

COUNCIL RECEIVES \$600,000 AWARD FROM WACHOVIA FOUNDATION

On July 14th at the Annual Council for Educational Change PASS meeting in Tampa, the Council was awarded \$600,000 by the Wachovia Foundation to continue and scale-up their *Teachers and Teaching Initiative* program.

The award funds the program for three years. It builds off last year's successful program, also funded by the Foundation. Its focus was and will be the creation and implementation of innovative strategies to develop and retain new and beginning teachers. It was conducted at 16 schools in the Council's PASS network with 19 teacher mentors, working with 86 mentees.

Program strengths included:

- layered approach that trained superstar teacher mentors to train new and beginning teachers
- blended delivery system, combining technology and face time
- special workshops
- specially developed communications platform for networking
- onsite mentoring
- support of the Principal and Council PASS coaches and coordinators
- use of technology
- special Academy experience
- cutting-edge research-based learning modules providing a wealth of information including mentoring resources, best practices, reading standards and use of student achievement data
- continual accessibility of the mentors to the new teachers



Judy Anderson (right), Project Manager for Community Affairs for the Greater Bay Area, Wachovia, represented the Wachovia Foundation and awarded \$600,000 to the Council for their statewide program which is part of the Foundation's national Teachers and Teaching Initiative. Council President and Executive Director, Dr. Elaine Liftin (left) accepts the check. Teacher mentors and mentees, as well as PASS and Council leaders, also attended the event.



Teachers Larry Plank from T.R. Robinson High, Tampa and Kimberley Chaffin (right) from West Tampa Elementary are superstar mentors from the program. Both shared success stories at the check presentation event.



Council Program Mentors from around the state and Council staff at the Check Presentation.