growth and success as well as informing teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction; 3)recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, and 4)turning around our lowest-achieving schools are of utmost importance in achieving that transformation.

Of course, it is always the goal of Putnam City Public Schools Foundation to provide opportunities to enrich and enhance education in the Putnam City district. The Race to the Top initiative will, in all likelihood, dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools. That, in turn, will help shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Lisa Taylor  
Putnam City Public Schools Foundation  
Board Chairman

Caroline Gist, CFRE  
Putnam City Public Schools Foundation  
Executive Director

*An Educated Investment.*



**ORGANIZATION OF  
RURAL OKLAHOMA SCHOOLS**

**PERRY WILLIS**  
*Executive Director*

*Representing over 400 schools*

311 West Davis Creek Road, Suite B  
Caney, Oklahoma 74533

(580) 889-7172  
Fax (580) 889-7484

### **Stakeholder Support Statement**

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, The Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- \* Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
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Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

January 12, 2010

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Date

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The Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools

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Name of Organization

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Perry Willis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Signature of Executive Director

Mayor Landrith  
Councilman Adams  
Councilwoman Moon  
Councilman Green  
Councilman Bryan  
Councilwoman Hagan  
Councilwoman Callahan

Mike Rutledge  
City Manager

# City of Mustang

Council-Manager Form of Government

376-4521

1501 N. Mustang Road,

Mustang, Oklahoma 73064

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the City of Mustang endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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Date

January 11, 2010

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City of Mustang



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City Manager

*A City with a Vision*





## MUSTANG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Website: [www.mustangchamber.com](http://www.mustangchamber.com)

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Mustang Chamber of Commerce endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Becky Julian  
Executive Director  
Mustang Chamber Of Commerce

# MUSTANG PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, MUSTANG PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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1/11/2010

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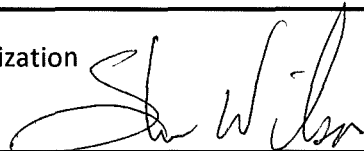
Date

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MUSTANG PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION

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Name of Organization



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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



## MERIDIAN TECHNOLOGY CENTER

1312 South Sangre Road Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074-1899 Tel: 405 377-3333 Fax: 405 377-9604

January 12, 2010

Ms. Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 North Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Ms. White:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Meridian Technology Center endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

Douglas R. Major  
Superintendent/CEO

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**Farmers and  
Merchants  
Bank****MAYSVILLE, OKLAHOMA**

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Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Farmers & Merchants Bank endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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January 7, 2010

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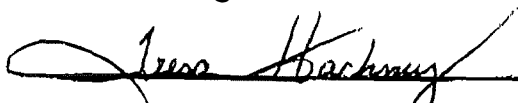
Date

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Farmers & Merchants Bank, Maysville, OK

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Name of Organization



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Tresa Hackney, President & CEO

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

*Town of Maysville*

(405) 867-5850  
Post Office Box 536  
Maysville, Oklahoma 73057

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Town of Maysville endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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Date

*11 JAN 2010*

Name of Organization

*Town of Maysville*

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

*David E. [Signature]*  
*Mayor*

# KIEFER FIRE DEPARTMENT

PHONE 918-851-1821

CHAD BLANKENSHIP  
FIRE CHIEF

FAX # 918-321-3080  
P.O. BOX 369  
KIEFER, OK 74041

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **Kiefer Fire Department and Community Outreach Program** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

1.10.10

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Date

Kiefer Fire Department

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Name of Organization

Chad Blankship

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Signature of President, CEO and/or Executive Director



## Kiefer Kid Care Extended Day Programs

Where every child counts  
All Day Three-Year-Olds  
All Day PreKindergarten  
All Day Kindergarten  
Before and After Care Programs

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **Kiefer Kid Care** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. *Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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1-8-10

Date

Kiefer Kid Care

Name of Organization

Hebbie Whitchurch

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director





**Kiefer Oklahoma**  
**Chamber of Commerce**

### Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **The Kiefer Chamber of Commerce** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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1-8-10

