To: The Missouri Department of Higher Education:

As the Director and Principal of the Summit Technology Academy (STA) at the Missouri Innovation Campus in Kansas City, I am writing this letter of support for the Respiratory Therapy Baccalaureate degree proposal at Metropolitan Community College.

STA at Missouri Innovation Campus (MIC) provides innovative educational opportunities to thousands of students and adults in the Greater Kansas City area with a new model for education in Missouri that focuses on student outcomes and workforce needs. The state-of theart facility provides an effective, innovative learning environment in which students will pursue exciting educational opportunities in areas that are in high demand while empowering and instilling confidence in students so that they may enjoy a successful college completion path, ultimately contributing to a strong Missouri economy.

We already have an existing relationship with MCC in which they deliver college courses to our students while they are still in high school. We pledge to partner with MCC in promoting the new MCC Respiratory Care program to our students as another option for post-secondary education. We have a strong Allied Health preparedness program at STA and this population of students would provide an excellent pool of potential applicants for the MCC program.

I highly support the MCC Respiratory Care Baccalaureate Degree Program and believe the implementation of this program will provide many students a wonderful opportunity to pursue a career in that field.

Respectfully,

<u>Jeremy Bonnesen, Ed.D.</u>

**STA Director/Principal** 

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