

For immediate release

Contact: Laura Couger

Phone: 248-203-3030

Email: bef@birmingham.k12.mi.us

Birmingham Education Foundation Seeks Community's "Two Cents"

Birmingham, Michigan – August 27, 2007 – The Birmingham Education Foundation (BEF) wants to learn what community members know about and expect from the local education foundation. Regardless of whether that knowledge base is large or small, the community's "two cents" will have an impact on the future role BEF plays in bringing world-class academic, arts and athletic opportunities to local students.

"Measuring the current level of awareness and interest in the community is the first step toward broadening the BEF's base of support," said BEF Executive Director Laura Couger. "We hope everyone in the community will reserve a few minutes out of their day to take our survey."

All community members are invited to take part in this simple online survey, which can be accessed by going to the BEF web site at birminghameducationfoundation.com and clicking on "Announcements." Print copies are also available at the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council, located at 2121 Midvale in Birmingham.

"The whole purpose of the Foundation is to open up an avenue for people in the community to support their public schools," said Couger. "What better way to jump-start community involvement than to listen to what they have to say?"

The BEF's purpose is to enhance the Birmingham Public Schools by providing funds to programs that promote innovation and excellence in the areas of academics, arts and athletics. Given Michigan's current formula for funding public schools, the BEF has the potential to play a vital role in making sure the students in our district have every educational opportunity to succeed.

The Birmingham Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization with a vision to help position the Birmingham Public Schools as an exemplar provider of public education through privately raised funds. Since its inception in 1993, the Foundation has brought innovative educational opportunities to all students of Birmingham Public Schools.