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Date

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Kiefer Chamber of Commerce

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Name of Organization

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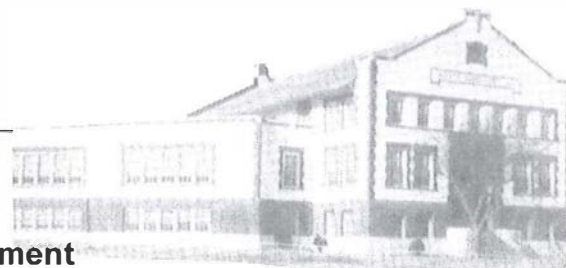
*Randy [Signature]*

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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

# Kiefer Public Schools Foundation, Inc.

P. O. Box 645 / Kiefer, OK 74041



## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **The Kiefer Public School Foundation, Inc.** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

*Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about so much more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates among all students in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Date

1/2/10

Name of Organization

Kiefer Pubic School Foundation

Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director

William Adams

PROVIDING A QUALITY EDUCATION TO EVERY STUDENT

Allen Bowden Schools

Kiefer Public Schools

Liberty Public Schools

Mounds Public Schools

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, **Kiefer Alternative Academy** endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative. *Race to the Top* is the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

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1/11/10  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Alternative Academy  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



January 11, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, the Bixby Educational Endowment Foundation endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* Team to revitalize public education through the Race to the Top initiative.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jayne L. Bowen'.

Jayne L. Bowen  
President





## OKLAHOMA SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

1141 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD • OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73104  
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January 12, 2010

Becky White

Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Ms. White,

We recognize that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities. In that regard the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative, the U.S. Department of Education's innovative and voluntary grant competition designed to foster education innovation and reform that will lead to dramatic gains in student achievement through four key areas:

\* Adopt standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy. **As a nationally ranked two-year public high school, OSSM prepares students for college and career success through its academically advanced curriculum. Of the more than 1,000 OSSM graduates, 100 percent have attended college and 300 are practicing engineers, 78 are medical doctors, 45 have earned doctorates, 25 are attorneys and ten have begun their own business in Oklahoma. Without the support of the Oklahoma State Legislature, OSSM would likely never have been founded.**

\* Build data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction. **OSSM assesses and tracks the progress of each student both academically and through school/community service through its electronic systems. Curriculum is of the highest caliber and is modified if necessary to ensure the success of every student who desires a first-rate high school education in Oklahoma.**

\* Recruit, develop, reward, and retain effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most. **Since its inception, OSSM has attracted and retained instructors with mostly advanced degrees – almost 70 percent have Ph.D.s – and all are highly motivated to make every student successful. Without OSSM, these professors who come from all over the world would likely go to other states to teach and most would be teaching at the college level – not high school.**

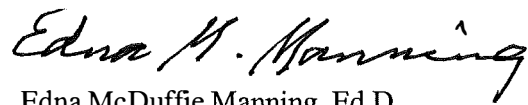
\* Turn around our lowest-achieving schools. **OSSM has had students attend from all 77 Oklahoma counties, some from very small towns – less than 10,000 people – and these students have graduated each with numerous scholarships and awards; many would have had limited opportunities in their home schools. OSSM also holds statewide teacher workshops in science and math during the summer to assist instructors in scholastic preparation with their own students.**

Oklahoma's *Race to the Top* is about more than securing Oklahoma's share of grant funds. It is about transforming our schools and communities to give every child in our state the best education possible. We see this as a transformative opportunity to dramatically improve Oklahoma's student achievement and graduation rates in our public schools that will shape the future of our economy and quality of life.

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Oklahomans are known for working collaboratively to meet daunting challenges. We acknowledge that transforming the state's public schools will require the time, energy and commitment of all of the state's key stakeholders and we are up for the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edna M. Manning". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Edna McDuffie Manning, Ed.D.

President

Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics





Grove Parent Teacher Organization, Inc.  
27500 South 614 Road  
Grove, Oklahoma 74344

January 11, 2010

ATTN: Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capital Building  
2300 Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

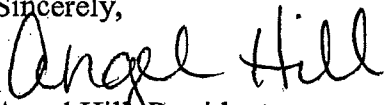
Dear Kathy Taylor:

I am writing to express Grove Parent Teacher Organization's support of Oklahoma's application for the federal Race to the Top funds. We understand that the State seeks a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to dramatically change the way the state runs the educational enterprise in Oklahoma by investing in key supports that 1) refine the state's current rigorous state standards; 2) provide new supports for teachers and principals aimed at improving effectiveness; 3) enhance local data systems and coordinate those systems with state data systems; and 4) dramatically improve the state's persistently lowest-achieving schools.

