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APR 23 2010

CITY OF BURIEN

To Whom It May Concern:

April 22, 2010

My name is Katie Taylor and I taught school for over 31 years. Twenty of those years were at Hazel Valley Elementary with the Highline School District.

In 1996, I won the Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Education for the State of Washington. With my award money of \$2,500, I set up a trust fund with the Highline School District. The intention of that fund was to assist Hazel Valley Elementary students attend college. 1996 seems like a long time ago, but it takes years for people to grow up and prepare for their adult life.

Let me take a moment to introduce Lucas Green. I've know Lucas since he was in Kindergarten. He graduated in June 2009 from Highline High School. Lucas is a bright young man, with a strong desire to attend college. We met up in January and I asked him why he was not in college. His reply was, "I'd love to, but the reality is, I'll never have the chance to attend college because I don't have the money."

How does this involve the City of Burien? In 1996, you matched my award money. On April 5, 2010, my trust fund paid for Lucas Green's first quarter at South Seattle Community College. Because of your generous contribution, he is taking strategic steps to free himself from the clutches of poverty. Lucas is determined to finish his Associates of Arts degree and pursue a career in teaching or develop his own business.

This letter is to thank the City of Burien for believing in my vision to assist others in attending college. Knowledge is power. One of the most effective ways to make a profound difference in this world is to lift the masses out of poverty through education. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Katie Taylor

CPTR: 05/03/10
PC: 04/27/10