

2009 Honorees

Governor's Award for Outstanding School-Community Partnerships

Honorees by City/County	Tenure	Volunteers Involved	Students Impacted	Activities Implemented To Meet School Goal/s	Results
<u>Greenville</u>					
Stern Enhancement School & St. Joseph High School	6	69	90	Established a Book Buddy Program; volunteer support for Family Reading Night, Back to School Picnic, Fall Festival, Red Ribbon Week, Ms. Carrie Sterns Arts Festival Week, cheerleader camp, and other events; interaction with volunteers' parents and teachers at THEIR school activities; Book Buddy workshops for other groups.	Over 1,000 hours of volunteer time resulted in: Average increase of at least one grade level in reading achievement; approx. 40% of 2 nd —4 th graders scored at or above grade level; Average Daily Attendance increased to 97%; increase in volunteers' awareness of importance of being role models.
<u>Jackson</u>					
Jackson Public School District & Parents for Public Schools Ask 4 More Arts	5	100+	1,000+	Professional development for teachers; development of partnerships with artists and arts organizations; post-Katrina arts as healing project: From LifeShards to Cornerstones; LifeShards 1 st Saturdays sessions; JumpstART program—collaborative teaching for classroom teachers and arts representatives; Parent Leadership Institute resource for expanding awareness of arts integration in the classroom.	More than 70 people from diverse groups took part in assessment and planning that resulted in a strategic plan; approximately 100 teachers received professional development resulting in enhanced quality of instruction, energy, and higher expectations; parents more actively engaged; at least 18 artists/art organizations given opportunities for paid, professional work in classrooms; LifeShards Sat. attendance is 30-50 people; schools and arts groups had improved appreciation of each other's importance.
<u>Pascagoula</u>					
Pascagoula Public School District & Backpack Buddies	1	18	5,000	Assessed food needs of seven elem. school families; developed Backpack Buddies for families of children in most need of food for weekends; wrote grants; asked for food and financial donations; found community storage space for donations; developed needs assessment form; established a year-round pick-up schedule; provided school snacks for ALL schools.	15 volunteers donated 1,800 hours in the past 6 months; cash and grant donations of more than \$21,000; 5,000 pounds of food donations; weekend food for 59 families and 181 children; school snacks for 5,000 students; attendance up by 40% and focus increased for Backpack Buddies students

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MAPE Board of Directors
Partnership Excellence Award

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<u>Hattiesburg</u>					
Hattiesburg Public School District & Local Parents & Hattiesburg Housing Authority	1		4,500	Meetings with parents and others in the community hosted by parents and community members; open discussions, distribution of information packets, and anonymous responses were solicited by self-addressed, stamped envelopes; end-of-the semester appreciation dinner for hosts.	Reached at least 100 people who would have been otherwise out-of-touch; responded to requests for more information via a weekly email newsletter to supplement the monthly printed one; clarified graduation requirements; established ways to handle disagreements with school staff; grew from 7 to 20 meetings scheduled and added meetings for community leaders and organizations.
Hattiesburg Public School District & United Way & Other Local School Districts & Other Area Businesses/ Groups	1		4,550	Collaboration of United Way, area businesses and organizations, and local school districts resulted in a forum to: increase awareness of the dropout crisis, recognize personal impact of the crisis, and take responsibility for helping find solutions.	300 participants took part in the dropout prevention summit. Evaluations indicated that awareness was raised, responsibility of entire community was agreed upon, and strategies for encouraging graduation were shared.
<u>Natchez</u>					
West Primary School & 14 Community Partners	13	54	333	Provided incentives for students and their parents for good citizenship, perfect attendance, and the “No Tardy Party;” donated books for the library; donated refreshments for family events. Volunteers made phone calls, chaperoned achievement events, and provided entertainment for awards parties.	Partners donated 555 hours of volunteer time and also cash and incentive items that totaled over \$2,700. These donations served to improve attendance and punctuality which resulted in improved D.I.B.E.L.S. scores. Incentives kept behavioral problems to a minimum.
<u>Ridgeland</u>					
Highland Elementary School & MS Dept. of Transportation	1		601	Collaborated on the launching of “Think Green, Keep MS Clean” new anti-litter advocate—Albert the Monkey. Students created and performed original song and skit for the launch. Classes made posters welcoming Albert. Age-appropriate “Think Green” items were given to all students.	Donated materials that were taken home increased anti-litter awareness. Independently-formed student litter patrol maintained the playground. An estimated 500 gallons of materials recycled at the school weekly. Grants from other partners supported seasonal gardens and a mini-weather station.