

March 23, 2015 --

Dear City and County Commissioners,

The Lawrence Home Builders Association encourages you to support the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility. The DPTTC will provide much needed training for those seeking a career in the construction industry. As the economy improves, we will continue to seek a skilled workforce to meet the demand for construction jobs.

Renovating this facility will enable the DPTTC to create appropriate classroom space that allows for both traditional instruction and hands-on experience. Currently, there is little training offered in this community for those seeking a career in construction. The DPTTC will offer opportunities for young adults entering the job market as well as for those currently working in the construction field who are striving to increase their skill level through a formal training program.

We are one of the many industry partners who have provided input on the training needs we see. We look forward to the success of the DPTTC and encourage you to support this request.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Flory
Executive Director



P.O. Box 1120
Lawrence, Kansas 66044
P: 785-312-3601

www.bigheartpet.com

March 2, 2015

Re: Funding for Renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center Facility

Dear City and County Commissioners,

Big Heart Pet Brands – Lawrence Factory strongly supports the creation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center. Local manufacturers and the community will benefit from training programs that will develop skilled and qualified individuals interested in pursuing manufacturing as a career. This is especially important as we now celebrate our factory's 37th anniversary with several employees still working that have served this plant all 37 years. Our retirement rate is on the rise and it is critical that we find a talented supply of labor resources that can step in to quickly replace the void as we lose our veteran employees that have acquired so much experience over the years.

I am concerned that there is currently very little workforce skills training provided in the Douglas County / Lawrence area to support manufacturing. As a result, we find that our new employment searches often must expand out to surrounding communities to find candidates with technical skills who are also willing to commute to work at our location. We would like to see a larger source of local technical talent that can support our industry who are also part of the local community.

I encourage you to support the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center by providing funding for the renovations necessary to prepare the facility for this very important mission. If you have questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly,

Sincerely,

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

Luke Livingston
Plant Manager



March 2, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners,

Hallmark Cards Inc. has been a part of the Lawrence community for several decades. We are committed to providing a safe, productive and rewarding environment for our 700+ employees. Many of our employees have been with us for over twenty-five years. As the seniority of our workforce climbs, so does attrition due to employee retirements.

We expect that over the next ten years that Hallmark's workforce needs will shift and we will be in need of skilled workers to fill the gap. We firmly believe that the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center can be a centerpiece to our employee training strategy. Our employee base comes largely from surrounding communities, in part because there have been limited sources for vocational training in Douglas county.

I have personally seen the efforts the Peaslee Technical Training Center staff has been doing and can attest to the potential. We found the Hydraulics Training seminar to be of high quality and look forward to more opportunities to build the capabilities of our workforce here in Lawrence.

I ask that you strongly consider funding the renovation of the Peaslee Technical Training Center. Doing so will keep jobs local and ensure that Douglas County remains a viable locale for manufacturing for years to come.

Sincerely,

Chris Pandino
Manager -- Engineering, Facilities, Maintenance and EHS
Hallmark Cards, Inc.
101 McDonald Drive
Lawrence, Kansas 66044
(785)813-0429



LAWRENCE-DOUGLAS COUNTY

Health Department

March 6, 2015

City Commission
City of Lawrence
City Hall
6 E. 6th St, Lawrence KS 66044

County Commissioners
Douglas County
Douglas County Courthouse
1100 Massachusetts, Lawrence KS 66044

Dear City and County Commissioners,

I am writing in support of funding for the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility. The training facility is needed to ensure workforce skills training is available for under-skilled workers in our community who would benefit greatly from programs offered at the center. A facility that will enable training for well-paying jobs in manufacturing, construction and other skilled-trade careers has long been needed in our community. In fact, developing the capacity to provide such skills training was highlighted as an important strategy for the community in the Douglas County Community Health Plan completed in April 2013 and endorsed by you, the commissioners of the City of Lawrence and Douglas County.

The development of the Peaslee Center is an important economic development initiative that should help retain and expand existing businesses and serve as an important tool to attract new business to our community. Those who are able to take advantage of training at the facility will benefit by attaining new skills, which should help them increase earnings and attain livable wages. Far too many residents in our community struggle to earn enough money to ensure that they can live in adequate housing, purchase healthy food, pay for medical care, and have the resources necessary to live healthy and productive lives.

