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January 22, 2010

Mr. Bob Clary
Executive Director, USAGraduate.com
P.O. Box 1127
Clay, New York 13041

Dear Executive Director Clary:

I am writing to offer my support for USAGraduate.com, a non-profit organization, that is running an exciting program using the power of the internet to engage New York State students in the critical areas of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

The need for our state to engage students in STEM topics has never been more important. These topic areas will help create a pathway for entrepreneurs in the future and respond to government and industry concerns about the growing need for STEM professionals. With an emerging emphasis on green technologies, the need for STEM knowledge will continue to grow, and this need is rapidly expanding.

Over 25,000 New York State students already have participated in the program, including students from the Syracuse City School District which I represent. This program enables students to experience an increased awareness, gain knowledge and expand their understanding of STEM concepts, processes and potential careers while developing a more favorable attitude toward STEM topics. Students learn about this in a non-traditional environment that can be easily incorporated into the classroom, at no cost to the student or school district.

Again, I am pleased to offer my support for USAGraduate.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David J. Valesky'.

David J. Valesky
NY State Senator

DJV/sb