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## PRESS RELEASE

MC•OECN and Member Information Technology Centers Announce Business Partnership With SunGard K-12 to Provide eFinancePLUS Enterprise Resource Planning System For Ohio's K-12 Schools.

*Ohio's K-12 schools now have an affordable, full-featured ERP solution to enable operational excellence.* 

**Columbus, Ohio, March 14, 2016:** On behalf of their members, the Management Council of the Ohio Education Computer Network (MCOECN) today announced selection of SunGard K-12 as the successful business partner for the MCOECN's Business Systems Software Request for Partnership – Intent To Qualify competitive selection process initiated in June 2015. The RFP-ITQ was issued to assist member ITCs and K-12 school districts in finding a full-featured business system that can be used to manage school district accounting, finances, procurement, human resources, payroll and other important business functions for years to come.

Led by the MCOECN and a collaborative team of Information Technology Centers and their K-12 Customers across Ohio, the eight-month effort included rigorous reviews of vendor's proposed software solution, resource commitment and dedication to a long-term relationship that embraces ITCs and K-12 school districts in Ohio.

Over 50 ITC and school district staff members– Treasurers, Fiscal, Accounting and Human Resource Specialists – were engaged in the process and combined invested over 5,350 hours of effort in selecting SunGard K-12 and eFinancePLUS.

Through the MCOECN's business partnership and license agreement with SunGard K-12, eFinancePLUS is available to all licensed K-12 school districts and other educational entities within the state of Ohio. It is available in two "bundles," which offer a full complement of Accounting, Budgeting, General Ledger, Human Resources and Procurement capabilities. Both bundles include the key components most often requested by districts – software licenses, project implementation services, hosting and on-going support. Subsequent to the implementation and conversion costs in the initial year, a typical school district can expect licensing fees of approximately \$2.00 per student per year, depending on bundle choice and school enrollment.

"With the addition of SunGard K-12's eFinancePLUS to the MCOECN and ITCs' suite of services, school districts now have an affordable, full-featured Enterprise Resource Planning platform available to enable their business operations and focus their precious resources in the classroom, where they can impact Ohio's children the most," said Geoff Andrews, Chief Executive Officer of the MCOECN. Greg Buddelmeyer, MCOECN's CFO, added, "We are pleased to select a nationally recognized company

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known for its commitment to K-12 schools to partner with the MCOECN and ITCs in Ohio. The quality of their product, company reputation and dedication to Ohio has been apparent throughout the process."

SunGard K-12, based in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania is part of FIS Global headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida. FIS is one of the world's largest financial services companies, with 55,000 employees serving 20,000 customers in 130 countries. SunGard K-12 is one of the largest K-12 solutions providers in the U.S., serving nearly 1,400 school districts and 8 million students every day.

As the successful partner with the MCOECN, SunGard K-12 is now beginning its fourth statewide implementation. After months of effort earning Ohio's business, Adam Eberle, Chief Commercial Officer, SunGard K-12, said, "SunGard K-12 is pleased to partner with MCOECN on this important initiative for schools and districts in Ohio. Our eFinancePLUS solution will help districts save time and money and enable them to focus on student achievement – exactly what we are passionate about here at SunGard K-12."

Implementation planning for interested districts is presently underway, and first installations are expected to commence at the start of the coming fiscal year on July 1, 2016.

Districts interested in participating may contact their local ITC for more information, or may send their inquiries to <u>get-</u><u>eFinancePlus@mcoecn.org</u>.

A project website is currently being developed and will be available at www.mcoecn.org in March 2016.

For additional information, contact Sam Orth at orth@mcoecn.org.