Backpacks for Students

People from every part of Broward County pitched in to ensure that BCPS students started school with backpacks and school supplies.

By the time school opened on Monday, August 24, 2010, Partners In Education had already received several calls from individuals and groups asking for assistance in selecting a school to receive donations.

Church by the Glades in Parkland donated 925 backpacks filled with school supplies to 14 elementary and 4 middle schools in Parkland, Coral Springs and Margate. In addition, they provided supplies to the North Area Social Workers, who help students with school supplies in other parts of the North Area.

Other schools receiving support from the community were: North Fork Elementary, Larkdale Elementary, Lauderdale Manors Elementary and Sheridan Hills Elementary.

On behalf of students, thank you to the community for all their support.

Great New Fund-Raiser for PIE

Partners In Education has partnered with the Miami Heat to bring you tickets to the Miami Heat pre-season games.

Broward Schools Family Nights not only gives you perhaps your only opportunity this year to see the Dream Team play, but also gives you a fun way to support Partners In Education, Inc.

For every ticket purchased using the special code, Broward Schools, Partners In Education will receive $10. Proceeds will be used to support partnership recruitment for public schools in Broward County with the least amount of community involvement.

Tickets are available for Pre-Season Heat Game for the following dates:
10-5 vs. Detroit Pistons @ 7:30 PM
10-12 vs. CSKA Moscow @ 7:30 PM
10-18 vs. Charlotte Bobcats @ 7:30 PM

Once you decide which games you wish to attend, use the link provided below to purchase your specially discounted Broward School Night HEAT Tickets.

Click Here for Miami Heat Tickets

Have fun and raise money for a good cause.
Community Day at Sunland Park

United Way of Broward County is working with Sunland Park Elementary to improve the area’s academic success.

The initiative targets children age three to seven (third grade) and provides support to the entire family, including siblings. It focuses on early learning skills, parent involvement and family literacy. The long-term goal is to follow this group of students for a minimum of three years, starting in Pre-School and following them until the completion of the third grade.

On Saturday, August 22, The United Way hosted Back 2 School Day at Sunland Park featuring haircuts for boys, face painting, breakfast and lunch and a host of fun activities.

Veriloquent Wealth Advisors in Coral Springs, through a partnership developed with the assistance of Partners In Education, donated the funds to purchase backpacks and school supplies for all students at Sunland Park. Students received the backpacks on the first day of school.

Message from the E.D.

As children, summer seemed to last forever. The days were filled with sunshine and friends, and endless time to play.

Now, as adults, summer seems to fly by. With all our responsibilities and the need to plan for tomorrow, time just seems to move faster. It feels like just yesterday that I was planning my summer projects, and now it’s nearly October and school is back in session.

This sense of time speeding by reminds me that all of us need to stop and “smell the roses” more. We need to appreciate what we are doing in the moment and to make sure that we spend some time every day doing something joyful.

Working with students, in partnership with a school, can provide just that joyful experience. An hour a week to help an elementary school child learn to read or to provide high school students the benefit of your experience and expertise not only helps the students, but can also help you unwind from your hectic life.

So, take time to appreciate the good things around you. Volunteer with a school. It may just help slow time down again.

Have a good year!

TIP OF THE MONTH

Communication: the imparting or interchange of thoughts, opinions, or information by speech, writing, or signs.

Communication is the only means of letting others know what we think, feel, or want to accomplish.

Partnerships require open, honest, two-way communication between the school and the partner liaisons. Frequent and honest dialog is the only way that liaisons can know the other’s opinion of the partnership and whether each is getting sufficient return on his/her investment.

On rare occasions, a school or business partner liaison has called PIE to discuss his or her frustration about a specific partner. In each case, the person calling was unwilling to have a conversation with the partner. Without exception, this scenario ends with the dissolution of the partnership.

Communicate; it’s one of the best things you can do for your program.
Youth Survivors Foundation Partnership

The Youth Survivors Foundation, Inc. (YSFI) started a youth mentor program at Parkway Middle School in January of 2010. The program focuses on ten homeless, fosters care, and at-risk students.

The mentor program is designed to inspire, encourage, and prepare the students to overcome the personal obstacles they face in obtaining a quality education. The students learn about goal setting, how to study, time management skills, public speaking, and conflict resolution/anger management, among other skills.

In addition to the mentor program, YSFI will launch a Speakers Series at Parkway Middle School during the 2010 - 2011 school year. A few dedicated teachers at the school have volunteered to teach the same 70 - 80 students during their entire middle school career. YSFI will bring in young professionals, such as local lawyers, doctors, marketing and insurance executives, to talk to this group of students and make presentations about the college experience, overcoming obstacles, the importance of education, and various occupations.

YSFI is extremely excited about this program, the upcoming year, and our continued partnership with the Parkway Middle School and the Broward School District.

Casual for a Cause

Friday, August 13, 2010 was Casual for a Cause day at Holland & Knight’s Fort Lauderdale offices.

A long-standing business partner of North Fork Elementary School, employees of the firm were looking for a way to raise money to enhance programs at the school. With support of management, employees decided to sell a sticker that would allow them to dress casually on a particular day. The law firm agreed to match anything raised through Casual for a Cause.

Holland & Knight is now taking Casual for a Cause on the road by challenging other businesses to run a similar program.

Partners In Education thanks the law firm of Holland & Knight not only for raising money for their partnership, but also for taking it to other businesses in the community. The Casual for a Cause sticker template is available through Partners In Education by Emailing PartnersInEducation@browardschools.com.
DeHavilland Associates offers Partnership Expertise

DeHavilland Associates, publisher of the K-12 Partnership Report has taken a lead role in advancing the body of knowledge in school/business partnerships. Brett Pawlowski, President, started DeHavilland Associates by helping major U.S. companies build strategic partnerships at both the local, state and national levels.

More recently, Mr. Pawlowski expanded the business to include a not-for-profit arm that provides assistance to schools, school districts and state partnership associations. As Mr. Pawlowski explained at the first Effective Education Partnership (EEP) Conference, it wasn’t enough work with businesses to help them develop strategic partnerships when schools were not looking at partnerships strategically.

Consequently, in 2007, DeHavilland Associates began offering programs targeted directly to the people employed at the school and district level who are responsible for managing partnership programs.

Among the many services offered are a Webinar series on partnership management, the EEP Conference, now being offered in conjunction with state Partners In Education conferences, periodic White Papers outlining new research on school/business partnerships and the K-12 Partnership Report, which is a monthly newsletter.

The August 2010 K-12 Partnership Report has an excellent article entitled How Partnership Leaders Handle Retention. This article is the result of a recent survey of district-level practitioners, and definitely worth the read.

Anyone interested in school-based partnerships are encouraged to go to www.dehavillandassociates.com.

BrightStar Presents Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trip

Travel back in time with BrightStar & Colonial Williamsburg. For the eighth year, BrightStar Credit Union will sponsor the Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips for Broward Schools. Colonial Williamsburg offers a series of 7 EFTs throughout the school year, broadcast monthly from October through April.

The program includes the EFT, plus curriculum and educational materials to be used in classrooms. The cost for each school is $500, but with BrightStar’s support, enrollment is free for the first 40 District elementary and middle schools to register.

Students enjoy this historical trip back in time to meet and greet famous people like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson!