



# FRIENDS OF PHENIX CITY SCHOOLS

FOPCS Newsletter

July 2015

## Dyer Family Gives \$150,000

FOPCS Raises Nearly a Quarter of Funds at Kick-Off Dinner

The excitement and enthusiasm for Friends of Phenix City Schools (FOPCS) is growing! And what a way to start! On Thursday, June 18, Friends of Phenix City Schools gathered at the Professional Development Center to kick-off its fundraising campaign with an evening of dinner and data – specifically, a presentation on the upcoming STEM Center and CFA/CHS Expansion projects. And by the end of the night, FOPCS was nearly a quarter of the way to their \$1.1 million goal.

The evening began with an informal reception and demonstration by zSpace, a 3-D virtual reality program in which data that appears as a “real object” can be viewed, manipulated, analyzed, and shared. For example, biology students can virtually dissect a human heart, naming each chamber, ventricle, and artery as they go, turning the heart to examine from every angle, and even feel the beat of the heart in the stylus they hold in their hands.

As Friends took their seats and began to enjoy their dinner, the presentation, given by Mr. Randy Wilkes, Dr. Darrell Seldon, Mrs. Tamara Sanders, and Mr. Joe Blevins, got underway. Each spoke on components of the STEM and Expansion projects, including descriptions of each STEM lab, the need for the Expansion, and a breakdown of costs for (cont pg 2)



Mr. Randy Wilkes, Mr. Jamie Dyer, Mr. Gil Dyer, and Mrs. Sherry Dyer with the first rendering of the Dyer Family STEM Center

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[www.pcboe.net/fopcs](http://www.pcboe.net/fopcs)

#### Circle of Excellence

Gil Dyer Family

#### Diamond Club

#### Platinum Club

Griff Gordy

#### Gold Club

Bruce & Erica Wade

Brady Benton

Christa Spann DMD

#### Silver Club

Rod & Judy Hinton

Huckaby Brothers Floor Covering

#### Bronze Club

Cheryl Burns

Randy Wilkes

Grace Jernigan

Bonnie Burns

Angi Idel

Tommy Vickers

Don & Brindlea Griffin

Josh Hughey

Keith & Kim Jackson

Jeremy & Kelley Suchman

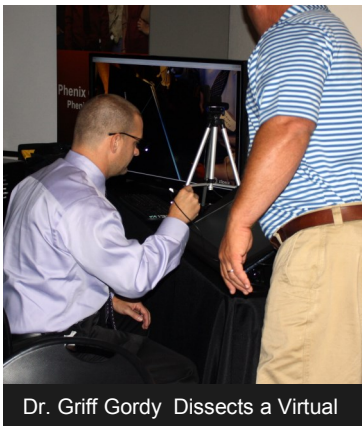


Guests wear 3D glasses for the zSpace demonstration

“If you want to grow a community, if you want to improve the quality of life, if you want to improve the economy, start with education .”

- Randy Wilkes

## A Note from the Chairman



Dr. Griff Gordy Dissects a Virtual

Greetings!

What an amazing start we have seen to our Friends of Phenix City Schools campaign! It is incredible to see so many members of the community step up and want to be an active part in providing a bright future for our children. A special thanks to our “First Responders” who took the initiative to lead the charge as we strive to reach our goal of 1.1 million dollars. It is a lofty goal but it is one that we can attain together! I encourage you all to keep pushing forward, get others involved, and be an advocate for our school system.

