

2012 HC*EXCELL E-NEWS

EDUCATION MATTERS: CRADLE TO CAREER

The Hamblen County Foundation for Educational Excellence and Achievement's (HC*EXCELL) mission is to promote educational excellence and achievement as a means of sustaining economic prosperity and improving the quality of life in Hamblen County. HC*EXCELL a 501 (c) (3) foundation was founded in 1991 by community leaders to support and advance educational excellence and achievement.

This HC*EXCELL E-News was created to keep Hamblen County education stakeholders informed of the work of HC*EXCELL and to encourage you to participate in strengthening our local education process.

“Education Matters: Cradle to Career” is HC*EXCELL's three year strategic plan to broaden community commitment and investment in quality education by supporting and developing initiatives to prepare our children to be school ready; support successful K-12 transition; and to provide options for post-secondary access and success. This work is made possible by generous and visionary community donors, grants and fundraising that support the foundation's efforts to ensure high school graduates are ready for post-secondary education, work and life. Facilitated work is described below.

Hamblen County's Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program provides free high quality, age appropriate books on a monthly basis to children from birth to age five. Program funds are raised by HC*EXCELL and the Books to Birth Foundation. The Hamblen IML program is a partnership between HC*EXCELL, Walters State Community College, Kiwanis Club of Morristown, Morristown Hamblen County Library and the U.S. Postal Services. Since 2004, Hamblen County children have received approximately 145,000 books at a cost of \$298,597.74. Half the cost was paid by HC*EXCELL contributors and the other half by the Books from Birth Foundation.

Parents as Reading Partners is a new initiative partnership being developed to provide parents of our most vulnerable population with instruction and support to assist them in helping their children achieve reading readiness. Partners include The Morristown-Hamblen Library, Morristown-Housing Authority, Douglas Cherokee Economic Authority and the Rotary Club of Morristown A.M.

Arts Build Skills is an after-school based pilot project to improve third grade student achievement in math and reading. Identified students attend five one and one half hour sessions in math art and five one and one half hour sessions in Readers Theater. Project partners are the West Elementary School and PTO, Rotary Club of Morristown A.M., Morristown Theater Guild, and Rose Center.

Junior Achievement (JA) - Through the generosity and leadership of Don Rogers, Rogers Petroleum, Inc., and Rotary

Club of Morristown A.M. HC*EXCELL in 2008 facilitated a partnership with the Hamblen County Board of Education for a Junior Achievement Pilot Program for Alpha, Fairview-Marguerite, Manley and John Hay Elementary Schools. The program's objective was to strengthen student academic performance through basic business skills and knowledge application. Grades one through four JA instruction was conducted by volunteers. Grade five instructions were led by teachers with an onsite applied skills daylong experience at the Junior Achievement of East Tennessee BizTown Center in Clinton. The success of the JA BizTown program reflected in an end of program survey and review resulted in HC*EXCELL offering a JA BizTown partnership opportunity to all Hamblen County Elementary schools. With the generous support of the SunTrust Foundation, over 800 Hamblen County fifth graders will experience this program during the 2012-2013 school year. The elementary schools are currently engaged in training and setting dates for their JA BizTown experience. 5th Grade teachers will use the JA curriculum which encompasses financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship – the “Economics of Life!” While at BizTown students will explore what they have learned through role play; they will run businesses, get paid, pay taxes, and manage their checking accounts, vote, and much more!

Yasuyuki Yamaoka High School Leadership Fellowship was established in 2005 to support the transition of the Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce High School Leadership afterschool program to in-school accredited teen leadership classes at Morristown Hamblen East and West High Schools. The HSL curriculum includes public speaking, project organization and implementation, team building, leadership skills and service learning. This year approximately 80 East and West High School students will participate in the 2012-2013 HSL programs. Current sponsors are Colortech, Inc. and Tuff Torq Corporation.

tnAchieves – In 2011 HC*EXCELL facilitated a partnership of itself, the City of Morristown, Hamblen County Government, and Hamblen County Board of Education to support post-secondary access and success through becoming a **tnAchieves** partner. **tnAchieves** is a college access, last dollar scholarship program designed to provide mentoring and financial support for assisting public high school students in accessing and completing community college or technology school. In 2011 269 Hamblen County High School seniors were mentored with 109 completing requirements and receiving scholarship monies.

