Dear Education Partner,

More than 1,650 Florida private schools have joined us in helping low-income families access the schools that best meet their children's needs. We invite you to also partner with us as we work to extend school choice to more families.

In 2001, Florida legislators created the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program to give low-income parents and guardians more school options for their children in kindergarten through 12th grade. Step Up For Students (SUFS) is a nonprofit organization that administers this program statewide. This scholarship is based on financial need only. We follow the federal free- and reduced-price lunch program guidelines when establishing eligibility (other eligibility information can be found here). Children who are homeless or in foster care can qualify without having to meet income requirements.

Our mission is to give economically disadvantaged families the freedom to choose the best learning options for their children so they can do more than they ever imagined.

About 69,000 students will use our scholarships during the 2014-15 school year. While we expect the value of our scholarships to increase yearly for the next several years, most students will receive scholarships worth $5,272 this year.

To participate, schools must meet some common sense eligibility requirements, which SUFS staff can help schools navigate. While the investment schools make in our program is primarily time, their return on investment in enrollment numbers is often significant. Additionally, participants help strengthen their communities by giving disadvantaged children schooling opportunities they normally wouldn't have.

To learn more about our scholarship program, please review our website. Specific questions about school eligibility requirements can be directed to Elizabeth Watson at ewatson@sufs.org or (813) 402-0162.

We look forward to partnering with you and giving more students the opportunity to find the school that best serves their needs.

Sincerely,

Doug Tuthill

Step Up For Students President