



January 3, 2017

Corey E. Mohn **CAPS** Network 7501 W. 149th Terrace Overland Park, KS 66223

Dear Mr. Mohn:

University of Missouri-St. Louis 201 Education Administration Bldg. 1 University Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63121-4400

Phone: 314-516-5109

On behalf of the University of Missouri St. Louis College of Education I am delighted to endorse and support the national CAPS Network because of the strong the alignment with the college mission and values, expressed succinctly in our motto: Innovative Education... Engaged Educators.

In the College of Education at UMSL we embrace professional creativity and revolutionary education while fostering intentional collaboration. An embodiment of this approach to education was recently solidified with the opening of the ED Collabitat in fall 2015. The ED Collabitat was created when a mid-century modern glass and metal library from the 1950s, a space traditionally used to seek and consume existing knowledge, was transformed into a space to generate and explore new ideas and new ways of thinking.

A signature program at the ED Collabitat, called the EDpreneur in Residence program, was developed and brought a serendipitous collision between education and entrepreneurs. The EDpreneur in Residence program invites educational entrepreneurs to develop an idea or product that has the promise of bringing an innovative experience to educational settings. It was our pleasure to work with the St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies (STL CAPS) as a cohort 2 participants in the EDpreneur in Residence program.

We are excited to learn that STL CAPS is part of a broader network of CAPS programs not just in Missouri but across the nation. The real-world experience that comes from working directly with business partners provides students with a number of career and college readiness advantages. CAPS students will enter their post-secondary education degree programs with a deep understanding of how knowledge and skills are applied in the workplace. Through the client projects and internships students complete, they are well informed about career opportunities and poised to make the most of their degree programs.

The University of Missouri St. Louis College of Education fully supports the CAPS Network. We look forward to working closely with students and staff involved with CAPS programs locally and nationally.

Him Toplor Ann Taylor, Ph.I

Interim Dean