



DATE: February 23, 2009
For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Bill Shamblin
Newport Independent Schools
(859) 292-3047

*Newport Independent Schools receives \$15,000 grant
to fund Early Childhood Home Visitation Program*

The Newport Independent School District has received a \$15,000 grant from The Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) and the Northern Kentucky Family of Funds at GCF to fund the District's Early Childhood Home Visitation Program.

The Early Childhood Home Visitation program is an integral piece of the award winning Newport Independent Schools Early Childhood Initiative, (NISECI) a collaboration of non-profit agencies and educational institutions focused on the goal of preparing at-risk children for school. The NISECI provides educational services to at-risk children age birth through five.

The GCF grant will be used to help meet the overwhelming demand for the District's Home Visitation Program in the face of state-wide budget constraints.

The District's Home Visitation Program provides ongoing in-home instruction and monitoring to support our parents in their efforts to prepare their child through everyday exercises. (Research indicates that the majority of a child's brain development occurs during the period birth through age 3.) A metrics based program, this program has shown statistically to improve a child's intellectual, physical and social development.

"We are extremely pleased to receive this grant from The Greater Cincinnati Foundation", said Newport Superintendent Michael Brandt, "All educational research points to early childhood development as one of the primary keys to future academic success for a child. Thanks to the generosity of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation we will be able to provide services for the second half of the year for our families enrolled in this important program. The impact of this grant will profoundly affect these children's lives throughout their academic experience."

About the Newport Independent School District

The Newport Independent District is a small urban public school district of approximately 1,900 students, serving the residents of Newport, Kentucky. The district is currently implementing an aggressive strategic plan for improvement, with the goal of becoming the finest small urban school system in the country. The district's five schools are A.D. Owens Elementary, Fourth Street Elementary, Mildred Dean Elementary, Newport Middle School and Newport High School.



Members of the Newport Independent School Board include: Board Chair: Mr. Robert Usleaman, Vice Chair: Dr. Julie Smith-Morrow, Board Members: Ms. Andrea Janovic, Mr. Chris Parsons and Ms. Janean Parsons.

About The Greater Cincinnati Foundation

The Greater Cincinnati Foundation empowers donors to make a profound difference in the quality of human and community life in the Greater Cincinnati region, today and tomorrow. We believe in the power of philanthropy to change the lives of people and communities: As a community foundation, GCF makes grants and provides leadership in six key areas: arts and culture, community and economic development, education, environment, health, and human services. An effective steward of the community's charitable resources since 1963, the Foundation inspires philanthropy in eight counties in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

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