I appreciate your consideration of support for this important effort.

Sincerely,

Chris Tilden
Director of Community Health

200 Maine, Suite B
Lawrence, KS 66044-1357

OFFICE: 785/843-3060 FAX: 785/843-3161
CLINIC: 785/843-0721 FAX: 785/843-2930



Dear City and County commissioners

Please accept this letter of commitment to endorse the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center. As an industry partner we have been involved with the planning for the Peaslee Center including the design of shops and curriculum. The best way for continued engagement with industry partners is to renovate the facility and begin training activities.

Amarr Entrematic ("Amarr") is major employer in the Lawrence, Kansas area; employing over seven hundred (700) people who help manufacture residential and commercial garage doors. The Lawrence plant is the largest facility in the company which spans seventy-seven (77) locations in North America.

Amarr is fairly inexperienced when it comes to utilizing technical school resources. This is mainly due to the lack of area schools that have dedicated programs for manufacturing trades. Many of the schools that do offer similar programs are outside of the geographic area and are not considered a "reasonable" to commute to Amarr. Amarr is hungry for resources to build a talent pipeline in the Lawrence, Kansas area.

If resources are brought into the area, Amarr is committed to helping build a long-term sustainable program by interviewing and hiring trained adults and graduated trained students; and offering resources to help train students in manufacturing trades.

Amarr is dedicated to the idea of building a sustainable workforce training program that will help Amarr and other local business ensure they are able to continue operations in the Lawrence, Kansas area.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg R. Beck".

Gregory R. Beck
Senior Production Manager
Entrematic
3800 Greenway Cir
Lawrence, KS 66046
(o) 785-312-6271
(c) 785-218-0538
greg.beck@entrematic.com



03/10/2015

Dear City and County Commissioners,

We at Sunlite Science & Technology are excited for the opportunities that the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center Facility will offer for the future of our growing business and individuals within the community. As we continue to grow, our long term plan is to fully utilize the 17,000 square feet of space we have recently purchased with more manufacturing and technically skilled production of control boxes for our UV curing units. The University of Kansas offers us a tremendous pool of scholars with which we can source business men and women from, but we do not have the ability locally to find that same pool of candidates for our skilled technical needs. We believe that the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Facility is an opportunity to develop that skilled labor set that will be needed for us to thrive into the future. We hope to not only have options for new employee, but to be also able to send employees to a facility that can continue the education and keep them on top of new technologies and trends within their discipline.

Thank you for your budgetary support of this facility and the economic development of our community.

Best Regards,

Jeff Chen





Dear City and County Commissioners,

This is a letter in support for funding of the renovation at the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility. The local employers and customers in our industry need educated workers, and these workers are getting harder to find. A training facility such as this one will help Douglas County and Lawrence have the necessary labor force and expertise. A facility such as this one needs to be continually updated and improved in order to keep up with ongoing changes and demands on skilled labor. It would benefit all of our businesses in these industries if we can obtain this budgetary support.

Stanion Wholesale's contractor customers have told us numerous times over the past few years that they are having a very difficult time finding qualified, educated electricians. These electricians are the lifeblood of contracting companies. If the electricians are not trained properly, the work they do will not be sufficient for residential or business needs, and it can be very dangerous. Having unqualified labor will negatively impact the local businesses, and that may lead to out-of-town companies coming into the Lawrence area to do work instead of our area businesses.

Please consider supporting this initiative. A vote for the improvements is a big vote for Lawrence, Douglas County, and its businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John E. Keller".

John E. Keller

Manager, Stanion Wholesale Electric Co.

2958 Four Wheel Drive Lawrence, KS 66047



30 W. Pershing Road
Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64108
816.221.2121
fax : 816.842.2865
kcadc@thinkKC.com
THINKKC.COM

March 10, 2015

Lawrence City and County Commissioners
c/o Marvin Hunt
Executive Director
Dwayne Peaslee Tech Training Center
646 Vermont Street, Suite 200
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear City and County Commissioners:

On behalf of the Kansas City Area Development Council and its affiliate organizations – KC SmartPort, KC Animal Health Corridor and KCnext – we enthusiastically support the efforts for the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center in Lawrence. KCADC believes the city and county commissioners should provide the necessary funds should to move ahead with this important economic development initiative.


