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Mount Vernon Educational Foundation Succeeds with Digital Learning Initiative, Raising Nearly \$35,000

MOUNT VERNON, N.Y. (September 24, 2020) — The Mount Vernon Educational Foundation announces the success of its recent Digital Learning Initiative for students of the Mount Vernon City School District. Over 150 donors from Mount Vernon and the surrounding area contributed nearly \$35,000, allowing the Foundation to donate 120 laptops to students in need.

Thanks to the generosity of both individual and corporate donors, the Foundation exceeded its original goal of \$30,000. The Foundation's Digital Learning Initiative met a significant resource need in the community, precipitated by the move to remote learning during the coronavirus pandemic.

Foundation President Eileen Justino said, "It is very gratifying and refreshing to see the outpouring of support from the community and others who recognize the need of our students and realize they can be part of the solution."

Though initially delayed, due to the increased demand for computing devices from schools around the country, the 120 laptops funded by the generosity of the Foundation's donors were delivered to the District in early July and were distributed last week. These devices will be instrumental to the learning success of Mount Vernon's students as the new school year begins in a hybrid model, which will include a remote learning component.

Superintendent Kenneth R. Hamilton said, "We are sincerely grateful for the efforts of the Mount Vernon Educational Foundation and launching the laptop campaign for our district. We would not have been able to manage the acquisition of these devices without the support of

the Foundation. Given the complexity and flux of our current educational environment, partnerships with community organizations are essential."

The Mount Vernon Educational Foundation drives inspiration, creativity, and ambition by partnering with the school district and community to enable students to explore opportunities beyond the boundaries of the classroom. Founded in 2004, the Foundation was reconstituted this past January with a new board of directors dedicated to supporting this mission. The Mount Vernon Educational Foundation, Inc. is a tax-exempt 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization.

The Foundation's new website will be completed this Fall. In the meantime, for more information, please email us at: <u>MVEFBOT@gmail.com</u>.

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