



FRIENDS OF PHENIX CITY SCHOOLS

FOPCS Newsletter

September and October 2015

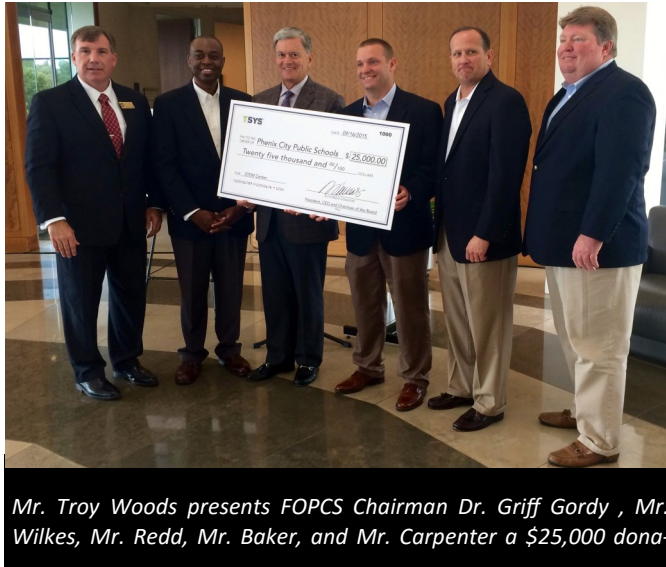
TSYS Donates \$25,000 to FOPCS

On Thursday, September 16, TSYS in conjunction with Friends of Phenix City Schools, announced it has donated \$25,000 toward the Coding Lab in Phenix City School's Dyer Family STEM Center.

In the TSYS Coding Lab, sixth and seventh grade students will learn to write code for computers. Simply put, coding is telling a computer what to do by typing step-by-step commands for the computer to follow. Learning to code has been compared to learning a foreign language. Every website, smartphone app, computer program, calculator

and even microwave relies on code in order to operate. Over the next 10 years, it is estimated that there will be 1.4 million jobs in computer sciences and only around 400,000 graduates qualified to do them. Jobs not directly linked to computer sciences — such as banking, medicine and journalism — will also be affected by the need for at least an understanding of programming and coding.

"We are pleased to make this investment in the lives, education and futures of the students of Phenix City, as approximately 25 percent of our Columbus-based workforce resides and raises their families in East Alabama," said M. Troy Woods, chairman, president and chief executive officer, TSYS. "We believe the TSYS Coding Lab in the Dyer Family STEM Center will provide long-term benefits as students at a formative age learn the basics of coding — the life-blood of TSYS and our business — and develop an appreciation for computer programming as a career opportunity."



Mr. Troy Woods presents FOPCS Chairman Dr. Griff Gordy, Mr. Wilkes, Mr. Redd, Mr. Baker, and Mr. Carpenter a \$25,000 donation.

Junior Journalists Are Announced

Friends of Phenix City Schools and WTVM are proud to announce our 2015-2016 Junior Journalists: Savelly Perez, Dailyna Hall, Jade Paul, Haley McDonalds, Mikayla Carter, and Calynn Gertz. These ladies were selected from many students who submitted a video essay titled "What STEM Means to Me." They will represent PCS on WTVM and online. Great job!



Mr. Wilkes, Savelly Perez, Dailyna Hall, Jade Paul, Haley McDonalds, Mikayla Carter, CaylInn Gertz, and Mrs. Johns at WTVM.

Give online via PayPal!
www.pcboe.net/fopcs

Circle of Excellence

Gil Dyer Family

Diamond Club Plus

Phenix City Education Foundation
 Hughston Clinic and Jack Hughston
 Memorial Hospital

Diamond Club

Dr. Stephen Cooper
 CB&T and Synovus
 TSYS
 Aflac
 CTVEA
 WestRock

Platinum Club

Griff Gordy
 Brad Baker

Gold Club

Bruce & Erica Wade
 Brady Benton
 Christa Spann DMD

Silver Club

Rick Carpenter
 Rod & Judy Hinton
 Huckaby Brothers Floor Covering

Bronze Club

Cheryl Burns
 Randy Wilkes
 Grace Jernigan
 Bonnie Burns
 In Memory of Heath Jackson
 Tommy Vickers
 Don & Brindle Griffin
 Josh Hughey
 Keith & Kim Jackson
 Jeremy & Kelley Suchman
 Hecht Burdeshaw
 Jason and Dawn Newsome
 Josh McPeters
 Paul Stamp
 Bob and Fran Ellis
 Dr. Salman Elawad
 Bobby and Carolyn Wright
 Loftin, Loftin, and May

