

2007 ENews – Year In Review

Yasuyuki Yamaoka High School Leadership fellowship is providing funding to transition the High School Leadership program into graded curriculum courses at Morristown East and West High Schools. A partnership of HC*EXCELL, MACC, and the Hamblen County Board of Education thirty-three high school sophomores and juniors are being prepared as student leaders through the able instruction of Carrie Ashford and Randy Greene.

Hamblen County 2006 Teachers of the Year:

Congratulations! HC*EXCELL congratulates and salutes this year's Hamblen County Teachers of the Year: Tony Dalton, Janice **Wampler**, **Anne Taylor**- Each year HC*EXCELL awards the Hamblen County Teachers of the year \$500 for their efforts in instructional excellence and achievement.

Sarbanes –Oxley Strategic Alignment: Through the leadership of Jack Fishman, Roland Zitt and Bill Wittenberg, HC*EXCELL is incorporating steps to comply with Sarbanes-Oxley accounting and prepare for long-term sustainability.

Imagination Library: Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Program is continuing to grow. Supported through contributions to HC*EXCELL this literacy program is instilling basic literacy skills and a love for reading in our community's birth to five year old children. Each month registered children receive a high-quality, hard-back, book free of charge. HC*EXCELL facilitates the program in partnership with Kiwanis Club of Morristown, WSCC, M-H Library and the U.S. Postal Services.

- **Family literacy:** Charter Communication continues to promote family literacy through their cable T.V. show "Ms. Eva the Reading Engineer.
- **Accountability:** The HC reading assessment programs continues through the support of the Hamblen County School System and the Douglas-Cherokee Head Start program Data collected will provide the basis of a report to measure the impact of the IML program on preschool reading readiness.
- **Returned Books:** IML returned books are contributed to Hamblen County Elementary Schools, Toys for Tots, Head Start, M-H Library and other organizations that promote literacy in Hamblen County.
- **Imagination Library Week:** Hamblen County participated in Tennessee's inaugural Imagination Library week

Give Kids Good School marketing Campaign: HC*EXCELL joined the Public Education Network's first national campaign to improve education for all students.

Hamblen County P-16 Council: Members of the Hamblen County P-16 Council have been collaborating on a number of initiatives this year including:

- **Imagination Library Plus Bookmobile;** The Tennessee Technology Center at Morristown has taken the lead in the development of the Imagination Library Plus Bookmobile project by participating and facilitating the renovation, donation of retired school bus by HCBOE, major financial donations by Citizen Tribune, Jefferson Federal Charitable Foundation, Berkline, Inc., graphics by Signs Now, computers donated by WSCC and coordination of project by HC*EXCELL. Other partners include M-H Library and
- **Positive Youth Development Initiative (PYDI):** HC*EXCELL was one of three Tennessee local education foundations to receive a PYDI grant from The Public Education Network (PEN) to initiate efforts to ensure high school graduates are ready for post secondary education, work and life.
- **HC P-16 Education Forum –** June 26, 2006 -165 local and area education stakeholders met to learn about education data and determine actions to improve education in Hamblen County. Excerpts of the Education Forum are continuing to air on local cable television.
- **Positive Youth Development P-16 member and constituents survey**
- **Big Eight Principles:** Youth directed effort to identify and develop topics into principles.
- **"Big Eight Principles"** survey by Hamblen County PYDI youth advisory committee.
- **Principles Roundtables:** P-16 members are hosting stakeholder discussions for the development of recommendations and actions to ensure Hamblen County High School graduates are ready for post secondary education, work and life.
- **Pilot Student Video Conference:** Student initiative with Chattanooga and Memphis youth to initiate a statewide effort to solicit youth input on education in Tennessee.
- **Regional P-16 Education Forum:** Local Council is assisting in the development of regional P-16 Education FORUM

NEXT STEPS

Roundtable Presentations to full HC P-16 Council

Two-Five and Ten Plans to ensure Hamblen County High School Students are ready for post secondary education, work and life.
"Creating Educational Value" DVD and marketing campaign
Educators Depot