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## E2D - ELIMINATE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE WELCOMES ANN CLARK AND MICHAEL PRAEGER AS NEW MEMBERS OF THE E2D BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Charlotte, NC - October 17, 2017** - E2D,Inc., a local non-profit organization working to ensure that all of Charlotte's youth have affordable access to essential at-home technology, is proud to announce the appointment of retired CMS Superintendent, Ann Clark, and AvidXchange CEO and Co-Founder, Michael Praeger, to the E2D Board of Directors, effective this month.

Ann Clark has been a trusted advisor and advocate for E2D since the organization started in 2013. Ms. Clark has been a highly effective and committed leader in education for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools for over thirty years serving in the capacities of classroom teacher, principal, District Chief Academic Officer, Deputy Superintendent and most recently Superintendent. Ms. Clark retired from her position as CMS Superintendent this past July.

Michael Praeger is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of AvidXchange, Inc., the leading provider of on-demand accounts payables management and automated payment solutions. Mr. Praeger brings over 20 years of corporate technology experience founding, managing, merging and selling technology and web services-related companies. Mr. Praeger's firm, AvidXchange has been recognized as one of the Top 100 Technology companies in the USA by Red Herring as well as one of the "Fast 500" by Deloitte.

E2D Board Chair, Rob Phocas said, "It's pretty incredible to be able welcome these two highly qualified and impressive individuals to our organization. Ann Clark and Michael Praeger are at the pinnacle of their professions and are poised to help lead E2D as we continue to expand our reach to serve students throughout Mecklenburg County and beyond."

For more information about the appointment of Ann Clark and Michael Praeger or E2D, please contact, Jenny Myers, E2D Community Outreach Coordinator. You can also learn more about E2D by visiting <a href="https://www.e-2-d.org">www.e-2-d.org</a>.

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**About E2D – Eliminate the Digital Divide:** Since 2013 E2D has helped provide digital solutions for more than 3,700 low-income families in the Charlotte Region. E2D obtains laptop donations from generous corporations and refurbishes them to distribute to students. E2D also helps source low-cost access to broadband solutions as well as provides digital literacy training for its families.

E2D is committed to providing exposure to workforce development opportunities and IT skill training to CMS youth through its **RE-IMAGE CLT** initiative. Re-IMAGE CLT Computer Labs located on the campuses of Garinger and West Charlotte High Schools employ and train Charlotte's most at-risk youth as computer lab technicians to refurbish laptop computers that will in turn be distributed to their fellow CMS peers.

E2D has received several awards and acclaim for its work including: The Blue Diamond Award for Non-Profit Technology from IT-ology, E2D was named the Most Innovative Digital Inclusion Leader in the USA by Next Century Cities & the National League of Cities and, most recently was named one of the "Top 30 Technologists, Transformers and Trailblazers" for 2016 by The Center for Digital Education.