

Save the date. Events calendar.

Classroom Grants Awards Reception - *Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre*
November 29, 5:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Dancing Classrooms Rhythm in Motion Showcase - *Alliance of the Arts*
March 5, 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Golden Apple Social - *The News-Press*
March 9th, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Dancing Classrooms Exhibitions - *Miromar Outlets*
February 26, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.
March 12, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.

Dancing Classrooms Colors of the Rainbow - *Miromar Design Center*
April 2, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Golden Apple Teacher Recognition Banquet - *Harborside Event Center*
April 15, 5:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Take Stock in Children Graduation Luncheon - *Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre*
April 26, 11:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Take Stock in Children New Scholar Luncheon - *Harborside Event Center*
May 27, 11:00 - 1:30 p.m.

State of Our Schools Breakfast - *Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre*
June 3, 7:00 - 9:00 a.m.

www.LeeSchoolFoundation.org Phone (239) 337-0433



P.O. Box 1608
Fort Myers, FL 33902

Grants Received

Cape Coral Community Foundation
\$3,000 *Discretionary Fund for Cape Coral Students*

Sam's Club
\$500 *Teacher Resource Center*

Suncoast for Kids Foundation
\$51,850 *Foundation Program Support*

SWFL Community Foundation
\$18,000 *ArtSpeak*

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

We have redesigned our website at The Foundation to make it easier for our partners to view and experience all of the good things that are going on in public schools across Lee County. Please take a moment to visit our newly designed website at www.LeeSchoolFoundation.org.

Thank you for reading "The Report Card" and being engaged in our public education community.

Marshall T. Bower

FOCUS ON THE FOUNDATION NEW BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



BARBARA CALABRO, PH.D.
Corporate Vice President,
Academic Affairs
Southwest Florida College



JAMES MARCELAK
Vice President, Business
Banking, Lee and Collier
Lead Team
Fifth Third Bank



JAMES E. MARTIN, PH.D.
Lee Campus President
Edison State College



BERNARD A. NARINE
Senior Vice President and
Community Bank President
Wachovia Bank

The Foundation continues its mission with newly elected Board Members Barbara Calabro, Ph.D., James Marcelak, James E. Martin, Ph.D., and Bernard A. Narine. The diverse professional backgrounds of these Board Members will help assist The Foundation in enhancing and enriching the public education experience for our students and teachers.

Thank you for investing in our students

Take Stock in Children is a college scholarship and mentoring program for low income, at-risk students in the public school system. This program is dependent upon community support to operate successfully. Scholarships are funded through private donations and scholars are matched with adult mentors who volunteer their time and services. The Foundation recently held a Mentor Mixer and Annual Holiday Auction to raise awareness and support of Take Stock in Children.

On Thursday, November 4th, the Foundation hosted the 15th Annual Take Stock in Children Holiday Auction at Paseo Village Center. Close to 200 people attended the event which is held to raise funds for scholarships. Guests bid on items in both a silent

and live auction. Auction items were donated from our many community partners. Auction items ranged from gift certificates and services to all inclusive vacations and unique art and jewelry. A few of the highlighted items included one-of-a-kind jewelry designed by Mark Loren Designs, dinner for two at the Versace Mansion in Miami and a vacation package to any location in the world. The Auction raised more

More than **\$46,000** was raised for full tuition college scholarships in one night

than \$46,000 which will purchase scholarships for deserving students in the Take Stock in Children Scholarship Program. Major Sponsors were The News-Press, GulfShore Life Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union and Sam Galloway.

The mentoring component of Take Stock in Children is what truly makes this scholarship program unique. Each student in the program is matched with an adult mentor from the community who will offer encouragement and guidance on the tough life decisions that adolescents face daily. In October, the Foundation hosted a Mentor Mixer at Hotel Indigo with the goal of recruiting new mentors and bringing current mentors together to share experiences and best practices for working with their scholars. Mentors were encouraged to bring a friend so they could also experience the program first hand. If you are interested in mentoring, please contact Janelle Beaber, Director of Scholarships, at (239) 337-0433 to schedule a mentor orientation session.



Students learn positive reinforcement and negative consequences.

Bucket Fillers is an education program that aims to create happy, confident children who are able to express kindness, respect, and appreciation toward others, and to build strong, positive families, classrooms, schools, businesses, and communities.



Children bullying children has become an overwhelming problem in schools across the nation. Bucket Fillers is an initiative of The Foundation that tackles this problem by reinforcing positive behaviors and discouraging negative behaviors through consequences. The results are increased confidence and self-esteem in children.

The central message of the program is that there are two types of people, "bucket fillers" and "bucket dippers". Everyone has an imaginary bucket and that bucket is filled when you do good things for other people and act with kindness. The buckets can also be emptied. This happens when we insult others or fail to act righteously in defense of others or ourselves.

In October, The Foundation held a Bucket Fillers workshop at South Fort Myers High School for elementary school educators. The workshop was lead by the program's author, Carol McCloud, and attended by over 700 teachers. Those teachers who attended the workshop received 10 buckets and the book [Have You Filled Your Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids](#), to immediately take the lessons they learned back to their classrooms and implement the strategies with their students.



