



**JOHN DEERE**

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John Thomassen  
Director of Aftermarket & Customer Support Region 4  
10789 Ridgeview Road  
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USA

Dear Dr. Flanigan,

John Deere is pleased to sign this Letter of Support intended to document our partnership with and commitment to North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS) regarding the college's Precision Ag Capital Project opportunity.

We are pleased to hear that North Dakota State College of Science is working toward increasing the scope and size of the Agriculture department by adding capacity to their Precision Agriculture program.

The proposal provided to Deere by NDSCS demonstrates a forward-thinking approach to help North Dakota continue to build a pipeline of strong Ag students ready to join the workforce. We believe this Capital Project will help provide the following benefits to the community and to the region:

1. Continue to build the infrastructure necessary to grow the capacity of the entire Agriculture program at NDSCS.
2. Continue to develop relationships with industry partners to offer internships and other work-based opportunities statewide.
3. Developing the capacity to offer state-of-the-art agriculture training to workforce partners.
4. Enhancing wrap-around services supporting adult learners and rural students to increase retention and recognition of agricultural programs in the state.

These capacity and equity outcomes will help fill an industry gap in training and employment opportunities throughout North Dakota. The proposed project aligns with our mission to help individuals enter and advance in the Ag workforce. The wraparound services included in this project, as well as the focus on addressing obstacles non-traditional learners face, will be beneficial to the individuals we serve and to the State of North Dakota as whole.



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As an industry supporter of this project, John Deere recognizes the value that this project will have in our area. To ensure the success of the grant project, John Deere is committed to providing the following activities, resources, and/or support to ensure the project's success:

- Serve on an advisory committee
- Work directly with John Deere dealers to help ensure students have employment after graduation
- Maintain new John Deere Equipment for student training purposes
- Provide training aids such as engine, transmissions, special tools and parts
- Provide John Deere-designed training updates required for instructors to stay up to date with cutting-edge technologies
- Provide input as needed for curriculum development and training materials

John Deere is excited to be a partner for this Precision Ag Capital Project. The proposed Project is critical for meeting the current and future needs of students and employers in the area. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information to support the Precision Ag Capital Project.

Sincerely,