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Plano ISD Education Foundation and Academy Programs of Plano Receive \$300,000 Sponsorship from Baylor Hospitals

Silver Level Sponsorship from Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano and The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano to be dedicated to the Plano ISD Health Sciences Academy

At the August 5, 2014, meeting of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees, the Plano ISD Education Foundation presented two new sponsors of the Academy Programs of Plano—Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano and The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano (a hospital jointly owned with physicians)—whose Silver level sponsorship will provide \$300,000 over the next five years to support the Plano ISD Health Sciences Academy.

“The Academy Programs of Plano offer our students more academic choices and, combined with the district’s full complement of exceptional educational offerings, make our surrounding community an excellent place to live, work and learn,” said Karla Oliver assistant superintendent for government, community and planning initiatives. “Plano ISD’s community and corporate relationships have allowed the district to be innovative in our financial management and continue to serve as good stewards of taxpayer dollars. Thanks to the sponsorship of dedicated corporate citizens like The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano and Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano, our academy programs can thrive as a result of corporate and community giving through the Plano ISD Education Foundation.”

Representing the academy sponsors was Jerri Garison, president of Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano. “It is with great pleasure that our two hospitals join with the Plano ISD Education Foundation to help fulfill its mission of ‘helping all students in Plano public schools achieve their full potential by providing financial support to educators and academic programs,’” said Ms. Garison.

The hospitals’ sponsorship will fund the costs of Collin College tuition, fees and transportation for Health Sciences Academy students who may be in need of assistance and will provide students two quarterly lecture series featuring physician speakers on the medical staff from both hospitals and off-campus clinical educational experiences for Health Sciences Academy students.

“We are most excited about how this support will enhance the educational experience and benefits students will receive,” said Ms. Garison. “Students participating in this impressive academic track will earn college credit while in high school and receive hands-on experience and mentorship from healthcare professionals. They will be ready for what lies ahead after graduation, whether that is

entering a four-year university or pre-med program; or entering the workforce with one of the several technical certificates this program offers.”

Ms. Garison continued, “As a school nurse-turned-hospital-administrator, I am grateful for my education in schools and in the corporate team-building environment. I am proud to be part of the team that is supporting our students to fulfill their dreams in the healthcare field.”

Superintendent of Schools Richard Matkin thanked Ms. Garison, stating, “We are fortunate to live in an area with such great healthcare providers who give back to the community. You’ve been a very visible partner from the start, and I appreciate this opportunity to recognize you for your contributions.”

About the Plano ISD Education Foundation

The Plano ISD Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission to help all students in Plano public schools achieve their full potential by providing financial support to educators and academic programs. The Foundation provides grants to educators, programs that support academic enrichment to Plano ISD students, emergency assistance for teachers and staff members in crisis, as well as programs aimed at recruiting and retaining quality teachers. To learn more about the Plano ISD Education Foundation, contact Executive Director Carlos Sastoque at 469.752.8272

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