

BE GREAT



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE UPSTATE

October 2010

VIKING KEYSTONERS PLACE FIRST IN REGION AT TACO BELL BUSINESS CAMP!



Eight members of our Viking Keystone Club attended a two day Business Camp for teens on September 9th and 10th in Greenville. The event was sponsored by Taco Bell, the national sponsors of Boys & Girls Clubs Keystone Career and Leadership program for teens. During the camp, students developed an idea for a new business and completed career assessments.

In workshops with professional mentors, our group developed a business plan to launch a new

Spartanburg business. Our Spartanburg High School team competed with groups from across the region by presenting their plan to a panel of judges. We are pleased to announce that our Viking Keystoners won first place and \$3,000 to help with the start-up of their business. Thank you Taco Bell and Boys & Girls Clubs and congratulations Keystoners! Pictured above, Keystoners and their mentors display their award.

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OPEN NEW SITES AT PACOLET AND O.P. EARLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Upstate is pleased to announce the opening of two new Clubs this school year at Pacolet Elementary School in Spartanburg District Three and O.P. Earle Elementary in Spartanburg District One. Our innovative best practices for our after-school programs helped us win highly competitive funding from the SC Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program to start up these new Clubs. These best practice programs include community service-learning, the arts, science and technology, the Triple Play health and wellness program and environmental education.



With the addition of these new sites, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Upstate is now serving 1600 children a day in Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties!

Pictured right, members and staff from O.P. Earle Boys & Girls Club got better acquainted with one another over a "Green Retreat" weekend at Camp Greenville in September. Students ventured into the great outdoors to learn about ecosystems, waterfalls, adaptation and survival. And there was even time for rock-climbing and kayaking. Members from our Pacolet Club will receive their environmental education through the Adventure Quest program at the Glendale Outdoor Leadership School (GOLS) and will also travel to Camp Greenville in the Spring.



A big thank you to 21st Century Community Learning Centers and our newest partners Spartanburg School Districts One and Three for helping us get our new clubs off to a GREAT start!



"The Boys & Girls Club is an excellent tool to create high quality after school and extended year enrichment for the Pacolet Elementary School students. Students are growing academically as well as socially from the excellent programs and staff."

- Kenny Blackwood, Principal
Pacolet Elementary School

BE ACTIVE BE GREEN BE GREAT!

PARENTS CONTRIBUTE TO CLUBS AND SCHOOLS



Boys & Girls Clubs have increased parent involvement in our Clubs and host schools with the launch of our new parent volunteer initiative this school year. We have challenged our Club members' families to commit to having a family representative volunteer the equivalent of at least one hour per week in their Club or school.

Parents are assisting our Clubs with homework help, academic enrichment, arts classes, field studies and Club events. Partner schools in this initiative provide a list of opportunities for parents to volunteer for the school and school

events which they may apply to their Club commitment. **So far this school year, our parents have contributed over 1,000 hours in volunteer service to 9 of our Clubs and schools!** In addition to enhancing our afterschool program, school principals have already noticed dramatic increases in PTO participation and parent's involvement with their children's education.

We have also challenged parents who can afford it to contribute financially to our Clubs. So far this school year, parents have given almost \$5,000 to our Clubs' operations. Pictured above, a parent from our Mary H. Wright Club helps children with homework.



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FUTURE LEADERS

Photo By Clay Terrell

THANK YOU!

BB&T

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Beyond Expectations
Enhancing Quality in the 21st Century