“Together We Can” and “Together We Will” make a difference in our schools and our community!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Griff Gordy  
FOPCS Chairman

## FOPCS in the News

Friends launch \$1.1M fundraiser for Phenix City Schools  
<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/2015/06/29/3792456/friends-launch-11m-fundraiser.html>

Phenix City Schools introduce new STEM program  
<http://www.wtvm.com/story/29435966/phenix-city-schools-introduce-new-stem-program>

Central athletics: More athletes create ‘need’ for expansion  
<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/2015/07/04/3799563/central-athletics-more-athletes.html>

### Red Devil Club

Joe & Wanda Blevins  
Darrell Seldon  
Adam Kilcrease  
Gail Head  
Dr. & Mrs. Lori White

### Red & Black Club

Marie Long  
Bobby Cook  
Cathy Hughey  
Jan Home  
Tamara Sanders  
Montray Thompson  
Ronneeke Gamble  
Jackie Sanes  
Shuvon Ray  
Sarah Kimmel  
Nathan Walters  
Rachael Fowler

### PCS Pride Club

Mandy Loreman  
Lara Beth Johns  
Eric Haynes  
Joy Andrews  
C. Stanley Ridley  
Veatrice Thomas  
Sharon Elder  
Marceda Lewis  
Jana’ Sparks  
Aretha McDonald  
Peggy Martin  
Shane & Leigh Ann Barbaree  
Lakiesha Richardson

### Friends of PCS

Marcia Farrar  
Kerry McDonald  
Alison Waldrop  
Judy Vann  
Willie Feagins  
Pauline Ganus

## First Responders

The *First Responders* are a group of PCBOE employees who were the first to give to Friends of Phenix City Schools. They will be recognized with a plaque in the STEM Center. The *First Responders* are:

Adam Kilcrease  
Alison Waldrop  
Angi Idel  
Aretha McDonald  
Bobby Cook  
Bonnie Burns  
C. Stanley Ridley  
Cathy Hughey  
Cheryl Burns  
Darrell Seldon  
Don & Brindlea Griffin  
Eric Haynes  
Grace Jernigan  
Jackie Sanes  
Jan Horne  
Jana' Sparks  
Jeremy & Kelley Suchman  
Joe & Wanda Blevins  
Joy Andrews  
Judy Vann  
Kerry McDonald  
Lakiesha Richardson  
Lara Beth Johns  
Mandy Loreman  
Marceda Lewis  
Marcia Farrar  
Marie Long  
Montray Thompson  
Nathan Walters  
Rachel Fowler  
Randy Wilkes  
Roneeke Gamble  
Sarah Kimmel  
Sharon Elder  
Shuvon Ray  
Tamara Sanders  
Tommy Vickers  
Veatrice Thomas  
Willie Feagins

Thank you!



Mrs. Senn, Mrs. Waldrop, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Griggs, and Mrs. Barbaree enjoying dinner

### Dyer Family Gives \$150,000 (from pg 1)

each project. The main takeaway was the importance of these projects as a means to enhance the quality of education for our children, to STEM our children out of poverty, and to improve the quality of life in our community.

Mr. Wilkes closed the presentation by restating the needs of FOPCS from the community – first and foremost, to be a champion for Phenix City Schools by advocating and spreading the news that there are exciting things happening in our school district; and second, by donating to the projects, so that the STEM Center and Expansion can be equipped with the highest quality tools possible, to stay on the cutting-edge for our children.

Last, but certainly not least, Mr. Wilkes asked the Gil Dyer family to come forward. After a brief introduction and acknowledgement of the support they have shown the community thought the years, Mr. Wilkes announced that STEM Center would be named the Dyer Family STEM Center in honor of Mr. Dyer's family and their generous denotation of \$150,000 to FOPCS.

The Dyer family's donation, combined with the nearly \$15,000 raised by the First Responders and other donations made that evening, raised the total contributions to \$223,383.00.



Mrs. Cheryl Burns, PCS CFO, excitedly makes the first donation to FOPCS.

...STEM students out of poverty...



Like us on  
**Facebook**

For the latest updates on fundraising, project progress, and how you can be an active "Friend," like us on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/friendsofpcs](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofpcs)

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# 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](http://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!*

We are truly grateful for the enthusiasm  
and support shown toward FOPCS!

**TOGETHER WE CAN!**

[www.pcboe.net/fopcs](http://www.pcboe.net/fopcs)

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**Lara Beth Johns**  
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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**Friends of Phenix City Schools**

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