To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support HiSchool DiSCo: High School Distributed Scientific Computing. I am a physics teacher at the International Academy (IA) in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. The IA is a public consortium school that draws students from eleven school districts in the surrounding area. It offers a curriculum built around the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. We are one of a small handful of public schools in the United States that requires 100% participation in the IB Diploma Program, which also makes us one of the top ten largest IB schools in the world.

Our school is unique in that we not only draw students from the local neighborhoods, but also expatriate students from around the world. Over 75% of our students were either born outside the United States, or have parents who emigrated from one of almost 80 different nations. We have native speakers of every major world language, and representatives of every major world religion.

I believe that our school has the necessary attributes to make this project a success:

1) **Administrative support**: I have cleared our participation with our building’s administration and technology coordinator. They are enthusiastic about this project, and are 100% committed to doing whatever is necessary to ensure its success.

2) **Infrastructure**: We have a school-wide Ethernet network that is connected to the Internet by a high-speed fiber optic line. I also have space in my classroom to house the project computers.

3) **Interested students**: The students in our building are genuinely interested in experiences that extend beyond the classroom. This summer, for example, I have students who will be working with physicists in laboratories at Oakland University, Wayne State University, and the Center for Ultrafast Optics at The University of Michigan. I also have students who will be attending the Physics of Atomic Nuclei Program at Michigan State University, and others who will be working a variety of industrial laboratories.

I am very excited about the possibility of being able to participate in this program, and I know that my students will gain experiences that will last a lifetime. Please feel free to contact me at 248-341-5900 or dlyons@bloomfield.org if I can be of any more assistance.

David J. Lyons
Physics Teacher