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SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANATEE COUNTY

July 31, 2014

Skip Villerot
Regional Sales Manager
Smart Horizons Career Online Education
1820 Tarpon Land, E-104
Vero Beach, FL 32960

Dear Skip:

As you know, some of today's students struggle to meet state graduation requirements, and without a high school diploma, they begin the transition from school to work at a disadvantage. I wanted to thank you on behalf of the School District of Manatee County for introducing a program that had a positive impact on the future of students who may not have met graduation requirements through the traditional path. The Smart Horizons Career Online High School Program is a wonderful means to success for students.

Many students from the School District of Manatee County accomplished their goal of earning a high school diploma thanks to the implementation of the Smart Horizons Career Online High School Program. By working with you and the Smart Horizons staff, students who were lacking the required state assessment had the opportunity to earn a standard high school diploma. This has a two-fold return; those students will enter the workforce with a high school diploma and be equipped to find gainful employment, and the district's graduation rate will benefit from the success of those students. This is a true win-win situation.

The students not only earned a SACS accredited high school diploma, but also a career certificate through the Parallel Path program. This only opens more doors for students and for that, we are thankful.

Again, please accept this note of gratitude on behalf of the School District of Manatee County. Your hard work and partnership is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Shirley Hurley
District Coordinator