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Massasoit Enters into a Memorandum of Agreement with Higher Education Partners, LLC

Construction has begun for a build-out of new biology/life sciences laboratory and additional classrooms in Middleborough

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Brockton, Massachusetts – On December 12, the Massasoit Community College Board of Trustees voted to authorize the College to enter into a memorandum of agreement with Higher Education Partners, LLC for the expansion and long term occupancy of its Middleborough Center at 49 Union Street which the College opened in the fall of 2010. Higher Education Partners (HEP) is a private firm that provides facility and operations expansion funding to colleges. With this partnership, the College will be able to utilize a new life sciences lab with preparation space and further build-out of instructional space. Adding this science lab will enable the College to offer full degree completion in concentrations including Liberal Arts, Criminal Justice and Child Care. This will be a great benefit to commuter students providing them the opportunity to earn a degree close to home.

Current enrollment at the College's Center, the town-owned former Lincoln D. Lynch School, is 185 students taking at least one course for credit. With the implementation of the agreement with HEP, enrollment is anticipated to grow to approximately 500 students.

Working with Massasoit at the Middleborough Center, HEP will:

- Build two, new "smart" classrooms, with state-of-the art technology.
- Build a new, fully-equipped Biology Lab
- Continue the expansion of classrooms, labs and programming as enrollment at the Middleborough Center continues to grow.

The two new classrooms and new Biology Lab will expand programming in Middleborough so that area students can complete an Associate Degree without needing to travel to the Brockton campus.

"We are excited about this opportunity which will allow us to enter into a long-term agreement with a partner that has proven success implementing this type of project in Massachusetts. I strongly believe the collaboration of talents and capabilities from this private organization and the College will result in great opportunities for the residents of the greater Middleborough area," said Dr. Charles Wall, Massasoit Community College President.

HEP President Gerard Kavanaugh commented, "HEP is pleased to be partnering with Massasoit to bring expanded programming and enhanced facilities to the Middleborough area. The Middleborough Center has been a great addition to the area; we are pleased to be involved in its expansion."

Founded in 1966, in the heart of southeastern Massachusetts, Massasoit Community College is a public two-year college in the Massachusetts Public Higher Education System. It is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States. Many departments carry additional accreditations. The College offers a full spectrum of associate's degree programs in arts, sciences, and applied sciences as well as one year and short term certificates across a variety of occupations and interests. In addition the College offers corporate and job skills training courses.

The Middleborough Center offers plenty of free parking, a study lounge for students and is conveniently located in the heart of Middleborough behind town hall.