

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORD ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH NASHVILLE AREA
CHAMBER AND NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company, will announce its support of Nashville's efforts to prepare students for 21st century workforce through the development of high school career academies, which combine college-preparatory academics with technical training and career exploration.

Announcement will take place at Pearl-Cohn High School, currently the home of a Freshman Academy & a 10th Grade Academy, which are designed to help students form closer relationships with their teachers and participate in rigorous and relevant learning activities. Currently all 9th and 10th grade students are enrolled in these academies. Next year, Pearl-Cohn will house three academies, a Freshman Academy, the Academy of Education and Human Services, and the Academy of Business and Technology.

Career Academies, along with Thematic Academies and Freshman Academies, are currently being phased into all 12 comprehensive high schools under a district-wide redesign initiative based on the Smaller Learning Communities model.

Media is invited to participate in classroom visit of Pearl-Cohn High School.

WHO: Mayor Karl Dean

Dr. Jesse Register, director, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Cheryl Carrier, program director, 21st Century Education Programs, Ford Motor Company Fund

Students and teachers from Freshman Academy at Pearl-Cohn High School will be available to talk with the media about their experiences with career academies during the tour.

WHAT: Announcement on partnership between Ford Motor Company Fund, Nashville Chamber and Public High Schools; followed by tour of Pearl-Cohn High School

WHEN: Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. *Tour of school begins at 11:45 a.m.*

WHERE: Pearl-Cohn High School, 904 26th Avenue, Nashville

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