



C. W. MATTHEWS CONTRACTING CO., INC.

DRAWER 970

MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30061

TELEPHONE (770) 422-7520

May 28, 2024

Joel Posey
Dunwoody High School
5035 Vermack Rd
Dunwoody, GA 30338
Joel_Posey@dekalbschoolsga.org

Subject: Letter of Support of Dunwoody High School's Heavy Equipment Operator Pathway (HEO Pathway)

Dear Mr. Posey:

I am writing to pledge our support to Dunwoody High School and their HEO Pathway. The HEO Pathway aligns well with C. W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc.'s ("CWM") workforce development needs.

CWM is one of the state's leading heavy highway construction companies with project locations throughout the state. CWM has been in business since 1946 and our primary focus is state and local infrastructure projects. On an annual basis, CWM hires between 75 and 150 equipment operators for our projects. The state funding projections for the heavy highway industry are as high as they have ever been, and we anticipate the need for operators to grow exponentially with the increase as work is awarded.

Implementing an HEO Pathway will not only cater to the immediate occupational needs of our workforce, but also allow us to build a steady pipeline of qualified operators for future projects. The establishment of the HEO Pathway aligns perfectly with our other statewide training initiatives. Most specifically, our high school recruiting efforts to include work base learning (WBL), summer internship opportunities and full-time employment of high school graduates.

The proposed HEO Pathway equips high school students with skill sets and credentials necessary to fill high demand horizontal construction positions—jobs that are well paying, sustaining, and a critical need in our state.

On behalf of CWM, it is my pleasure to join this collaboration. Furthermore, CWM is committed to:

- Assisting with the HEO Pathway Capstone Project;
- Providing WBL and Internship Opportunities;
- Assisting instructors with classroom content and training on the HEO Pathway simulators and curriculum;
- Providing evaluations for the quality of workforce training delivered, and;
- Continuing to work with the school to permanently place students in the construction industry.

I fully support Dunwoody High School's efforts and believe the HEO Pathway will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Georgia and the employers in the area.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray A. Rodriguez', written in a cursive style.

Ray A. Rodriguez
Division VP Human Resources
C. W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc.



Jake Slusher
Field Training Director
E. R. Snell Contractor, Inc.
1785 Oak Rd SW
Snellville, Ga 30078
M: 706-614-8494 Email: jslusher@ersnell.com

To Dunwoody High School:

As an industry partner of several HEO programs, we fully support Dunwoody High School in their application for the Heavy Equipment Simulator Grant. The class provides a route for students to learn a variety of skills that are applicable to many fields of construction including civil construction, electrical, plumbing, and carpentry. Many of these trades use the equipment and curriculum learned by students in the pathway as well as the employability skills required to be successful in the industry.

The curriculum and skills learned in the pathway will provide multiple industries with well-trained students while bolstering wage earning capabilities for students. Students can use the skills learned in the pathway to obtain certifications that in turn will help them obtain an entry level position in a field of their choice. The skills not only provide a construction industry that has in-demand careers with potential candidates, but provide students with the skills to enter a bustling industry that is continually expanding, especially with the growth in Georgia.

We offer our full support through: classroom visits, teacher support, Project Site Visits, Equipment Practice, and Heavy Equipment Capstone Projects. We will also provide employment opportunities for these students through Work-Based Learning positions, Summer Internships, and Full-time Employment after graduation.

We are excited to see the commitment of Dunwoody High School's Excellence in Career and Technical Education expanding opportunities for students by offering the Heavy Equipment Pathway. We look forward to being a part of the program and offering support.

Sincerely,

Jake Slusher

STEWART BROS., INC.
2480 Pleasantdale Road
Doraville, Georgia 30340-1558



Asphalt Paving Contractors
Phone: 770-447-5810
Fax: 770-446-1261

Paving the Way Since 1932

June 3, 2024

Joel Posey
Dunwoody High School
5035 Vermack Rd
Dunwoody, GA 30338
Joel_Posey@dekalbschoolsga.org

Subject: Letter of Support of Dunwoody High School's Heavy Equipment Operator Pathway (HEO Pathway)

Dear Mr. Posey:

I am writing to pledge our support to Dunwoody High School and their HEO Pathway. The HEO Pathway aligns well with Stewart Bros, Inc.'s ("SBI") workforce development needs.

SBI is one of the state's oldest heavy highway construction companies with project locations throughout the Metropolitan Atlanta area. SBI has been in business since 1932 and our primary focus is soil cement construction, fine grading, base, and asphalt paving on state and local infrastructure projects as well as private enterprise projects. On an annual basis, SBI hires around 30 employees for various positions for our projects. The state funding projections for the heavy highway industry are as high as they have ever been, and we anticipate the need for qualified employees to grow exponentially with the increase as work is awarded.

Implementing an HEO Pathway will not only cater to the immediate occupational needs of our workforce, but also allow us to build a relationship with students within your program to employee future projects. The establishment of the HEO Pathway aligns perfectly with our company training initiatives. Our high school recruiting efforts include work base learning (WBL), summer internship opportunities and full-time employment of high school graduates.

The proposed HEO Pathway equips high school students with skill sets and credentials necessary to fill high demand horizontal construction positions—jobs that are well paying, sustaining, and a critical need in our state.

On behalf of SBI, it is my pleasure to join this collaboration.

Furthermore, SBI is committed to:

- Assisting with the HEO Pathway Capstone Project;
- Providing WBL and Internship Opportunities;
- Assisting instructors with classroom content and training on the HEO Pathway simulators and curriculum;
- Providing evaluations for the quality of workforce training delivered, and;
- Continuing to work with the school to permanently place students in the construction industry.

I fully support Dunwoody High School's efforts and believe the HEO Pathway will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Georgia and the employers in the area.

Yours Very Truly,

Hugh C. Lewis

Vice President of Operations