RICHMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

March 25, 2024

Dear Nonprofit Leader,

One of my first priorities when I was named the new Executive Director of the Richmond Public Schools (RPS) Education Foundation in early 2023 was to charter a strategic assessment of the organization. We interviewed several candidates for this project before selecting David Wagner from Clear Mission Consulting to lead the assessment. He went on to hit home runs at every stage.

My board leadership and I appreciated David's attention to detail and willingness to think outside of the box. He spoke with our team, supporters, and local partner organizations to build a thorough understanding of the unique challenges that students in Richmond, VA face. He went further, identifying leading practices from other education foundations that we could use to move the needle in Richmond.

Multiple community members and partners who spoke with David reached out to me afterward to thank me for the opportunity to be involved. I immediately turned his findings into talking points for conversations with supporters about our new direction. We have used David's work as the Foundation for our next steps and we are seeing real momentum and excitement for the future.

We are forever grateful for David's professionalism, communication, and deliverables; he exceeded all expectations.

I invite you to email me (tcooper@rpseducationfoundation.org) if you have any questions about our experiences working with David.

Sincerely,

Taikein Cooper
Executive Director
Richmond Public Schools Education Foundation