Allendale Elementary School Launches a Future Allendale Teachers Enrichment (FATE) Program

In June 2008, fourteen of the seventeen invited fourth and fifth grade students of Allendale Elementary School (AES) participated in a two-week enrichment program aimed at establishing a pipeline of high performing students who might one day teach in the schools of Allendale County. Gwen Johnson, Director of the Allendale Elementary School Professional Development School (AES PDS), worked with three AES faculty members and one RPSEC staff member to design a rich experience for the students. The program was funded by USC Aiken’s Center of Excellence for the Advancement of Rural, Under-Performing Schools (CEARUPS), an initiative of the SC Commission on Higher Education. Dorothy Kennedy, the Allendale Elementary’s Science Coach, and Ella Brabham, the AES Guidance Counselor, taught the motivated and well-disciplined group of fifth graders. Annette Creech, a fourth grade AES teacher, was the instructor of the excited and hard-working group of fourth grade students. Marsha Williams, an AES aide, provided invaluable support for all three classes. Through hands-on investigations using the Enviroscape simulated landscape, Tara Jenkins, Director of the RPSEC STEP, gave both groups of students a realistic look at the impact of humans on our water supply and the environment. As a result of their science investigations, students wrote illustrated books about the life of a drop of water as it cycles through our environment. This integrated language and science experience helped the children achieve the verbal and written communication goals planned by the program staff while understanding the impact of their actions.

The interdisciplinary FATE curriculum targeted fourth and fifth grade science, mathematics, communications and career development achievement standards. During the two weeks, each student selected, researched and role-played two different careers that s/he might one day pursue. Students sharpened their verbal communication skills by interviewing people in related career fields, and recording, summarizing and presenting their data. They made videos of their presentations that included many of the “powerful vocabulary words” they had encountered during the two weeks. In mathematics students continued to work on verbal communications in conjunction with their involvement with elementary algebra standards. They developed algebraic thinking by describing, analyzing and extending growing and repeating patterns and number sequences. They designed investigations to answer questions they generated, collected the data, analyzed it and told stories based on the data. Their attempts to communicate mathematically engaged them in verbal, graphical, symbolic and written modes of representing information. Teaching “Math Out of the Box” helped teachers develop their abilities to integrate curricula and to use the phases of the learning cycle more effectively. The FATE teachers modeled the Five E’s of good teaching: Engage, Explore, Explain, Extend and Evaluate. Collaboration among the teachers in rich, activity-based lessons paid off with high levels of student learning.

FATE students concluded the packed, two-week experience with a field trip to Fort Discovery where they encountered many science exhibits and career connections. The program sought to involve students in a fun exploration of some of the paths that are open to those who take seriously their educational opportunities. The staff expressed a desire to continue working with the FATE students throughout the school year in an after school accelerated learning program. The students and teachers demonstrated that learning at high levels can be great fun!

Infusing the Love of Science, Math and Technology!
NEW SCHEDULE FOR PUBLIC PLANETARIUM SHOWS

Starting in September 2008, the DuPont Planetarium will present shows for the public every Saturday. For many years, our public shows have been offered during the first and third Friday and Saturday of each month, so this is a significant change. The new schedule will be easier to remember and will provide opportunities to visit the planetarium every weekend rather than only two weekends per month.

Early Bird shows will still be offered the first Saturday of each month at 4:00 and 5:00 p.m., and evening shows will still begin at 7:00 and 8:00 p.m. in September through April and at 8:00 and 9:00 p.m. in May through August. Evening times are designed to allow patrons to visit the RPSEC Observatory immediately following planetarium shows; when sunset is later, our shows start later.

For great edutainment, invite your family, friends and out of town visitors to join you at the DuPont Planetarium any Saturday from September 2008 through August 2009!

Astronomical Anniversaries and a New Planetarium Program

Did you know that . . .
- the 50th anniversary of the creation of NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, will occur in October 2008?
- the International Year of Astronomy (IYA) is scheduled for 2009 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Galileo’s first use of a telescope to explore space?
- July 2009 will mark the 40th anniversary of mankind’s first steps on the Moon?

We invite you to help us celebrate these events and experience our new planetarium program “To the Moon and Beyond” in November 2008 or July 2009. The DuPont Planetarium developed and produced the original show, “To the Moon and Beyond,” in 2008 to share the science of our closest neighbor in space and to honor all men and women with the courage and commitment to explore space.

“‘To the Moon and Beyond’ includes a quick recap of the space race, a dramatic reenactment of Apollo 11’s historic mission to the Moon, an overview of other Apollo missions, and a look into NASA’s Constellation Program that will soon return people to the Moon. You’ll see hundreds of NASA images and hear the actual voices of presidents and astronauts as you learn how one family has been impacted by NASA’s missions to the Moon. The show concludes with NASA’s current plans to go back to the Moon, to Mars, and beyond.

For More Information Visit:
http://rpsec.usca.edu/planetarium/
Alligator Retirement

Miss Sippi, our American Alligator (Alligator mississippiensis) has retired at the ripe old age of five. She arrived at the RPSEC in 2003 and has been used in thousands of educational programs over the years. She has, unfortunately, outgrown us. Miss Sippi retired in May and moved to Alligator Adventure in Myrtle Beach where she will surely enjoy a larger habitat, larger prey items, and the company of other alligators. Two of her younger siblings, Georgia and Louie, will continue to reside at the RPSEC.