As the KC region's economic development organization, KCADC sees these upgrades as an opportunity for Lawrence to gain a competitive edge in its efforts to attract and retain companies. A work-ready workforce, perhaps more than any other factor, will be what distinguishes the regions of the future. The Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center offers Lawrence the opportunity to address the issue of preparing a workforce that is ready to the need to current employers in the community and those yet to come.

Specifically, the KC Animal Health Corridor (KCAHC) Board of Advisors has identified Workforce Development as their top strategic priority. Under the guidance and leadership of industry executives, one component of the KCAHC's workforce strategy is the deployment of a certification program for production employees.

The Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center was identified by the KCAHC's Workforce Subcommittee as a key educational partner in the implementation and deployment of this certification program. Corridor companies have declared that the skills obtained through this certification are essential to obtain employment.

KCADC and its affiliate organizations recommend funding for the necessary renovations to create a training facility that can meet industry needs. Having a trained workforce is essential to grow the economy of the region and the area workforce will benefit from receiving the necessary training and credentials that industry requires for employment.

Sincerely,


Robert J. Marcusse
President and CEO





March 10, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners,

I am writing this letter to encourage you to spend funds to renovate the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training facility. I believe the Peaslee Center to be an important initiative for the community. The center will help provide the region with a skilled workforce in the areas of manufacturing, construction, and other skilled trades. It is reasonable to assume the areas' workforce members will benefit by attaining new skills, which will help them increase earnings and attain livable wages. This initiative should help with the retention and expansion of participating industries.

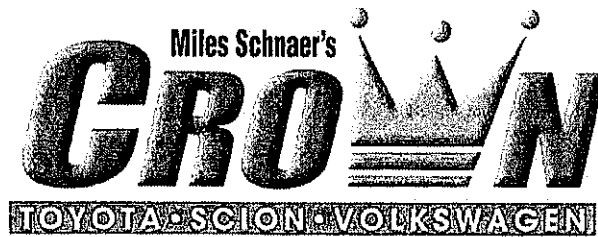
The Lawrence community has been considering the creation of a training facility for more than 10 years and it is time for the City Commission and the County Commission time to support local business and industry's training needs. Lawrence is lagging behind many nearby counties including Shawnee, Wyandotte, Johnson, Franklin, Leavenworth, Lyon, and others in workforce training and I believe we owe it to provide expertise for the creation of customized training within many industries.

In closing will you please providing funds for the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility because it will benefit the community by attracting business and industry to the area, which will increase commerce, in general.

Sincerely,

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

Matthew E. Brungardt, Ed.D.



February 27, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners,

As a business owner in Lawrence for the past 20 years, and an automotive dealer for almost 40 years I have needed and been able to attract technicians to work in our service departments. As the technology of the vehicles changes and gets tougher to work on them, the pool of technicians gets tougher to attract. We have a chance here in Lawrence to give people the opportunity to learn a skill that could help us as dealers with employees once that part of the Peaslee Center is opened. However, first it needs to be open and the renovation for the first part of the center needs to be done.

I ask that you please support this initiative for the future of the Lawrence and Douglas County People.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miles E. Schnaer".

Miles E. Schnaer
Owner-President



March 10, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners:

I am contacting you to encourage budgetary support for the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Facility. Development of this facility and the programming within will begin to address the need to develop a county-wide vocational and technical training center. Existing businesses have conveyed concerns regarding the lack of technical skills and workforce development in Lawrence and Douglas County for over a decade. Skillful leadership, on behalf of business and industry, has brought together educational partners at an unprecedented level. With your support we can realize the goals set in the Lawrence and Douglas County comprehensive plan and positively impact our community.

In 2004 the Policy Research Institute at the University of Kansas conducted a technical training needs assessment of the Lawrence community. Close to 200 local firms who were likely to hire technical employees participated in the study. These employers indicated the need for technical training in the Lawrence and Douglas County area. One-third of employers indicated that the gap between business needs and employee skills harmed their profitability and prevented them from expanding. The report concluded that a lack of a technical training center and reliable sources of information were limiting the opportunities for Lawrence and Douglas County economically and individually.

At the time, the report cautioned that it was unlikely that post-secondary technical training institutions in other counties would bring programs to Douglas County. That landscape has changed. With the advent of SB 155, which provides tuition assistance, transportation reimbursement and certification incentives for secondary students and adult students without a diploma, post-secondary institutions are compelled to bring programming to the Lawrence area. It is a unique opportunity to have not one, but three, post-secondary institutions looking to expand their technical training options in the shadow of a nationally recognized research university. While today's planned programming may not reflect a synergy between all four institutions, continued academic research will need technical support, and in years to come the Dwayne Peaslee Center, in collaboration with the Bioscience & Technology Business Center, will be a powerful economic driver.

This collaboration will not only help our economy, but will also help individual citizens. Unfortunately, median household income is lower on average in Douglas County than across the state of Kansas, with some areas of the county where the people living in poverty is higher than 20%. The 2013 Douglas County Community Health Plan cited strong community concern related poverty and local access to education and skills training as they set a goal to increase the percentage of adults who have an industry-recognized credential by 5%. Without a place to prepare and earn these credentials it will be a challenge to meet this goal. The Dwayne Peaslee Center will provide education and training to prepare people for good-paying jobs so they can support their families and increase the health of Lawrence and Douglas County.

The Dwayne Peaslee Center is an important part of economic and community health of Lawrence and Douglas County. I hope you will provide support for this unique facility allowing many community members the opportunities to grow.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kelly
Lawrence Public Schools
Director of Career and Technical Education



February 20, 2015

Dear Lawrence and Douglas County Commissioners:

I write to encourage your full support of the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility. This important initiative is key to providing much-needed workforce skills training for manufacturing, construction and other skilled-trade careers in Lawrence and Douglas County. The Peaslee training facility fills a community need identified a decade ago.

In addition to supporting the retention and expansion of existing business and industry, the Peaslee Center will be an economic driver, attracting new business and industry to the area. Its training programs will assist members of the local workforce in attaining new skills and higher wages. As you know, Douglas County has lagged behind nearby counties, such as Shawnee, Wyandotte, Johnson, Franklin, Leavenworth and Lyon, in the area of workforce training.

Lawrence Public Schools have partnered with the Peaslee Center in planning this facility as part of a technical training campus at 29th and Haskell Avenue that will include USD 497's Lawrence College and Career Center. As partners, we have worked closely with The Chamber, Lawrence-Douglas County Economic Development Corporation, Peaslee Center executive director Marvin Hunt, our university, technical school and community college partners and local business and industry representatives to design facilities, curriculum and programming for this campus. While high school students earn tuition-free college credit at the district's College and Career Center, adult trainees will work to attain industry-recognized certification at the adjacent Peaslee Center.

This vision to create an inter-generational career and technical education and training campus will benefit the economic vitality of the Lawrence and Douglas County community. The Lawrence College and Career Center, opening in the fall, will assist our high school students in graduating prepared for success in college, careers and life. The Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center will support local workforce training needs and attract new business and industry to the area.

Please contact me if you require further information about my support for the Peaslee Center.

Sincerely,

Rick Doll
Superintendent of Schools



Lawrence City Commission
Douglas County Commission
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear City and County Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the initiative to fund the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility in Lawrence, KS. This renovation is absolutely critical to the success of the facility and program.

Lawrence has been without a technical training center and this has made the pool of applicants for our available opportunities very shallow. It is our intention to both screen and select graduates of these programs to fill vacancies in our organization. The Peaslee Center will provide the expert training to the people that we need.

I thank you in advance for your support of local business and our training needs.

Many Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Green'.

