



September 19, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to write a letter in support of Junior Achievement North (JA) and encourage you to approve their request for support. JA and Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) have developed a multi-year strategic partnership, and your support of JA can ensure that more students in our district are positively impacted by their programs and experiential learning opportunities this school year.

Starting in 2020, JA and SPPS have partnered to bring equitable access to experiential learning and ensure students are prepared for success in college, their careers, and in life. This aligns directly with the SPPS College and Career Paths Initiatives, which aim to: (1) Increase opportunities for students to envision their future, explore careers, and prepare for college and (2) Provide career-focused, hands-on opportunities for all middle and high school students.

Our partnership with JA includes a four-year rollout incorporating their experiential learning programs— programs like JA Finance Park —into the SPPS curriculum. Through this partnership, JA will serve 100% of our 8th graders, who will take part in these experiential programs and learn important lessons about personal finance, education, and career exploration.

We are also exploring ways we can deepen our partnership with JA. We are in the process of exploring new program expansion that would allow JA to serve more students attending our high schools, providing learning opportunities that will empower our students with the skills needed for future economic success.

Thank you for your consideration of JA's request for support and the impact it can have on our district's students. Together, we are making a difference by preparing our future leaders to reach their full potential in school and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joe Gothard' in a cursive script.

Joe Gothard, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Saint Paul Public Schools