Lessons of Bucket Fillers

- Help others without being asked
- Spread love to classmates
- Give compliments to others
- Show kindness, resiliency and courage

Outstanding educators leading by example.

The Foundation's Academy of Teachers is helping with several initiatives such as student achievement and excellence in teaching. The Academy of Teachers is a fraternity of all the previous Golden Apple Recipients. Golden Apple Teachers are representatives of outstanding teaching in public schools as selected by an independent selection committee. On December 10th, The Foundation will host an Academy of Teachers workshop to formulate a clear mission and strategize these and other initiatives.

Some of the goals that the Foundation is working on with the Academy of Teachers are:

- Assist with providing feedback to the Golden Apple selection committee members about the Golden Apple Process
- Utilize their expertise as classroom teachers for modeling and assisting other teachers
- Develop strategies for sharing excellent teaching skills with fellow teachers
- Business/school adoption
- Look into some of the unmet needs our teachers have with which the business community could assist
- Mentor teachers going through the Golden Apple process and share their experiences and what to expect
- Assist with getting more schools and teachers trained in Sterling/Glasser Quality Training

Teachers continue to use donated supplies and materials to improve learning.



Twice a week during the school year, educators are invited to visit The Teacher Resource Center and take supplies back to their classrooms at no cost. Our public school teachers use donated supplies and materials from the Teacher Resource Center as additional resources for classroom instruction and to enrich the learning process.

The popularity of the Teacher Resource Center is evident based on the number of donations received and teachers who visit. We had over 100 individual donations during the 2009-2010 fiscal year. During the same time period, over 1,000 teachers visited the Teacher Resource Center, averaging 100 teachers per month. Businesses in Lee County have partnered with The Foundation to continue to keep classrooms fully stocked with supplies through frequent school supply drives. Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union is the major sponsor of the Teacher Resource Center.

Over 500 fifth grade students put on their dancing shoes for Dancing Classrooms.



Dancing Classrooms is about creating an atmosphere that allows students who are typically introverted and reserved, to step out and shine. It focuses on physical energy and increases health through the joy of movement. It builds self-esteem and interactive social skills as it improves confidence and children's ability to relate to others. In the fourth year of the Dancing Classrooms Program, the Foundation has expanded the program from being in five schools reaching slightly over 300 students to being in seven schools and reaching over 500 students. While Dancing Classrooms has been hailed as an effective program for teaching social dance, the program provides many other benefits. Dancing Classrooms will begin the classroom sessions in January and culminate with the Colors of the Rainbow Team Match on April 2nd.



Looking for a great deal? Now you can have discounts and give back to public education at the same time. The Foundation is currently selling **Entertainment** and **Enjoy the City** coupon books which offer national and local savings at restaurants, travel, services and more. Proceeds from the books go to the Foundation to directly support our various programs for students and educators.

Entertainment Books are on sale for \$30. It offers nationwide and local vendor coupons. Call your local school or the Foundation to purchase a book.

Enjoy the City coupon books are on sale now for \$20. It offers various local coupons. Call your local school or the Foundation to purchase a book.



GOLDEN APPLE
2000+
TEACHERS
NOMINATED

Students, parents, teaching colleagues, administrators, and other members of our community demonstrated their support of teachers and public education by submitting over 15,000 Golden Apple Teacher nomination forms to The Foundation, recognizing those teachers as outstanding. Nearly half of the teachers in the district were nominated by someone in the community for special recognition; there were 2,008 teachers nominated out of the 4,985 teachers in the School District of Lee County. Nominated teachers received a congratulatory letter encouraging them to take part in the Golden Apple selection process. All teachers who submit an application for the Golden Apple Teacher Recognition Program™ also have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship at FGCU to further their teaching education.

Business Partners honored for their commitment to Florida schools

The Florida Department of Education announced the winners of the 2010 Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards. This annual award program recognizes businesses that are committed to helping improve the academic success of all students.

Two local companies, B & I Contractors, Inc. and Chico's FAS, Inc., were recognized for their efforts in championing collaboration among community members and Florida's public schools. These companies were nominated and selected by The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools because of their tremendous support of Lee County Public Schools, educators and students. Over the past years, business involvement in education has played a critical role in shaping the education reform effort that is taking place in Florida. Florida education foundations, with their business partners, are providing an environment in which all children can reach their full potential.



Dr. James Browder, Superintendent of Schools; **Jeanne Dozier**, School Board Member; **Marshall T. Bower, Esq.**, Executive Director of the Foundation; **David F. Dyer**, Director, President, CEO Chico's FAS, Inc.; **Dr. Eric J. Smith**, Commissioner of Education



Jeanne Dozier, School Board Member; **Marshall T. Bower, Esq.**, Executive Director of the Foundation; **Gary Griffin**, President, B&I Contractors, Inc.; **Dr. Eric J. Smith**, Commissioner of Education