Robert Green

President

First Management, Inc

First Construction, LLC



UNITED ASSOCIATION

of Journeymen and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of
the United States and Canada

Founded 1889

Letters should
be confined to
one subject

UA Local Union:

Subject:

PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS LOCAL UNION #441

1330 EAST FIRST STREET NORTH, SUITE 115

WICHITA, KANSAS 67214-4000

PHONE (316) 265-4291

FAX (316) 265-5731

William P. Hite
General President

Mark McManus
General Secretary-Treasurer

Michael A. Pleasant
Assistant General President

March 2, 2015

Re: Letter of support for the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center.

Dear City and County Commissioners,

Our Local Union was founded over 100 years ago. Our main mission is the "Good & Welfare" of our members. We have a total statewide membership of 1500 men and women. We have 200 members working in the Lawrence/ Douglass County area. Our members have worked on multiple projects all over the City and County. Our local has provided local contractors with the professional, skilled and highly motivated craftsperson needed to build and maintain the industry and customers in the area.

The "Life Blood" of our Local Union is the training we provide for our members. We believe the same to be true for this community. We are pleased that this venture has been taken on by the city and county. We have an established and certified (State of Kansas) apprenticeship program. It takes apprentices 5 years to get through. All the while getting paid to learn. Support of the Peaslee center is based on Skills + Training + Opportunity = Career. We have contacts with many of the Technical Schools throughout Kansas. We use those contacts to inform and recruit future Plumbers, Pipefitters, HVAC techs and welders to solid middle class careers. Careers that help pave the way for buying a home, having a decent vehicle, having a family and sending their children off to college or a trade school.

The Peaslee Center will help us keep up with the demands of the construction and piping industry by providing "Entry Level" apprentices to our Apprenticeship Program. We look forward to partnering with the City of Lawrence and Douglass County along with the Lawrence Chamber.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this letter of support,

Rick A. Salyer

Local 441 Plumbers & Pipefitters of Kansas

rsalyer@ua441.org

785-423-4995

PLASTIKON

An Essential Part...

3780 Greenway Circle
Lawrence, KS 66046
Telephone (785) 330-7100
Fax (785) 749-1693

March 12, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners,

The Lawrence community has been considering the creation of a training facility for more than 10 years and now with the approved school bond, it is time to support local business and industry's training needs. The Peaslee Center will not only support new economic development, but will help with the retention of current employees. In addition, the training would be close enough for more employees to participate, thus increasing their earning potential which would future benefit the community.

Plastikon Healthcare is a growing industry for Medical Device and Pharmaceutical single dose products. Our products are produced using BFS (Blow-Fill Seal) Technology that requires specialized training. The specialized training is composed of many of the areas of focus that the new Peaslee Center will support. Our ability to ensure that future and current employees are ready to support our facility is critical to the growth of our company. Therefore, it is imperative that your support for the new Peaslee Center includes your full attention to the budgetary requirements needed to create a reasonable training facility and ensure the future job potential of Lawrence residents.

Currently, Plastikon is sending employees to Shawnee, Wyandotte, Johnson, Franklin, Leavenworth, Lyon, and others for workforce training. It is our hope that the continued support for the Peaslee Center results in current training that is accessible to our employees without disrupting normal business functions. That is why Plastikon, along with other Industry Partners, has committed to provide skilled employees to assist with the planning for the Peaslee Center including the design of shops and curriculum, at no charge to the Center or community. We would appreciate your support in making affordable and current training a reality for the Lawrence and surrounding community residents.

Thank you,



Sandy Dixon | General Manager

PLASTIKON Healthcare, Inc.
Main: (785) 330-7100
Direct: (785) 330-7109
Mobile: (816) 721-3269
sdixon@plastikon.com

A Certified Minority Company



2801 West 31st Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66047
785-842-0550
Fax: 785-842-6102

COTTONWOOD
INCORPORATED

February 19, 2015

Lawrence City Commissioners
Mr. Mike Amyx, Mayor
Mr. Jeremy Farmer, Vice Mayor
Mr. Michael Dever
Dr. Terry Riordan
Mr. Bob Schumm
City Hall
PO Box 708
Lawrence, KS 66044

Douglas County Commissioners
Mr. Mike Gaughan
Ms. Nancy Thellman
Mr. Jim Flory
Douglas County Courthouse
1100 Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear City and County Commissioners,

I am writing to express my strong support for funding of the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility. The Lawrence community has been considering the creation of a training facility for more than 10 years and we are lagging behind nearby communities in workforce training. This lack of workforce training has in fact caused us to lose economic development opportunities over the years.