Hamblen County P-16 Council – The Council Program of Work for 2012 and 2013 will focus on the “Education Matters: Cradle to Career” initiative to prepare our children to be school ready; support successful K-12

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Continued

transition; provide options for post-secondary access and support; and broaden the community investment and commitment to quality education.

Hamblen County District Teachers of the Year

(TOY) are selected for their instructional excellence and achievement. HC*EXCELL awards each TOY \$500 in recognition of their teaching excellence and dedication to their students. 2012 Hamblen County Teachers of the Year are: Donna Carter, Whitesburg Elementary School; Stephanie Dallmann, Manley Elementary; Cari Ashford, Morristown Hamblen West High School.

National Board Professional Teacher Standards

(NBPTC) HC*EXCELL supports professional teacher development by providing funding in partnership with the State of Tennessee for National Board Certification. NBPTC is a rigorous assessment of high quality teaching. Teachers who obtain certification are among the most proficient in their field. 2012 Hamblen County NBPTC teachers are: Amy Hall, West Elementary; Christy Walker, Alpha Elementary; Matthew Drinnon, West View Middle School; and Rebecca Drinnon, Morristown Hamblen East and Sandra Shetley, Alpha Elementary. HC*EXCELL rewards National Board teachers with a \$500 check upon receipt of their certification and a yearly stipend of \$200 for being Board Certified. The Hamblen County Board of Education provides a yearly stipend of \$750 for Board Certification.

Volunteer and Mentorship Opportunities include JA BizTown Program, tnAchieves and Arts Build Skills programs. If you are interested in being a volunteer or mentor, please contact Linda Ketner at (423) 581-5334 or lketner.hcexcell@gmail.com or Tish Jones at (423) 587-9278 or tjrom@usit.net .

Funding

“Education Matters: Cradle to Career”

HC*EXCELL is currently in a three year **Education Matters: Cradle to Career Initiative** to prepare our children to be school ready; support successful K-12 transition; provide options for post-secondary access and success; and broaden community commitment and investment in education. The major funders of this initiative are currently:

Corporate

Colgate- Palmolive Co.

Colortech, Inc.

Rogers Petroleum

Alcoa Foundation

First TN Foundation

JTEKT Automotive Tennessee Morristown, Inc.

MAHLE Engine Components, Inc.

MAHLE Industries Incorporated

Morristown Utility Systems

SunTrust Foundation

Walters Foundation

Community National Bank

Individuals and Organization

Tish Jones & Alex Rom-Roginski

Kiwanis Club of Morristown

George and Shirley Haggard

Rotary Club of Morristown A.M.

Roland and Kenny Zitt

Don Bunch Investments

Paul Lebel

Dr. Wade McCamey

Ronald and Lea Wayne Perkins

Renold Jeffrey

Anderson and Sandra Smith

Three B Partners

Burke-Ailey Construction Company

Ann and Jerry Cranford

Woodcraft, Inc.

Bob Bobo

Maudie and David Briggs

Mike and Katy Davidson

Fernando Gyorfy

Rosemary Moody Wigington

Mike and Ashli Bunch

LIFECYCLE and PROGRAMMING

1990 – 1991

Dr. Kojiro Yamaoka, Chairman of the Tuff Torq Corporation, announcement of a \$50,000 gift to endow higher education scholarships for Morristown Hamblen County High School Graduates.

Dwight Nelson, Ernest Walker Ed.D., then superintendent of Hamblen County School System, and Takao Ogishita, then President of Tuff Torq Corporation formed a committee to establish the Hamblen County Foundation for Educational Excellence and Achievement. The Foundation received its a 501 (c) (3) non-profit status in December 1991.

Yamaoka Scholarship Fund for East and West High was established by Tuff Torq Corporation.

1992- 1997

Toyoda, TRW Automotive, Inc. (now JTEKT Automotive Tennessee Morristown, Inc.) endowed \$40,000 to an unrestricted fund, the interest designated to support educator grants and the normal activities of the foundation. Implemented teacher grants;

The John Willis, James H. loving, Marshall Mills, and Eddie Price Scholarship funds were transferred to HC*EXCELL endowed funds for facilitation;

The Tuff Torq Corporation gifted an additional \$51,058 to HC*EXCELL to support the Yamaoka Scholarship Fund and normal operational costs;

HC*EXCELL Board held its first retreat and created a five year action plan that included expanding the Board; offering a non-voting ex-officio board position to the Chair of the Hamblen County Board of Education or his designee; creating an annual at-large board Position; developing a Capitol Campaign; and hiring a part-time executive director;

