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# NEWS RELEASE

## GIBSON COUNTY DELEGATION BRIDGES A CULTURAL GAP

Princeton, IN (June 23, 2010) – Seven Gibson County high school students and two teachers recently returned from Tahara City, Japan with a first-hand understanding of the Japanese culture. The “Experience Tahara 2010” educational delegation spent nine days living the Japanese lifestyle and attending school with host family students. The “Experience Tahara 2010” delegation was sponsored by the Gibson County Economic Development Corporation. GCEDC President and CEO B. Todd Mosby said, “Our Friendship City committee did an outstanding job planning this trip and selecting our delegation. Gibson County could have not asked for better representation.”

The delegation members were immersed into the Japanese culture just two hours after landing in Nagoya, Japan. They attended school with host students and teachers, spent time touring the beautiful Tahara City landscape, met Tahara City Mayor Katsuyuki Suzuki, toured the Toyota Motor Manufacturing plant which is the mother plant to TMMI, dined in Japanese restaurants, shopped, and much more. Mosby said, “In addition they lived the lifestyle of a Tahara City student or teacher; with vast differences between their Gibson County school experience and the one they lived in Japan. Some of those differences include the modes of transportation to and from school, the environmental maintenance, as students perform the daily cleaning; including the bathrooms, the serving of lunch, and technology to name a few. Our students and teachers represented Gibson County perfectly. Everyone carried themselves with great respect, performed their duties, made lifelong friends and showed our Friendship City how well grounded in life they can be at such a young age. Each of them have a very bright future ahead.”

Mosby too represented Gibson County as a part of the delegation; he used the opportunity to strengthen the relationship between Gibson County and Tahara City. He met with several key leaders and spent time marketing Gibson County to Japanese corporations along with Greg Wathen of the Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana and Larry Taylor of the Warrick County Department of Economic Development.

The Gibson County delegation was made-up of:

Ms. Marlene Obert – Teacher – Gibson Southern High School  
Mrs. Debbie White – Teacher – Princeton Community High School  
Denver Lantaff – Sophomore – Wood Memorial High School  
Sara Schmitt – Senior – Wood Memorial High School  
Breanna Newton – Junior – Gibson Southern High School  
Adam Smith – Junior – Gibson Southern High School  
Veronica Kroeger – Junior – Princeton Community High School  
Andrea Walton – Junior – Princeton Community High School  
Riley White – Sophomore – Princeton Community High School  
B. Todd Mosby – President / CEO – Gibson County Economic Development Corporation