The Dwayne Peaslee Technical and Training Center will be a huge asset to the community and this renovation is absolutely necessary in order to create a serviceable facility to meet the training needs of area employers. Industry partners have been involved with the planning for the Peaslee Center and the best way for continued engagement with industry partners is to renovate the facility and begin training activities.

This is another step in the economic development initiative to make Lawrence a stronger and more viable community. The training offered through the Peaslee Center will benefit our workforce in many ways, most of all helping them to attain new skills and increased earnings. Trainees will attain certificates which industry will recognize as well as customized training specific to industry needs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sharon Spratt
CEO

"We help people with disabilities shape their own futures."

www.cwood.org



March 9, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners,

We consider Dwayne Peaslee Technical Center an important and valuable partner to MAMTC. As the NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) for the State of Kansas, we receive federal funds to support the sustainability and growth of manufacturing in Kansas.

MAMTC believes that the Peaslee Technical Training Center facility is vital to supporting the growth of existing manufacturers as well as attracting new manufacturing companies to the Lawrence/Douglas County region. This is because there are currently very few workforce skills training programs for manufacturing in the region. As we work with manufacturers across the state and across the NIST MEP network, one of the top needs that manufacturers consistently report is the need for skilled workforce. We see manufacturers choose to relocate from areas that do not have trained and skilled workforce available.

From an economic development perspective, the retention, attraction and expansion of manufacturing in the region is vital to the health of the community. Manufacturing is no longer "dirty work" in dark facilities. These are good paying, highly skilled jobs that provide stable and solid career paths to workers. To give some perspective, the annual average salary of manufacturing workers is \$77,000 and 90% of manufacturing workers have benefits.

Because the need is so great, we have invested funds to support the Peaslee Technical Training Center facility and program development. We ask that you would stand with us and also provide funding to support the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 913.575.0070. We fully support Peaslee Technical Center look forward to the opportunity to continue to support and grow the program.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Stovall
VP, Partner Operations
MAMTC

February 27, 2015

B.A.GREEN CONSTRUCTION

Douglas County Commissioners
Douglas County, Kansas
1000 Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

AND

City Commissioners
City of Lawrence, Kansas
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

RE: DWAYNE PEASLEE TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER

Commissioners:

I am writing to you today to ask for your support in the establishment of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center located at 2920 Haskell Avenue. Establishment of an area training center has been discussed for many years and is needed now more than ever.

As a local commercial construction firm with over 90 years of business experience in the Lawrence and Northeast Kansas region I cannot remember a period where the lack of skilled trade members of the regions workforce has been in such a critical state.

Through the course of my career I have witnessed shop programs in the local schools being replaced with computer labs and standard classrooms to the level where students today are never exposed to any kind of "hands on" experience that is required to perform tasks in many different industries still. These industries currently provide careers with competitive wages to those individuals committed to developing the skills necessary to perform the much needed tasks to be able to put work in place. The possibility of attracting the younger generation that might not be seeking higher education degrees and in need of exposure to craft training to be able to make critical career decisions or existing area workforce members benefitting by attaining new skills to help them advance in their particular field of work are just a couple of the many possible benefits from this new exciting facility.

Respectfully submitted,

B.A.GREEN CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.



Tracy Green
President

B.A. Green Construction Co., Inc.
1207 Iowa Street, Lawrence, KS 66049
P.O. Box 8, Lawrence, KS 66044-0008
(785) 843-5277 (785) 843-0797 FAX

NEOSHO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

March 5, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners:

Neosho County Community College is very excited to be a part of the proposed Peaslee Technical Training Center. The value of a quality technical education center in a community such as Douglas County and the City of Lawrence cannot be understated. Such a center helps provide an educated and qualified workforce for local businesses, gives opportunities to citizens to train for a new or better job, allows high school students greater career options, and provides a major consideration for new businesses looking for a new base of operations. The City of Lawrence has been seeking ways to provide quality workforce training for several years, and several community and technical colleges in the state are involved in helping move the idea into reality. Such a training facility improves workforce quality, economic vitality, and quality of life within the community.

