MAISD Muskegon Area Intermediate School District

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November 10, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

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Photo: Samuel Hansen is the first to accept the two-year Muskegon Area Promise Scholarship.

Online Info and Logo: www.muskegonareapromise.org

Muskegon Grad first to accept Promise; Fund climbs to $763K

MUSKEGON, MI: On Friday, November 6, 2015, Samuel Hansen drove to the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District to hand deliver his acceptance form for a two-year Muskegon Area Promise Scholarship. By placing the form in the hands of MAISD Superintendent John Severson, Hansen became the first official Muskegon Area Promise Scholar. The scholarships will cover tuition, books, and mandatory fees up to $4,050 for the Muskegon High School Graduate.

Hansen is currently enrolled at Muskegon Community College and plans to use the scholarship to fund his pursuit of a Business Administration degree.

Severson said it was a pleasure to meet Hansen in person. “Samuel shared what a difference this will make and he wanted all of the donors to know how thankful he was for their generosity. He also shared that his mother was very proud and thankful too. Furthermore, he talked about how this will reduce the pressure of going to school,” said Severson.

Last week, scholarship offer letters were sent to eligible high school students who graduated with at least a 3.5 GPA in 2015 from Muskegon, Muskegon Heights, or Holton High Schools. Graduates from these same high schools are eligible in 2016, and then the scholarship extends countywide for all 2017 high school graduates. Students must graduate from and live within the district boundaries to qualify. The graduates have until November 30, 2015, to respond with their acceptance of the scholarship that can be used at either Baker College of Muskegon or Muskegon Community College.

The Muskegon Area Promise became a reality on October 23, 2015, when four local business leaders stepped up to make a $400,000 collective initial investment in the Promise. Hines Corporation, Nichols, ADAC Automotive, and the Alcoa Foundation were the first gold level investors in the program that delivers two-year college scholarships to Muskegon Area students.

Since then additional funds have been received from Sheryl and Dan Kuznar, MasterTag of Montague, Parkland Properties of Michigan, Quality Tool & Stamping of Muskegon Heights, and Verplank Trucking Company of Muskegon for a total investment of $763,647. The Kuznars, Quality Tool & Stamping, and Verplank Trucking Company are all gold level funders with a $100,000 investment.

“These funds are critical in allowing Muskegon County to capture one-half of the growth in the existing state education tax beginning in 2017,” said Steve Parker, Muskegon Area Promise Authority Board Chair. “It propels us even closer to our goal of $900,000 in private investments,” added Parker.

“Meeting Samuel Hansen in person confirmed what we all believe...that the Promise will make a significant difference for our children,” said Severson.

For more information or to invest in the Promise, visit http://www.muskegonareapromise.org. # # #