

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Huron City Schools and BGSU Firelands Receive State Grant

Huron, Ohio. The Huron City School District in collaboration with the BGSU Firelands was one of two Erie County school districts and one of 42 districts state wide to receive a “Seniors to Sophomores” grant for the 2008-2009 School Year.

This new program, unveiled in Governor Strickland’s State of the State Address and detailed in Chancellor Fingerhut’s 10-Year Plan for Higher Education, is a dual enrollment program that enables academically qualified high school seniors to get an early jump on college. Under the program, students can earn a year’s worth of both high school and college credit at the same time, for free. Qualified Huron High School seniors who elect to take a full load of courses at the BGSU Firelands during their senior year will be able to receive their high school diploma and enter a University System of Ohio college as a sophomore.

In addition to the \$100,000 grant, from the Ohio Board of Regents, for tuition, tutoring, books, and guidance, both the Huron City School District and the BGSU Firelands are contributing an additional \$50,000 each to the program. According to Dr. Andrew Kurtz, Acting Associate Dean of Engagement and Outreach at BGSU Firelands, “such monetary investment will help ensure the continuation of the program beyond this year and signals a new era of cooperation between the college and Huron City Schools that we believe will ultimately prove beneficial to the entire region”.

Mr. Fred Fox, Huron Schools Superintendent, stated “We are pleased to be able to offer a program like this for Huron students. It offers both students and parents a unique opportunity. The cooperation of the Firelands Campus of Bowling Green State University has been what makes this program possible.”

Chris Standring, Huron School’s Director of Curriculum, developed the grant application and program structure. Ms. Standring stated “We are still developing the various pieces necessary to put this program in place and should have information and applications available within the next few weeks. Obviously, we are working on a tight deadline to get this in place for the coming year.”

While the grant is for one year both the school district and university have pledged to offer the program for the next school year, 2009-10, as well.