www.neosho.edu

KS Only: 800.729.6222

Chanute Campus

800 W. 14th Street

Chanute, KS 66720

P: 620.431.2820

F: 620.431.0082

The Peaslee Technical Training Center facility is in need of numerous renovations to provide high quality technical education training. Neosho County Community College's technical faculty members have participated in numerous discussions with Treanor Architects, P.A. and Dr. Marvin Hunt to assist in designing a portion of the Peaslee Center to meet the instructional needs of technology programs in construction, HVAC, and other career and training options.

Ottawa Campus

900 E. Logan Street

Ottawa, KS 66067

P: 785.242.2067

F: 785.242.2068

Neosho County Community College has experience with new construction as well as renovation of space for these types of technical programs. The renovations are absolutely critical for training to take place. NCCC has seen these types of programs be "game changers" for individuals. When offered in coordination with local school districts, college-level training programs can provide the interest and engagement necessary to motivate high school students to complete secondary school and continue toward a post-secondary credential. For adults in the workforce or wanting to join the workforce, there is no better value than training provided through the community college system. The credentials offered through these training programs are nationally recognized, third-party credentials; which allow the local individuals of all ages to attain skills that are on par with others across the nation. This is appealing and a marketing tool to use with industries looking to relocate in the Midwest.

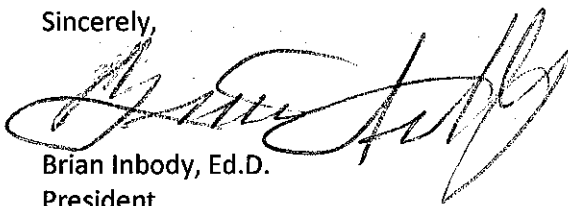
Online Campus

P: 620.431.2820

Neosho County Community College stands ready to partner with the Peaslee Technical Training Center and Center partners to create robust offerings of technical courses and programs. The renovation required is critical to the success of this visionary initiative. We encourage City and County Commissioners to provide financial support for the renovation of the Peaslee Technical Training Center.

If you wish to discuss this important endeavor further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Brian Inbody, Ed.D.
President



March 9, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners;

On behalf of Hiper Technology I would like to send you my full support of your efforts to secure funding for the renovation of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center facility. Hiper has operated as a design, development, manufacturing and distribution company of carbon fiber products based in Lawrence for over twelve years. We operate in the Peaslee building and have a clear perspective of the need for its renovation and the technical training that is to be offered.

Hiper and numerous other companies in Lawrence would benefit and grow as a result of having the availability of a workforce with embedded skills in manufacturing, construction and other skilled-trades. This expanded skilled workforce would help Lawrence to retain and grow it's existing technical and industrial companies as well as attract new companies into our local economic community. Douglas county has not made as much progress in training the manufacturing, construction and skilled-trades workforce over the past ten years as nearby counties such as Shawnee, Wyandotte, Franklin, Leavenworth and Johnson counties. It is very important to Douglas county to enable our workforce to increase their earnings and comfortably sustain livable wages.

Major renovation of the Peaslee facility will enable the delivery of skills training needed by the Lawrence workforce. It will attract companies to move to the Lawrence area and enable existing companies to grow and develop. In total this investment will help to expand the Douglas county economy in a meaningful way and prove itself to be an investment that will generate very positive returns over an extended period.

Best Regards,

Andy Harris
President/CEO
Hiper Technology
2920 Haskell Ave., Suite 300
Lawrence, KS 66046
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Laird Noller

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February 28th, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners,

Recently I was given the opportunity to become involved in an economic development initiative that is near and dear to my heart. As my business continues to grow, we're always looking to add a new team member with the technical skills needed to work on today's complex automobiles. It seems that most of my pre-employment interviews for these jobs are with candidates from the surrounding counties.

