

# ***Aurora Regional Pathways to Prosperity***

## **STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT**

City of Aurora  
Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Aurora East School District 131  
Aurora West School District 129  
Indian Prairie School District 204  
Oswego Community School District 308  
Waubensee Community College

Whereas, it is recognized that a nationwide shortage exists for skilled workers and college ready high school graduates, and

Whereas, it is recognized that eight of every 10 Illinois jobs require more than a high school diploma, fewer than three-fourths of Illinois students who begin high school will graduate and fewer than one-third will go on to earn a two- or four-year degree, and

Whereas, it is recognized that in response to the above, a broader vision of school reform must be developed that will incorporate multiple career pathways for students, provide a much expanded role for employers in supporting such pathways, and promote a new social compact between society and its young people, and

Whereas, the Illinois P-20 Council has established a goal to increase the proportion of adults in Illinois with high-quality degrees and credentials to 60% by the year 2025, and Illinois Pathways has established nine Sample Pathways, funded through Race to the Top, as a new and innovative State of Illinois-led STEM education initiative designed to support college and career readiness for all students, and


Whereas, the partnership between the State of Illinois' education and economic development agencies have provided the capacity for Illinois Pathways to support local programs that empower students to explore their academic and career interests while also supporting new statewide, public-private partnerships known as Learning Exchanges that better coordinate investments, resources and planning for those programs, and

Whereas, it has been determined through asset mapping that the three Illinois Pathway careers most needed in the Aurora region are in the areas of Health Sciences, Information Technologies, and Manufacturing,


Be it therefore resolved that partners as listed above agree to join together to leverage all available local, state, and national resources within the community to develop career pathways for the students in all partner school districts in the areas of Health Sciences, Information Technologies, and Manufacturing by the 2015-16 school year and continue to grow additional Pathways for its students in the years beyond.

This agreement is made by and between all partners listed above for the period of April 2014 through June, 2025.

**City of Aurora**

By:   
Thomas J. Weisner  
Mayor


**East Aurora School District 131**

By:   
Dr. Michael Popp  
Superintendent of Schools


**Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce**

By:   
Joseph B. Henning  
President & CEO


**Indian Prairie Unit School District 204**

By:   
Dr. Kathryn Birkett  
Superintendent of Schools

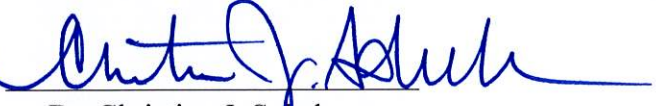
**Aurora West School District 129**

By:   
Dr. James Rydland  
Superintendent of Schools

**Oswego Community School Unit District 308**

By:   
On behalf of Dr. Matthew Wendt  
Superintendent of Schools

**Waubensee Community College**

By:   
Dr. Christine J. Sobek  
President