

The Council thanks the sponsors of the 7th Annual Florida Leadership Academy. Some 120 statewide participants--teams of Principal, Asst. Principal and Teacher--participated at the event in Tampa, June 21- 26. The Academy focuses on leadership development and provides interactive activities, relevant presentations and guided learning. It culminates in the development of instructional leadership plans, implemented at the school site. The sponsors are: **Council for Educational Change Board, Akerman Senterfitt, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida, Publix Super Markets Charities and Etraffic Solutions.** Pete Bucholtz is the Academy Director.

Attention Principal Leaders! Apply now for the 7th Annual Leonard Miller Principal Leadership Award. The application is now live at the Council website: <http://www.changeeducation.org>. If you are a Principal who is currently or has formerly participated in a Council program/activity you may be a winner. The Grand Award is \$10,000 and \$5,000 each for Gold Medallion Winners with all monies for personal use. Last year's winner was Miami-Dade Principal **Douglas Rodriguez** who received his award from special guest **Gloria Estefan**. The 2009 event is planned for Nov. 18th, and will be hosted by Council Educational Advancement Chair, **Sue Miller**, at her Star Island home. This year's Award program and event sponsors are: **Akerman Senterfitt, Baptist Health South Florida, Carnival Cruise Lines, Cobb Family Foundation, Edward W. Easton, Richard and Susan Finkelstein and the Lennar Foundation.**

Council President and Executive Director **Dr. Elaine Liftin** was recently named to the *Accomplished Principal Standards Committee* of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The Committee is tasked with developing standards, based on high performance characteristics, and preparing them for public review. Dr. Liftin was chosen based on her expertise in principal leadership. She helped create Florida's Principal Leadership Standards. The first meeting was in Washington, D. C., the week of June 22.

The bottom line goal of PASS[®] is student success. PASS CEO **Steve Wasserman**, who works with Boyd Anderson High in Broward, arranged an educational and college tour for some Boyd students. PASS CEO's commit \$100,000 and three years to their models. The funding is matched by the **Florida Legislature**. PASS is also sponsored by **Raymond James Financial** and the **Wachovia Foundation**. There are 82 current and alum PASS models in Florida schools. Read on for more information about the Boyd trip.

Thanks to PASS and the generosity of PASS CEO **Dr. Jerry Glass**, all of the students at Bunche Park Elementary can attend a special summer academic and recreational camp. The program will be held from June 22 to July 24. It was carefully crafted by the school's instructional team, led by **Principal Dr. Viola Irons** to provide academic enrichment and social activities. To fund the camp, Dr. Glass augmented the PASS funding from **Assurance Financial Partners** which sponsors this PASS model. Dr. Glass is the co-owner of **Automated Healthcare Solutions**. He also created, led and participates in a Chess Club for Bunche Park students.

Some PASS model schools are using PASS funding over the summer for staff instructional leadership training. A few examples: North Dade Middle is holding a series of development workshops with focused topics such as analyzing and applying student data and promoting science and math student learning and achievement. North Dade Middle Principal **Lowell Crawford** partners with PASS partner **Charles Ridley**, Executive Director of the **Community Crusade Against Drugs**. Hialeah Miami Lakes High will also be using PASS dollars to conduct staff development focused on increasing student achievement and strengthening the instructional leadership of the school's staff, led by Principal **Christopher Shinn**. This PASS model is funded by **Higgins Development Partners**.

Executive PASS[®] is spreading to Osceola County. Working with Osceola Superintendent, **Dr. Michael Grego**, the Council will implement the model in 11 schools in 2009-2010. The Superintendent tapped area business leaders to participate. Executive PASS is now in operation in Miami-Dade, Hillsborough and Orange Counties. It is the creation of Council Board Chair **Steve Saiontz**.

