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Media Release

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AAGARD GROUP ANNOUNCES LEAD GIFT TO NEW HIGH SCHOOL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Brent Smith, president of The Aagard Group, LLC, announced that Aagard has committed a lead gift in the amount of \$1 million to the Alexandria Area High School capital campaign. Aagard, an Alexandria-based company that designs, engineers and manufactures automated packaging machinery, was founded in 1997 and now has 107 employees. Smith shared the exciting news with staff at a company presentation last week.

"I think that each of us is charged with leaving a legacy for future generations," stated Smith. "Our donation is a down payment on the future. It will make it possible for School District 206 to build on its mission of educational excellence." The capital campaign seeks to raise \$12 million in private donations from corporations, foundations and individuals in support of a new high school complex to house academics, the arts and athletics. Campaign contributions will reduce the tax impact for district residents.

The capital campaign is led by a 12-member Steering Committee co-chaired by Bruce and Kathleen Pohlig. "The support of our business community is a wonderful illustration of how important this project is to our community and is inspiring several other lead gift considerations," stated Bruce Pohlig. The campaign has realized early success with generous lead gifts totaling \$2.9 million to date.

Individuals or businesses who wish to discuss a contribution to the Capital Campaign should contact Bruce or Kathleen Pohlig at (320) 491-1120.

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