

For Immediate Release

## **McCullough Hyde Memorial Hospital Partners with Talawanda School District to Improve Community Options**

McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital is pleased to announce an exciting commitment to our community. To help fund Talawanda High School's new synthetic turf field, MHMH is pledging \$10,000 a year for the next ten years. The pledge to Talawanda Schools is an investment in the health and wellness of our home town and builds on a 16 year Athletic Trainer service agreement between MHMH and THS. By further partnering with local schools, the goal is to not only prevent injuries to school athletes, but also benefit other students and the community in important ways.

Bryan Hehemann, President and CEO of MHMH stated, "This pledge from McCullough-Hyde will have real impact on the quality of life for everyone in the Oxford area. We are extremely proud of the partnerships between two community pillar organizations, our school and our hospital. We congratulate Talawanda Schools for their foresight and join them in a commitment to a safer and healthier school and community".

A synthetic playing surface allows the field to be used by the entire community, open to community teams and activities as well as a variety of sport team games and practices, band competitions and physical education courses. While it significantly enhances player safety by reducing ankle and knee injuries, it helps make our community more attractive to prospective residents and businesses.

"The Field of Dreams Committee is elated to have garnered the support and backing of MHMH," said Randi Malcolm Thomas, chairperson of the Field of Dreams Committee. The Field of Dreams Committee is composed of residents who have organized, in partnership with Talawanda Schools, to raise the necessary funds to have synthetic turf installed at the new high school stadium.

Dr. Phil Cagwin, superintendent of Talawanda Schools stated, "This commitment from McCullough Hyde Memorial Hospital is another example of how a community can collaborate to dedicate its resources for the provision of a higher quality of life for our current and future residents".