



"Dare To Be Remarkable"
Superintendent's Parent Conference

Hosted by
Division of Support Services
FAMILY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

Held at
Glen Iris Elementary School
Saturday, October 21, 2006
7:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Dr. Stan L. Mims, Superintendent
Dr. Sharon C. Bell, Assistant Superintendent Division of Support Services
Dr. Michael Wilson, Principal Glen Iris Elementary School
Mrs. Mechelle Rice-Fields, Conference Coordinator



BIRMINGHAM
CITY SCHOOLS

Dr. Stan L. Mims, Superintendent

Birmingham Board of Education

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Ms. Phyllis F. Wyne, District IX

Dr. Sharon C. Bell

Assistant Superintendent

Division of Support Services

Family Involvement Staff

Mrs. Mechelle Rice-Fields

Coordinator

Mrs. Daisy Chandler

Resource Center Teacher

Mr. Otis W. Dismuke

Facilitator Jackson-Olin

Ms. E. Lee Watkins

Social Worker

Ms. Jonita Crosby

Secretary



October 21, 2006

Dear Parents,



Welcome to our first ***“Dare To Be Remarkable”*** Superintendent’s Parent Conference. As the Superintendent of the Birmingham City School System, I encourage you to continue in your efforts to help pave the way for a remarkable school system that is second to none.

Recognizing that the home is the child’s first institution of learning, and that the family is the child’s first teacher, this administration is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all students in the Birmingham City Schools System. This remarkable partnership will enable us to bridge the gap between home and school.

The Birmingham Board of Education extends kudos to our parents, the Division of Support Services which includes the Family Involvement Program, Community Schools and the Guidance and Counseling Department. We also want to recognize those supporters on the local, state and national levels.

We will continue in our commitment of service and academic excellence to cultivate successful students today who will become our ***Groundbreaking leaders of tomorrow.***

Sincerely,

Dr. Stan Mims, Superintendent

**“DARE TO BE REMARKABLE”
SUPERINTENDENT’S CONFERENCE**

PROGRAM

PRESIDING – MECHELLE RICE-FIELDS
COORDINATOR OF FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM

Conference Registration
Continental Breakfast

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM

GENERAL PLENARY SESSION

Welcome

Mrs. Mechelle Rice-Fields, Coordinator
Family Involvement Program

Greetings

Dr. Stan L. Mims, Superintendent

Mrs. Odessa Ashley, President Birmingham Board of Education

Dr. William A. Bell, City Council

Dr. Sharon C. Bell, Assistant Superintendent

Division of Support Services

Greetings and Recognition of Special Guest

Dr. Michael Wilson, Principal

Introduction of Reading Program

Ms. Phyllis Wyne, Board Member District 9

Directions

Mrs. Mechelle Rice-Fields

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION AND LUNCH

Invocation

Dr. Michael Wilson

Introduction of Closing Plenary Speaker

Mr. Otis W. Dismuke, Family Involvement Facilitator

Keynote Speaker

Mr. Andra D. Sparks, Senior Trial Referee

Jefferson County Family Court

Door Prizes

Family Involvement Staff

Closing Remarks

Dr. Stan L. Mims

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

(9:00 - 11:00 AM)

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Title: "Reading Is The New Civil Right!"

Room E 304

Literacy: Economically viable for the community. Reading is no longer an option, nor forbidden. It is a "human right" that we must value, respect, and embrace.

Who is your child's first reading teacher?

Presenter

Ms. Dimple J. Martin, Ed.S.

Director of Elementary Reading/Language Arts

Ms. Phyllis Wyne, Board Member District 9

Title: "Internet 099 for Parents"

1st Floor Media Center

Journey into the Internet world and discover what children are exposed to on a daily basis. You will be shown what methods Birmingham City Schools have in place to protect the students from Internet dangers. You will see in graphic detail both examples of the dangers of the Internet and the wonderful resources available on the net. Once you sit through this session you will see the educational power and extreme unfiltered dangers of the Internet. Come prepared to take notes and have your perceptions of the technologies your children use altered.

Presenter

Mr. Brian E Thomas

Network Engineer

Birmingham City Schools

"Education is not filling a pail, but lighting of the fire."

William B. Yeats

Title: “ESL Parents Let’s Go To School Now!!”

Room E 305

In this session we will view the video: "Let's Go to School Together," a videotape created by the US Department of Education to offer Spanish-speaking parents tips to help them become involved in their children's learning, from infancy through adolescence. After viewing of the 18-minute tape, we will discuss the main ideas and provide parents an opportunity to ask questions.

Presenters

Rosalva Bermúdez-Ballín, Ph.D.
ESL Program Specialist

Ms. Magaly Monzo'n
ESL Interpreter/Translator

Title: “Getting In: College Readiness Requires More Than Senior Year Preparation”

Room E 306

This session will focus on the steps needed for students and parents to get prepared for college. Dr. Hill will provide practical information about course selection, standardized tests, extracurricular activities, and community involvement. In addition, she will provide suggestions for helping students develop competitive resumes and college applications.

Presenter

Elaine N. Hill, Ph.D.
Executive Director Professional Development & Grants
Birmingham City Schools

Title: Testing, Why?

Room E 307

This session will focus on, “What tests do we give?” Why do we give them? What do they tell us? How can I use results to assist my child?”

Presenters

Mrs. Nancy Hill, Director of Testing
Birmingham City Schools

Mrs. Arlene Williams, Research and Data Coordinator
Birmingham City Schools

Title: How to help children with disabilities reach their maximum potential!!!