Lawrence is currently lagging behind some of our surrounding counties including Johnson, Wyandotte, Shawnee, Leavenworth, and Franklin in workforce training which is why the renovation for the Peaslee Technical Training Center is absolutely necessary. The areas' workforce will benefit by attaining new skills, which will help them increase earnings and attain livable wages. A strong workforce will help attract business and industry to the area, which will increase commerce in general.

Trainees will attain certificates which my industry will recognize. This will help when it comes time for me to select employees, providing raises, and identifying new managers, among other benefits. The Peaslee Center will provide expertise for the creation of customized training within many industries- not just automotive.

The clock is ticking- I have gauged the interest of some industry partners in the planning for the Peaslee Center including the design of shops and curriculum. The best way for their continued engagement is to renovate the facility and begin training activities.

Best Regards,



Bill Egan/ General Manager

Laird Noller Automotive

935 West 23rd St

Lawrence, KS 66046



Dear City and County Commissioners,

We would like to take this opportunity to show our support for funding the renovation of the Peaslee Center. Grandstand intends to utilize the training resources that will be made available by the center and would like to see the project continue.

Our company continues to struggle with finding new quality personnel to support our growth and we believe the training center will create an opportunity to draw qualified candidates that will assist in supporting our recruiting and training needs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Petz".

Brandon Petz
Director of Accounting
Grandstand Glassware & Apparel



3840 Greenway Circle, Lawrence, Ks 66046

Dear City and County Commissioners:

We have had the opportunity to meet with Marvin Hunt regarding the Peaslee Technical Center a couple of times over the past months. As a growing business, we are excited about the potential of a technical training facility in our area. Finding employable people, with basic work skills is the largest challenge our business contends with on a daily basis.

There is currently little workforce skills training for manufacturing, construction and other skilled-trade careers in Douglas County. There is a lack of knowledge among potential employees in our community about what it takes to succeed in the workforce. Our business suffers due to this deficit in skilled potential employees.

This is an economic development initiative that will help with the retention and expansion of participating industries. The areas' workforce members will benefit by attaining new skills, which will help them increase earnings and attain livable wages.

Please consider lending your support to this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Chad Bryan
Operations Director
Grandstand Glassware & Apparel
785-312-5090
chadb@egrandstand.com

CHAD BRYAN
Operations Director
Grandstand Glassware & Apparel
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**BIOSCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
BUSINESS CENTER**

AT THE
UNIVERSITY
OF KANSAS

Transforming Ideas Into Commerce

March 17, 2015

City Commission
Lawrence, KS

County Commission
Lawrence, KS

Dear City and County Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the funding request submitted by the Peaslee Technical Training Center. I have conferred with Dr. Marvin Hunt about the facility renovations and believe the project is necessary to provide reasonable accommodations for the Peaslee training program.

The creation and management of the Peaslee Center is an important component of the broader economic development plan for the City and County. The Center will provide important workforce needs for the manufacturing, construction, and other skilled-trade careers in our region. This will contribute to a more robust labor pool that is vital for sustaining long term commerce and economic growth for our town and University.

The Bioscience and Technology Business Center (BTBC) will also benefit from this worker training development initiative. Currently, the BTBC hosts over 30 companies that have produced nearly 135 jobs. While many of these jobs are professional in nature they are supported by basic skills employees who perform important functions to BTBC company labs, offices, and a variety of capital projects through BTBC's vendor and University partners. The BTBC values the opportunity to engage those kinds of local jobs which contribute, so effectively, to our community's economy.

Thank you for your consideration of the request.

Very truly yours,



E. LaVerne Epp, Executive Chair
Bioscience & Technology Business Center



March 17, 2015

Dear City and County Commissioners:

I am writing to support the work of the new Peaslee Technical Training Center. As you are aware, technical education is not a part of the mission of the University of Kansas. But we recognize the value of technical education for our region and believe it is an economic driver that attracts industry and jobs to the area.

The Kansas Board of Regents has set a goal in its strategic plan to increase higher education attainment among Kansans, recognizing that for the state to prosper, more of its citizens need a postsecondary credential or degree. Increased opportunities for technical education and the attainment of certificates help to meet this important goal.

Thank you for the role you play in expanding these opportunities.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Gray-Little
Chancellor