We agree that Race to the Top represents Oklahoma's best chance to engage in the fundamental reforms that are needed to develop the state's workforce and fuel future innovations—to invest in state and local systems that will accelerate and drive growth in student achievement.

We are committed to supporting the state's efforts in this area. By joining as a group of committed citizens, focused as a team on providing the opportunity for all of our children to reach their potential, we know that Oklahoma can win this race.

Sincerely,



Angel Hill, President  
Grove Parent Teacher Organization, Inc

Grove Public School's Long Range Strategic Planning Committee  
27500 South 614 Road  
Grove, Oklahoma 74344

January 11, 2010

ATTN: Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capital Building  
2300 Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

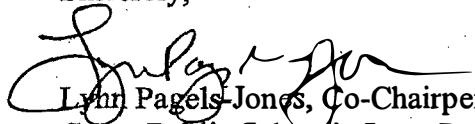
Dear Kathy Taylor:

I am writing to express Grove Long Range Strategic Planning Committee's support of Oklahoma's application for the federal Race to the Top funds. We understand that the State seeks a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to dramatically change the way the state runs the educational enterprise in Oklahoma by investing in key supports that 1) refine the state's current rigorous state standards; 2) provide new supports for teachers and principals aimed at improving effectiveness; 3) enhance local data systems and coordinate those systems with state data systems; and 4) dramatically improve the state's persistently lowest-achieving schools.

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Sincerely,



Lynn Pagels-Jones, Co-Chairperson  
Grove Public School's Long Range Strategic Planning Committee

Grove Educational Foundation For Excellence (GEFFE)  
PO Box 453335  
Grove, Oklahoma 74345-3335

January 11, 2010

ATTN: Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capital Building  
2300 Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105


Dear Kathy Taylor:

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Sincerely,

  
Kristi Wallace, President  
GEFFE

## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Big Five Community Services, Inc. endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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January 13, 2010

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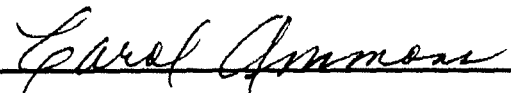
Date

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Big Five Community Services, Inc.

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Name of Organization



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Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



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 P (918) 587-9471 | F (918) 587-0419  
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## Stakeholder Support Statement

Recognizing that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities, Family & Children's Services, Inc. endorses the efforts of the Oklahoma Race to the Top Team to revitalize public education through the *Race to the Top* initiative.

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1/15/2010

Date

Family & Children's Services, Inc.

Name of Organization

*Gail Lapidus, CEO*  
 Signature of President, CEO and/ or Executive Director



JUSTIN JONES  
DIRECTOR



BRAD HENRY  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

January 13, 2010

Ms. Becky White  
Governor's Office of Education Strategy and Innovation  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 122  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

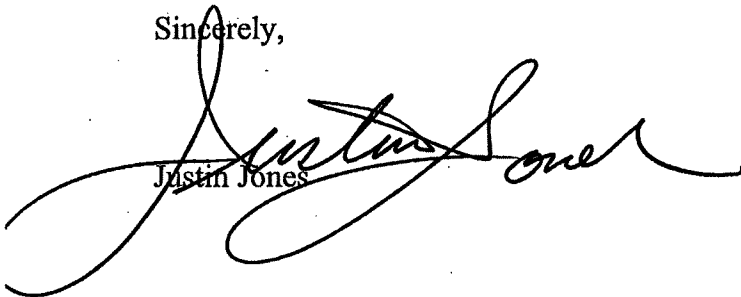
Dear Ms. White:

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections would like to express our support in the State's application for the *Race to the Top* education grant. This important initiative can assist in contributing to the revitalization of public education in Oklahoma.

Those of us in criminal justice observe on a daily basis the results of the social ills within our communities and recognize that strong public schools are essential for building strong communities. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections supports the efforts of the Oklahoma *Race to the Top* Team to revitalize public education through this initiative.

If I can provide additional support in this initiative, please advise.

Sincerely,

  
Justin Jones