

September 15, 2008

Barbara Fardell MDE Office of Educational Technology and Data Coordination

Dear Ms. Fardell:

We would like to express our strong commitment to Mission Possible, a collaborative partnership among the Regional Literacy Training Centers, Math and Science Centers and a number of intermediate school districts throughout Michigan.

As district leaders, we are acutely aware of the economic problems facing our state. We have observed the loss of jobs affecting students and their families in districts we serve and believe that education is the key to reversing the economic decline in Michigan. For this reason, we enthusiastically support the participation of our staff in Mission Possible for acquiring strategies for diagnosing adolescent reading and writing skills and using web based interventions for meeting student needs. Unlike other projects, Mission Possible supports the major tenants of Universal Design for Learning – multiple means of content, product, and process. In addition, the resources are free and easily accessible by educators, students, and parents.

We understand our staff will be compensated for their participation and, when necessary, our district will be reimbursed for substitute costs. As a partner in this work, we will actively recruit teacher participation in both summer and afterschool sessions and will expect administrative participation in evaluation and monitoring of progress toward both long and short term goals. We look forward to participating in this important work and to continuing our efforts beyond the life of the project. In addition, Macomb Intermediate School District is willing to be the fiscal agent for this important project.

Like the collaborators in this project, our school board, teachers and families are very interested in and supportive of this important work. We know that for Michigan to be competitive in the global economy, we must have an educated work force. We believe Mission Possible will help us accomplish this. Therefore, we encourage your financial support of this very important work.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gayle Green Assistant Superintendent for Instruction/Chief Academic Officer