



MAPE

Partners

Mississippi Association of Partners in Education Newsletter

Summer 2010

Winter-Reed Award to Honor 'Boys of Spring' and Robert Clark

The third Winter-Reed Award will be presented to the "Boys of Spring" and former member of the House of Representatives and Education Chair Robert Clark of Ebenezer.

"Boys of Spring" is a nickname coined in the 1980s for a scrappy group of young staffers who, along with Gov. William Winter, Jack Reed Sr. and Clark, took a stand for improved public education in Mississippi.

The "Boys of Spring" are Andy Mullins, Dick Molpus, John Henegan, Bill Gartin and David Crews. Though he was a member of the group, former Gov. Ray Mabus' current role as Secretary of the Navy prevents his participation in the award program.

Their advocacy and leadership were instrumental in the passage of the Education Reform Act of 1982 signed into law by Gov. Winter. It is considered the most significant educational legislation enacted in Mississippi since the establishment of the public school system.

MAPE will soon announce a spring 2011 date for the awards presentation. In the meantime, visit www.mapie.org for details about the Winter-Reed Award.

Past honorees were the late Sen. Bill Ferris, a lead author of the Adequate Education Act, and Dr. Cathy Grace, founder of the Early Childhood Institute at Mississippi State University.



WATKINS PLAYGROUND PROJECT WINS GOVERNOR'S AWARD. Former Gov. Ronnie Musgrove presents a Governor's Award to Watkins Elementary and several community partners for the school's playground project. The partnership raised more than \$40,000 to renovate the playground and replace outdated equipment. See inside pages for additional award photos. (Details of award-winning projects are posted at www.mapie.org.)

New Alliance Provides Training, Resources to Build School-Community Partnerships

Success stories from around the state clearly demonstrate that school-community partnerships can produce a world of benefits for students, teachers, schools and businesses. Better test scores, improved reading skills and higher graduation rates have all been tied to strong partnership programs in Mississippi's public schools.

This year, PREPS (Program of Research and Evaluation for Public Schools) and MAPE are teaming up to present three regional training sessions for educators and business leaders interested in launching or enhancing partnerships. Participants will learn the nuts and bolts of building programs in their schools or communities, with training provided by professionals with years of experience in partnership successes — teachers, business people, school administrators and partnership coordinators.

Schools from each region will also be invited to showcase their partnership success stories through poster competitions. Winners from each

region will automatically qualify as finalists for the statewide Governor's Awards to be presented by MAPE in spring 2011.

The following are dates and locations for PREPS-MAPE regional training sessions:

**Delta/Greenwood: Sept. 28
Hampton Inn**

**Northeast MS/Tupelo: Oct. 7
Tupelo Middle School**

**Gulf Coast/Pascagoula: Nov. 9
Family Interactive Center**

Through these regional sessions, the PREPS-MAPE alliance plans to unleash the potential of school-community partnerships in Mississippi for the benefit of our schools, our students and our future. Please help us spread the word about our regional sessions, and watch for further event details and announcements at these websites:

www.mapie.org
preps.msstate.edu

Governor's Awards & Partnership Excellence Awards

April 8, 2010 - Jackson Hilton



Governor's Award: Jackson Public Schools Transformation Jackson Shine '09



Governor's Award: Moss Point School District and Moss Point Visionary Circle, Inc.



Governor's Award: Pascagoula School District Family Interactive Center



Governor's Award: Rowan Middle School I Too Can Fly Program



Governor's Award: Wingfield High School Entergy Scholars Program



Partnership Excellence Award: George Street Elementary and Fondren Baptist Church, Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Hinds County Sheriff's Dept. and Battlefield Neighborhood Association



Partnership Excellence Award: Jackson Public Schools - Developing Community Partnerships



Partnership Excellence Award: Thomas Street Elementary (Tupelo) and Mississippi Department of Transportation

Marshall Elementary Students 'Have a Ball'

Creative Partnership Focuses on Health, Nutrition and Fitness

By MAPE Board Member Susan Lamey, State Farm Insurance

Last spring, members of the 2010 class of Leadership Greater Jackson adopted Marshall Elementary School in Jackson and initiated a community-service project called "Smart & New Choices for a Healthier Youth." The program introduced students to easy and nutritious food choices as well as opportunities to experience fun, alternative sports activities.

"The goal of the six-week project was to encourage healthier alternatives for snacks and playtime," said MAPE board member Susan Lamey of State Farm Insurance, member of the Leadership Greater Jackson class. "Marshall Elementary Principal Tony Yarber was very supportive of the effort and welcomed the opportunity to engage with his students."

The project involved a number of activities to introduce students to important dimensions of health and nutrition. Chef Luis Bruno kicked off the project with a "Nutrition Day Rally" and also presented a demonstration showing students how to make a tasty and refreshing snack of fresh fruit.

St. Dominic's Community Caravan made several stops at the school for A Healthy Kids Day visit, which included vision and hearing testing. Parents and guardians were alerted when a potential health concern was found.

During March and April, students were given opportunities to experience alternative sports. The project introduced sports activities that aren't typically offered at the school, including tennis, golf, martial arts, baseball and soccer. Demonstrations were held to show kids how to play different sports, and community partners such as the Mississippi Tennis Association volunteered an hour a day for their sport demonstration week.

Each class at Marshall Elementary had an opportunity to experience a new sports activity in lieu of their regular physical education class.