Room E 302

Presenters will provide participants with strategies and activities to enable their child to reach maximum potential, with insight from a parent on ways to encourage success at school and at home. There will be a demonstration of adaptive toys and augmentative communication devices for children.

Presenters

Ms. Alicia Hill, Speech-Language Pathologist
Birmingham City Schools

Ms. Patrice Murphy, Director Pediatric Therapy

Ms. Terry Ray, Parent

Facilitator: Ruth Tucker, Ed.D.
Executive Director – Special Education Department
Birmingham City Schools

Title: “Gifted And Misunderstood: Helping Your Child Reach Their Maximum Potential!!!”

Room E 303

Presenters will provide participants with the social and emotional characteristics of gifted children, how to reach underachieving gifted students, strategies and activities to encourage all students to reach their potential, community resources and web sites to explore at school and at home.

Presenters

Mr. Scott Michelfelder
Psychometrist/Formal Teacher of Gifted Students
Birmingham City Schools

Ms. Kim Worley
Coordinator for Gifted Services
Alabama State Department of Education

Facilitator: Mrs. Linda Taylor
Program Specialist
Birmingham City Schools

“The expert in anything was once a beginner”

Unknown

**Title: “Building Character In Our Children For The 21st Century”
“Parenting For Good Character” Character COUNTS!**

Room E 308

What parent doesn't want their child to be a strong person of character? The more difficult question is how do we as parents help our children become people of character? Unfortunately, good character doesn't just happen. Not only is there hope, now there is help. This session presents useful exercises to help parents teach children of all ages about the six pillars (*Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship*). Parents will enjoy fast paced activities and exercises, reality checks and age-specific examples, with practical ideas on everyday problems.

Presenter

Mrs. Peggy F. Sparks

Acting Special Assistant to the Superintendent

Birmingham City Schools

Josephson Institute of Ethics Board of Governors Member

Title: “We All Use Mathematics Everyday”

Room E 309

This session will focus on everyday activities parents can do with their children to help them acquire a love for mathematics and to assist them in understanding that mathematics is all around us. The presenters will also teach parents some games using materials found around the house that will help children improve their understanding of numbers.

Presenters

Mrs. Beverly Kimes

Director of Mathematics

Birmingham City Schools

Mrs. Dorothy Hollings

Assistant Director of Mathematics

Birmingham City Schools

Mrs. Susan Henry

Mathematics Support Teacher

Birmingham City Schools

“To change one's character, you must begin at the control center – the heart”.

CHILDREN'S SESSIONS

DESIGNED FOR AGES 4 – 11 YEARS

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Children will rotate in groups every 30 minutes

ART ACTIVITY

Room 100

Presenter – Mr. Russell Poteat, Director of Abrakadoodle – Art Education for Children

Abrakadoodle emphasizes *Process Art*. *Process Art* allows the child to discover his/her own talents and abilities through interaction with a wide variety of media. The child is guided through the art process by an instructor in an effort to gain insight about different forms of art media.

Students will use “Model Magic” to create/design art during this session.

NATURE ACTIVITY

Room 101

Presenter – Mr. Carl Sloan, Naturalist, Instructor – Jefferson State Junior College

Students will enhance their knowledge of animals by viewing a “Traveling Animal Exhibit” from Ruffner Mountain Nature Center.

PLATO – ACHIEVE NOW

Room 109

Presenter – Ms. Tiffanie Crumbley, Program Director- Birmingham READS AmeriCorps

Students will engage in ‘hands-on’ math and reading activities by using the PlayStation. Students will work in groups in order to enhance their technological and social skills.

READING FOR FUN

Room 110

Presenter – Mrs. Daisy Chandler, Ed.S. Family Involvement Resource Center Teacher

Students will engage in activities based on a children’s classic entitled, “*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*” by Judith Viorst

FACE PAINTING

Room 109

Presenter - Mrs. Freida Hall, AP Art Instructor

Students will be engaged in the art of face painting

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

CLOSING SESSION AND LUNCH

LUNCHROOM

Keynote Speaker: Mr. Wayne Dansby, Assistant Principal Glen Iris Elementary School
“**Character Counts**”



Notes



Notes

“Dare To Be Remarkable”



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“Dare To Be Remarkable”

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Mrs. Freida Hall, AP Art Instructor
Ramsay High School

City of Birmingham
Division of Youth Services
Mr. Cedric Sparks, Executive Director

Birmingham Public Library
Mrs. J. Langston, Literacy and Outreach Coordinator

Birmingham Reads AmeriCorps
Ms. Tiffanie Crumbley, Program Director

Community Education East
Mr. Derrell Morrison, Coordinator

Service Center/Grounds
Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Foreman

Department Community Education South
Ms. Sara Roseman, Coordinator

Family Involvement Program Staff

Glen Iris Elementary School
Dr. Michael Wilson and Staff

Mr. Russell Poteat,
Director of Abrakadoodle

Parker Community School
Mrs. Cathy Baugh, Coordinator

Mr. Roosevelt Scott
Media Relations

Mr. Carl Sloan, Naturalist, Instructor
Jefferson State Junior College

West End Community School
Mrs. Gwendolyn Gamble, Coordinator

Woodlawn Community School
Mr. Sims Smith, Coordinator

A Hundred Years From Now

. . . it will not matter what your bank account was
the sort of house you lived in,
or the kind of car you drove . . .
. . . but the world may be different
because you were important in the
life of a CHILD.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



"Touching The Lives Of Families"