

June 16, 2005

Representative Steny Hoyer
U.S. House of Representatives
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Hoyer:

KnowledgeWorks Foundation supports the Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2005, H.R. 2207/S. 986, authorizing essential funding for communities to organize and deliver services at the school site – most directly to those in need. KnowledgeWorks Foundation believes full-service community schools support not only students and their families but also the entire community by improving the community –wide coordination, effectiveness, and efficiency of vital services. We also support the Act’s funding of state-level collaboratives to expand and evaluate at the policy level the development of full-service community schools. With support at the national, state, and local level, full-service community schools will become a sustainable reality for communities around the country helping them to better serve community members in a more efficient and effective manner.

Communities across Ohio view the state’s \$11 billion commitment to rebuild or renovate nearly all of its school facilities over the next ten years as a unique opportunity to serve students, families, and community residents of all ages. Communities are designing school facilities that can accommodate a wide range of community activities and support student and community use outside traditional school hours. The Full-Service Community Schools Act would provide critical funding to these communities to support their vital partnerships with community-based organizations and sustain their efforts to reconnect with the community. With assistance from this act, many more communities across the state will be able to undertake community schools.

Sincerely,



Chad P. Wick
President & CEO