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HILLSBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION APPROVED TO RELOCATE TO CENTRO ESPAÑOL

(January 7, 2010) TAMPA -- In a unanimous vote at the Tampa City Council meeting on Thursday, January 7, the Hillsborough Education Foundation received approval on a long-term lease agreement to occupy the Centro Español de West Tampa. This decision marks the completion of a formal request for proposal process the Foundation initiated last fall. With this lease, Centro Español will house the Foundation's administrative offices and the Supply Store for its Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools program.

Centro Español will remain accessible to the community and all of Hillsborough County. A community room will be available for use as a meeting space for community organizations. With this move the Foundation looks forward to being stewards of this community treasure while putting it to good use. Discussions are underway with Sol J. Fleischman, Jr. of Fleischman Garcia Architecture and the Beck Group concerning the improvements and repairs in the building, including the restoration of the its main staircase to its original grandeur.

The site is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in late spring 2010. Thanks to the support of the City of Tampa, the Foundation will now have its first, central location from which to continue its mission of serving the students, teachers, and schools in Hillsborough County. The Foundation is excited to become a part of the West Tampa community and introduce the area's diverse background to its supporters, volunteers, and school district employees.

For more information about the Hillsborough Education Foundation and its programs, please visit www.educationfoundation.com.

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Information on Hillsborough Education Foundation, Inc:

The Hillsborough Education Foundation is a 501(c) 3 charitable organization whose mission is to invest community resources to help students achieve academic success. The Foundation, now celebrating 20 years of serving the students, teachers and schools in our community has invested more than \$69 million for enhancement of education. The Foundation annually raises over \$5 million and fulfills its mission via programs such as College, Career & Technical Scholarships, Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools, Take Stock in Children Mentoring, School Enrichment, and Excellence in Education programs as well as other resource programs to benefit those we serve.