1998 - 2000

HC*EXCELL, using funds raised from the Capitol Campaign, began providing professional development for teachers and administrators; literacy and art programming; and grants to Hamblen County teachers, administrators, students and community organizations. Examples are listed below:

- Literacy Links, a Read 2000 Seminar,
- Read 2000 College Square Mall, Rose Center and Morristown Hamblen Library Scholastic Book Sales and book distribution events for at-risk children
- Crockett Tavern History Event
- Read 2000 in-school Student Tutoring Program for at-risk youth
- Knoxville Symphony Regional Student Concert at Smokey Mountain Pavilion
- Operation Outreach
- Girl's Inc. Reading Grant
- Teacher of the Year Awards initiated

2001-2004

Educational efforts implemented and expanded to include systemic work in education:

- National Board of Professional Teacher Standards Certification grants and stipends implemented;
- JTEKT Educational Leadership Award Created (purpose: to honor a business, industry, individual, school or organization that has followed the JTEKT lead in promoting above and beyond educational excellence in Hamblen County.)
- Student Voices
- Roundtable PBS Schools (Roundtable Community Engagement Project)
 - Building a Knowledge Based Community Report released and published January 2003
- Teacher Art Institute at Rose Center
- Pre-school Sunrise Skill Builder Books for at-risk families
- 2nd Teacher Art Institute at Rose Center
- Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Grant
- First Principal for a Day Hamblen County Program

- Framework of Poverty Aha! Seminar at Rose Center (how to teach children of poverty)
- Aha! Video set for Hamblen County School System
- \$5,000 Founders Grants (System, schools and teachers eligible)
- Teaching Curriculum through the Arts Seminar at Rose Center
- Partnered with Kiwanis Club of Morristown, Walters State Community College U.S. Postal Service and the Books from Birth Foundation to establish and implement the Hamblen County Imagination Library Program. (HC*EXCELL since implementation has facilitated and raised funds for the program)
- Facilitated effort to convene community stakeholders to develop a local P-16 Council (pre-school through grade 16)
- Hamblen County P-16 Council established and designated as Tennessee's first Local P-16 Council (see Program of work below) HC*EXCELL role to serve as coordinator and facilitator of the Hamblen County P-16 Council

2005-2007

\$10,000 MAHLE-Hans Jehle Technical Award established by the Executive Management Team of MAHLE to recognize and celebrate the leadership, guidance, and contributions of Hans D. Jehle, third president of MAHLE

Yasuyuki Yamaoka High School Leadership Fellowship gifted \$50,000 to transition the Morristown-Area Chamber of Commerce after school High School Leadership program into an in-school curriculum based semester course at Morristown Hamblen East and West High Schools. The purpose of the course is to teach leadership skills to sophomores and juniors

2008-2011

Facilitated Junior Achievement Partnership with Don Rogers, Hamblen County School System and Rotary Club of Morristown A.M. to provide an Elementary Pilot Program for instructing students in basic business skills and knowledge

- Conducted Junior Achievement Pilot Survey that resulted in HC*EXCELL inviting all Hamblen County Elementary Schools to participate and partner in the 2012 Junior Achievement BizTown program.

Coordinated and managed the work of the Hamblen County P-16 Council

Facilitated the development of a tnAchieves Scholarship and Mentoring Partnership with the City of Morristown, Hamblen County Government, Hamblen County Board of Education and HC*EXCELL. Each partner contributed a first match of \$4,500 and a second year match of \$6,250 as a match to a tnAchieves commitment. 262 high school seniors applied and 109 students registered for WSCC or Tennessee Technology Center at Morristown. 45 volunteers participated as mentors in 2012.

2012

“Education Matters: Cradle to Career” (CTC) initiative created to prepare our children to be school ready; support successful K-12 transition; provide options for post-secondary access and success; and broaden community commitment and investment in education. Currently conducting a three year funding campaign to support this work and to assist the community in developing partnerships to sustain and strengthen the quality of life in Hamblen County

10 Hamblen County Elementary School's fifth graders will participate in JABiz Town partnership with funds from the CTC Initiative and targeted donation from SunTrust Foundation.

325 Hamblen County high school seniors have registered for the second year of the tnAchieves partnership with the City of Morristown, Hamblen County Board of Education and Hamblen County Government.