

Great Things are Happening at Howard School of Academics and Technology

HCDE and PEF : Partners for Strong Schools

The Public Education Foundation (PEF) is a local non-profit organization that partners with the Hamilton County Department of Education (HCDE) to improve student achievement by improving public schools. PEF contributes:

- research into best practices
- training for teachers and school leaders
- opportunities for educators to share great ideas
- fundraising to support this work

The HCDE/PEF Leadership Initiative touches every public school in Hamilton County through training for principals and other school leaders. Other comprehensive initiatives have contributed to deep reform work in every high school, every middle school and 16 elementary schools throughout the district. PEF has contributed over \$50 million to Hamilton County schools in the last eight years.

Together, HCDE and PEF are changing education in Hamilton County, and changing students' lives. Learn more at www.HCDE.org or www.pefchattanooga.org.

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Reinventing Secondary Education

Since 2001, Howard has benefited from PEF and HCDE's secondary school reform initiatives. With \$23.5 million in funding from the Carnegie Corporation, the Lyndhurst Foundation, the National Education Association Foundation and local donors, these initiatives have focused on helping each school develop its own individual plan to boost student achievement in literacy and math, with special emphasis on improving high school graduation numbers and college enrollment. As a result of these initiatives, students are more engaged in their education, test scores are rising, more students are graduating and more are going on to college.

Smooth Transitions

Students should arrive at Howard well prepared for a rigorous academic environment. Since 2003 the elementary schools that prepare students for Howard have been working hard to implement highly effective teaching strategies and improve literacy and math scores, thanks in part to HCDE/PEF's Benwood Initiative. Lessons learned from this nationally-recognized work are being shared with all Hamilton County elementary schools, and it is the ultimate intent of this initiative to help increase student achievement in every elementary school in Hamilton County.



Public Education Foundation
Partners for strong schools.

pefchattanooga.org



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Partners for Great Education: HCDE, PEF, and Howard

Hamilton County schools and the Public Education Foundation are strong partners in providing training for teachers, helping principals become more effective school leaders, and improving secondary education in Hamilton County. Howard has made great use of this partnership:

- Principal **Paul Smith**, associate principals **Faye Ison** and **Otto Taylor**, assistant principals **Mark Smith**, **Lakesha Carson**, and **Rachel Duke**, and principal trainee **David Rogers** collaborate with other Hamilton County principals in regular meetings and semi-annual leadership institutes.
- **Dr. Smith**, **Mr. Smith**, **Ms. Carson**, instructional coaches **Glenn Perry** and **Callie Branam**, and teachers **Henry Billen**, **Michael McKamey**, and **Shannon Seigle** have gained leadership skills through the Leadership Fellows program.
- As a result of HCDE/PEF's secondary school reform initiatives, **Ms. Branam**, math coach **Jennifer Mitchell**, and college access coordinator **Stacy Lightfoot** work hard to boost student success at Howard.
- Through the reform initiatives, Howard developed career-based learning academies focused on multimedia, information technology, engineering and construction technology, health science and human services, and an academic renaissance curriculum; and a 9th grade academy to make learning more engaging.

- Through the reform initiatives, members of Howard's leadership team have visited high-performing schools to observe effective practices, and students, parents, and teachers have had input into the reform process through yearly surveys.

- With funding from PEF, county-wide literacy and math leaders help teachers improve student reading and math skills and integrate those subjects into all areas of study.

Student Achievement is Climbing

2008 Scores

TCAP (6th-8th grades)

Math

75% proficient or advanced, up from 67% in 2003.

English Gateway

86% proficient or advanced, up from 69% in 2003.

33% advanced, up from 15% in 2003.

Leaders and teachers at Howard are innovative, committed educators. They work hard to provide an excellent education for their students and eagerly seek better ways to achieve that goal. As a partner to the Hamilton County Department of Education, the Public Education Foundation is proud to support this dedicated group of educators.

Visit Howard online at www.thehowardschool.net



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