A special training for mentors of new and beginning teachers in Council programs will be held in August. Attending will be mentors from Hillsborough area schools who participate in the Teachers Initiative, funded by the **Helios Education Foundation**, President and Executive Director **Paul Luna**. Also attending will be mentors from Sulphur Springs Elementary who participate in a teacher retention and development program funded by **JPMorgan Chase**. The retention of new teachers is a Council focus area. A prior Council program, funded by the **Wachovia Foundation**, had a 97% retention rate, above the state and national average, and received high marks from an independent evaluation. **Peter Bucholtz** leads the Council's new teacher retention and development programs.

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Mission: **LEADING THE WAY TO BETTER EDUCATION**

Life Altering Experience for Boyd Anderson Students PASS Student Leadership Academy & College Visit

Life altering... experience of a lifetime... eye opening... motivational... inspirational... an incredible opportunity... can't believe what's out there... thank you for changing my life!

These reactions were echoed over and over again by the Boyd Anderson High students who participated in the PASS Student Leadership Academy/College Visitation trip to Washington, D. C. on June 16-18.

On the way home, the Broward students took time to reflect on the impact of what they had experienced. They also took time to express their heartfelt appreciation to the trip sponsors in letters and emails.



Pictured above are Boyd Anderson students visiting Georgetown University. Boyd PASS CEO Steve Wasserman is pictured 5th from the right, top row. He helped arrange and participated in the trip. His son is in the Boyd IB program.

The students were impressed by each and every feature on the trip, including a visit to the Capitol, a WTTG Fox news station tour, the Smithsonian, lunch at the Florida Embassy, and a performance at the Kennedy Center. Some experiences had a transforming impact on the student's aspirations for the future, including visits to Howard and Georgetown Universities and discussions with university staff, students, and alum. They were also inspired by their meetings with Congressmen Robert Wexler, United States Army Major General Arnold Fields, Judge Barnett and attorney Davis Douglas from the Law Firm of Shook and Hardy. The students said it best:

"I learned that a trip can change a person's life forever." "Before I went on this trip, I didn't think college was for me."

"General Fields taught us that education is a precious thing with no time limit, so that we can, and must, always keep learning."

"This was a once in a lifetime opportunity. If it wasn't for the sponsors, I wouldn't have been able to realize all that is out there."

"I cannot begin to explain the personal impact of seeing the history of this great nation. All I have ever known is South Florida. And now my whole mindset and experience have been broadened."

"Being in the same room with Judge Barnett was like being in the same room with a living, walking history book."

"The knowledge and experience I gained on this trip were invaluable."

"A person is more than a name. A person is valued and appreciated through their actions. I am thankful to those who took action to sponsor this trip. I hope to be a person of action just like them."

The trip was the brainchild of Steve Wasserman, Council Board Member, PASS CEO at Boyd Anderson High in Broward County and Manager of Colliers Abood Wood-Fay, Fort Lauderdale Office. This is the second year that he helped procure sponsorship and arranged an educational and college visitation for Boyd students. Other sponsors included the **City of Lauderdale Lakes**, the **Council for Educational Change** through PASS and other individual donors. **Dr. Pat Dixon**, South Florida PASS Coordinator and PASS coach for Boyd also helped to coordinate the trip and participated as well. **Joyce Ferguson** and **Rayfield Henderson** are the co-Principals at Boyd Anderson High. The students were chosen to participate, based on their leadership potential, as identified by the school.

"Steve is a stellar example of a committed business leader who uses partnership to help students succeed and schools improve. For Steve, it's all about creating and seeking opportunities for students that lay the groundwork for future achievement," said Council President and Executive Director **Dr. Elaine Liftin**. "We are fortunate to have him as a Council Board Member and PASS CEO."

PASS teams a CEO and Principal with an Education Coach to work on school improvement and raising student achievement. The CEO contributes \$100,000 and three years of hands on work at the school. PASS is also funded by statewide sponsor **Raymond James Financial**, the **Wachovia Foundation** and the **Florida Legislature**. There are 82 current and alum PASS models in Florida schools. Each PASS team chooses goals that support the overall PASS mission to raise student achievement. Promoting and empowering the leadership potential of the students, and tapping student leaders, are chief PASS activities at Boyd Anderson.

For more information, please contact Council President and Executive Director **Dr. Elaine Liftin**, 954.727.9909