Red Devil Club

Joe & Wanda Blevins
 Dr. Darrell Seldon
 Adam Kilcrease
 Jerry & Gail Head
 Dr. & Mrs. David White
 Brian Hickman
 Wright Engineering
 Vance Memorial Chapel
 Mary Eno
 Cary & Melanie Johnson
 Debra Bias
 Lamar & Jan Horne

Central High School, Winning Attitude Booster Club, and Student Council Give \$50,000 to Friends of Phenix City Schools

On Friday, October 9, the student council of Central High School along with the President of the Winning Attitude football booster club, Mr. Chris Blackshear, presented a check for \$50,000 to the Friends of Phenix City Schools for the Central Freshman Academy and Central High School expansion facility. These funds were raised through the hard work of the students and teachers of Central High School along with the sponsors of the Booster Club. The previous week, the senior class hosted a carnival that raised over \$1,000 that was put towards this donation. The Phenix City Board of Education would like to thank the Winning Attitude Booster Club and the students and faculty for their hard work, dedication, and support to the future of Phenix City Schools.



CHS Principal Tommy Vickers, Booster President Chris Blackshear, Superintendent Randy Wilkes, and FOPCS Chairman Griff Gordy accept a \$50,000 check from Central High School Senior Class Representatives.

Scenes from the STEM Ground Breaking Ceremony



FOPCS in the News

- TSYS Donates to STEM Center
<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/news/local/education/article35477025.html>
 - Phenix City Council doubles contribution to school system
<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/news/local/education/article37813848.html>
 - Phenix City STEM center groundbreaking includes history lesson
<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/news/local/education/article38237754.html>
- Tune in to WTVM Channel 9 to see our Junior Journalists on air!

- Red & Black**
 Marie Long
 Bobby Cook
 Cathy Hughey
 Tamara Sanders
 Montray Thompson
 Roneeke Gamble
 Nathan Walters
 Shuvon Ray
 Sarah Kimmel
 Jackie Sanes
 Rachael Fowler
 Vectorply Corporation
 Cicely Abron
 Andrea Johnson
 Lisa Rushing
 DeKoslyn Robinson
 Angela Green
 Shirley Lee
 Kendall & Debbie Parks
 Ron Nelson
 Rev. George & Vivian McCulloh
 Donna Ash
 Shane Flippo

- PCS Pride**
 Mandy Loreman
 Lara Beth Johns
 Eric Haynes
 Joy Andrews
 Jana' Sparks
 C. Stanley Ridley
 Veatrice Thomas
 Marceda Lewis
 Sharon Elder
 Aretha McDonald
 Shane & Leigh Ann Barbaree
 Peggy Martin
 Lakiesha Richardson
 William D. Jones
 Christina Wilson
 Bryce Ciancio
 Donna Laswell
 Thomas J. Sheppard, Jr.
 Gary & Julie Dunbar
 Jody Walker
 Taylor Gates
 Tanja Smith
 Kristyn Pace
 Ashley Sykes
 Heather Powell
 Jaime Dyer
 Sherri Smith
 Michelle Bush
 Kathleen Neuzil
 Rev. Tom Weise
 Elizabeth Albright

- Friends of PCS**
 Marcia Farrar
 Kerry McDonald
 Linda Wright
 Willie Feagins
 Judy Vann
 Pauline Ganus
 Melinda Messick

Friends of PCS continued.