The Leadership Greater Jackson class also presented a \$100 check to Marshall Elementary to expand their vegetable garden, which was planted earlier in the school year.

The project concluded with an event featuring guest speaker Jesse Mitchell and representatives of the Let's Have a Ball organization. Mitchell, a former Ole Miss defensive lineman and player with the NFL's Baltimore Ravens, currently practices law in the Jackson area and is also a health and fitness advocate. He spoke to the students about healthy habits and staying fit.

On April 23, Just Have a Ball, a nonprofit organization that raises awareness of exercise as a way to combat childhood obesity in Mississippi, along with funding from State Farm Companies and The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi, gave each Marshall Elementary student a ball of his or her very own.

The goal of Let's Have a Ball is to give a ball to every elementary student in the state and encourage them to have fun exercising and learning how to play new sports.

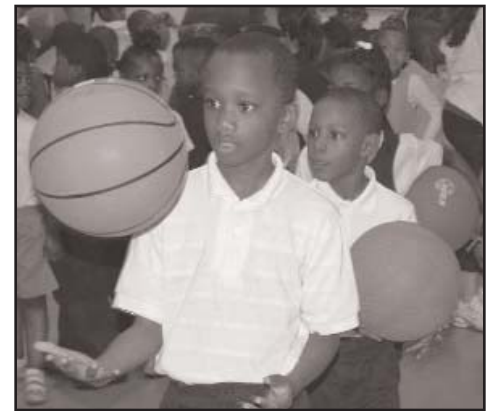
Members of partnership project included Jason Bush of Baker Donelson PC; Whit Grace of Jackson Public Schools; Susan Lamey of State Farm Insurance; Dovie Reed of the Mississippi Department of Employment Security; attorney Kelsey Rushing; Jack Thomas of the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority; and Tomora Thomas of Hinds Behavioral Health Services.

Other Leadership groups worked on various projects, including addressing obesity for junior-high students, community groups and parent associations.

For more information about these Leadership projects, contact Shirley Tucker, executive director of the Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership, at 601-948-7575, or e-mail stucker@greaterjacksonpartnership.com.



Marshall Elementary students received a variety of sports balls, which were theirs to keep!



Volunteers from the Mississippi Tennis Association presented demonstrations to students.

Mississippi Association of Partners in Education

Keeping Children at the Center

P.O. Box 2803

Madison, MS 39130-2803

Phone: 601-605-0577 Fax: 601-853-4408

PartnersinEd@aol.com / www.mapie.org

PARTNERS is a publication of the MS Association of Partners in Education. It is distributed as a service to Mississippi schools and their partners. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official position of the state organization.

Board Members

President: Debbie Anglin
Pascagoula School District

1st Vice President: Michael Bentley,
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings

2nd Vice President: Nadine Gilbert,
Jackson Public Schools

Secretary: Danette McAlexander
Hattiesburg Public Schools

Treasurer: Robert Gibbs
Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes

Past President: Cheryl Comans
Entergy Mississippi, Inc.

Association Manager
Linda Ross Aldy

PR Consultant
Margaret Bucci

Jane Beach
Parents for Public Schools

Alma Ellis
Institute for Disability Studies - USM

Beth Fisher
Trustmark National Bank

Phil Hardwick
Stennis Institute of Government - MSU

Susan Lamey
State Farm

Lisa Merriman
Grenada Public School District

Dr. Beverly Moon
Delta State University

Pete Smith
Mississippi Department of Education

Rebecca Starling
Jackson Public School District

Amy S. Tate
Tennessee Valley Authority

Michael Walker
AT&T

Dr. Cindy Ward
MSU Center for Educational Partnerships

Liz Hudson
Emeritus

MAPE

P.O. Box 2803

Madison, MS 39130-2803

Anglin of Pascagoula Named MAPE President

Debbie Anglin of the Pascagoula School District was recently installed as president of the MAPE Board of Directors.

"As school districts across Mississippi face budget cuts, the role of parents and community partnerships is more important than ever before," Anglin said. "MAPE provides expertise and guidance for school districts to establish community partnership programs and for business, church, civic and service organizations on how they can become involved in their local schools by providing resources, encouragement and volunteer hours. Community partnerships are crucial to the success of our next generation of leaders."

Debbie has served as director of communications for the Pascagoula School District since 2002. She is the internal facilitator for the district's five-year strategic plan, *Destination Graduation!*, and was involved in setting up the Excel by 5 Coalition and Pascagoula's designation as the first Child-Friendly Community on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. She is also a coordinator of the district's drop-out prevention plan, obtains funding for school uniforms for needy students and works closely with Backpack Buddies in assisting students and their families in need of food.

Most recently she has worked alongside the district superintendent to obtain grants and funding for the district's new Family Interactive Center, where children and their families can come to learn and play together free of charge. She has won two National School Public Relations Awards of Excellence and two Golden Medallion Awards from the Mississippi School Public Relations Association for her work on *Destination Graduation!* and the Family Interactive Center.

In the community, she is president of ChAmPS (Chemical Abuse Prevention Services), a board member and past president of C.A.N.D.Y. (Citizens Against Needless Death in Youth); and member and past president of the Public Relations Association of Mississippi, Jackson County Chapter. She is a member of Pascagoula Kiwanis Club, Leadership Jackson County, and the Education Issue Manager Group of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and she is active in United Way of Jackson and George Counties.