- Lisa Denham
- Keneesha Kalpen
- Maureen Byrd
- Alicia Cook
- Donald Duke
- Rob Morales
- Terry Daniels
- Jenny Williams
- O'Kiytra Rhodes
- Brooke Kehoe
- Kelli Hall
- Gloria Thomas
- Whitney Faulk
- Kim Jackson
- Miranda Griggs
- Amy Stamp
- Whitney Veneziani
- Chermier Cokey
- Beth Hedges
- Vicky George
- Cedric Delbridge
- John Brock
- Clementine Warren
- Katina Adams
- Melissa Richardson
- Deborah Evans
- Haley Henderson
- Daphne Walker
- Mary Herring
- Alison Waldrop
- Betty Jo Gordy
- Christie Schofield
- Joanne Evans
- Lynne Terry
- April Parker
- Patricia Dress-Gunter
- Sherry Parker
- Jeannie French
- Jenna Cook
- Dee Dee Griesheim
- Dan Phillips
- Ashley Johnson
- Kiera Knight
- Charlene Crawford
- Leigh Ann Edmonds
- Kristy Sams-Cliatt
- Andrea Shirley
- Rebecca Tarleton
- Amanda Owens
- Donna Wilson
- Michelle Wallace
- Courtney Cooper
- Kristi Miller
- Kari Cook
- Amy Carver
- Vic Cross
- Kelly Dosier
- Deborah Evans
- Philip Morton
- Cynthia Woodall
- Megan Sanders
- Pam Culpepper
- Frances McVay
- Evelyn Sumbry
- Susanna Lacy



Phenix City School Board Members Rick Carpenter, Zara Parham, Dr. Mesha Patrick, Paul Stamp, Fran Ellis, Superintendent Randy Wilkes, and Board President Brad Baker accept a check from Mayor Eddie Lowe, Council Members Arthur Day, Jim Cannon, Gail Head, Mayor Pro-tem Chris Blackshear, and City CFO Steve Smith.

Head, Arthur Day, and Jim Cannon, City Manager Wallace Hunter and City CFO Steve Smith. Also represented on the field were Phenix City Board of Education members President Brad Baker, Vice-President Kelvin Redd, Rick Carpenter, Paul Stamp, Fran Ellis, Zara Parham and Dr. Mesha Patrick. On behalf of the students and employees of Phenix City Schools, the Phenix City Board of Education would like to thank the City of Phenix City for its support of our schools.

City of Phenix City Pledges \$200,000 to Phenix City Schools

On Friday, October 2, City of Phenix City will made a special presentation to Phenix City Board of Education. Mayor Eddie Lowe presented of a check for \$200,000 to Superintendent Randy Wilkes on behalf of the City of Phenix City. These funds will be used to support the system's i3 and STEM initiatives. Joining Superintendent Wilkes and Mayor Lowe on the field were City Mayor Pro-tem Chris Blackshear, City Council Members Gail

Cable TV of East Alabama Gives \$25,000 to Friends of Phenix City Schools

Cable TV of East Alabama executives and employees presented a check to Phenix City Board of Education and Friends of Phenix City Schools for \$25,000 for the STEM Center that will be located on the Phenix City Intermediate School campus. Cable TV will have the opportunity to name the center's interactive atrium in honor of their contribution. Phenix City Schools and Friends of PCS would like to thank Cable TV of East Alabama for their generous donation and unwavering support of our schools.



Leslie Jones, Lynn Frakes, and employees of Cable TV of East Alabama receive a token of appreciation from Superintendent Randy Wilkes and FOPCS Chairman Dr. Griff Gordy for CTVEA's donation to Phenix City Schools.



FOPCS Raises Over \$735,000

After only four months of fundraising, what began as hoping to possibly raise \$50,000 has grown into \$735,044.35 in contributions. Thanks to over 180 friends—individuals, families, schools, businesses—the dream of a world class STEM Center and Expansion Facility for the children of Phenix City Schools well on its way to becoming a reality. Thank you for giving, for your advocacy, for your confidence, and for believing!

TOGETHER WE CAN!

Ways to Support FOPCS

1. Be a CHAMPION for Phenix City Schools!

Spread the word - great things are happening in PCS!

2. Donate!

Every donation helps - no matter how big or small! Visit www.pcboe.net/fopcs for levels of giving and donation forms.

3. Recruit!

If you know someone who would be interested in FOPCS and/or donating, send them our way!

4. Like us on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter and Instagram!

Facebook www.facebook.com/friendsofpcs

Twitter @PCBOE

Instagram @phenixcityschools

#TogetherWeCan

www.pcboe.net/fopcs

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