Student Programs

Last year nearly 700 teachers brought their K-12 classes to the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center for field trips. RPSEC’s K-12 Student Programs served a total of 20,703 students from 74 schools encompassing 21 school districts in 11 counties.

The most popular of our program offerings for 2007-2008 were Animals with Backbones (1,373 students), Follow the Drinking Gourd (1284 students), and Circuit City (1,153 students). Other favorites included Blown Away, Magnets and Motions, In My Backyard, Ravenous Raptors, and CSI Solutions.

The deadline has passed for reservation requests for the 2008-2009 school year. Once again, we have received many more requests than we will be able to serve and we are completely booked for the upcoming year. Teachers’ requests received after the June 13 deadline will be added to the waiting list in the event of a cancellation. Please note that we are not able to accept any reservation requests by telephone. We look forward to serving a record number of students again this school year!

2008-2009

Adopt an Animal Program

The Ruth Patrick Science Education Center is looking for sponsors to help support the cost of feeding and caring for the animals used in our K-12 educational programs. An animal may be adopted by an individual, a business, or a group such as an elementary school class or a scout troop. The sponsors’ names will be displayed on the animals’ cages for one school year. Donations are tax deductible; sponsorship opportunities for 2007-2008 are listed below.

For more information, please contact Deborah McMurtrie at DeborahMc@usca.edu or 803-641-2834.

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<th>BIRDS</th>
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<td>Red-Tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) Non-releasable male, hatched 1992 (Windsor)</td>
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<td>Barred Owl (Strix varia) Non-releasable male, adult, to be named</td>
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<td>American Alligator (Alligator mississippiensis) female, born 2006 (Georgia)</td>
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<td>Northern Pine Snake (Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus)</td>
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<td>Yellow-Bellied Slider Turtle (Trachemys scripta scripta)</td>
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<td>Gray Tree Frog (Hyla versicolora)</td>
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<td>Southern Leopard Frog (Rana utricularia)</td>
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<td>Spotted Salamander (Ambystoma maculatum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marbled Salamander (Ambystoma opacum)</td>
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Professional Presentations

Senn, G. J., & Smyth, T. J. C. (2008, April). Comparison of Face-To-Face and Hybrid Delivery of Technology Skills Course. Presented at the 18th annual International Conference on College Teaching and Learning, Jacksonville, FL.


The Ruth Patrick Science Education Center has a new mouth to feed: an adult Barred Owl who needs a name!

The RPSEC has special state and federal permits that allow them to have non-releasable, protected birds for educational purposes. The Barred Owl, which arrived in Aiken in April, was the victim of a car strike in Raleigh, North Carolina. After several months of medical treatment and rehabilitation, it was determined that the bird’s wing injury has left him permanently disabled and unable to survive in the wild. The raptor rehabilitator then placed the bird with the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center.

The new owl is now undergoing training for educational programs. Because he was in the wild until recently, he must learn to tolerate human proximity and eventually human contact. He will be glove trained, meaning that he must learn to stand still to be jessed, step up, and then stay on hand. He will learn to stay on a bow perch, and how to get in and out of a carrier. He must also get accustomed to having groups of children nearby.

The Ruth Patrick Science Education Center is looking for sponsors to help support the annual cost of feeding and caring for the raptors that are used in its K-12 educational programs. A bird may be adopted by an individual, a business, or a group such as an elementary school class or a scout troop for one year. The sponsors’ names will be recognized in the Center’s publications and website as Friends of the RPSEC.

Because he is new to the RPSEC, the Barred Owl has not yet been named. This year’s sponsor will have an opportunity to name the bird, subject to the RPSEC’s approval.

Windsor, the Red-Tailed Hawk, is also in need of a sponsor. Windsor was shot by a person, possibly a hunter, sixteen years ago; the wing healed improperly which limits his flight. He has been used in educational programs for many years and actually seems to enjoy being around people.

Silent flight, a curved, hooked beak and sharp, powerful talons are some of the adaptations that enable these nocturnal predators to survive at the top of the food chain. Also known as birds of prey, raptors seize their prey with force and can eat several mice, rats, or other prey items each day. To feed their new resident raptors, the RPSEC will purchase frozen rodents from a local feeder food company. Frozen mice cost $1.30 each, and rats are even more. As you can imagine, feeding these birds is expensive!

Donations are tax deductible; sponsorship opportunities for 2008-2009 are listed on page 3. For more information, please contact Deborah McMurtrie at DeborahMc@usca.edu or (803) 641-2834.

The following birds can be sponsored through the RPSEC’s Adopt An Animal program (see page 3 for more details):

*Red-Tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) Non-releasable male, hatched 1992 (Windsor) $1,500
*Barred Owl (Strix varia) Non-releasable male, adult (To be named) $1,200

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**Masters Degree in Educational Technology**

**Online Format Officially Begins Fall 2008**

The Educational Technology program at the University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) and the University of South Carolina (USC) Columbia is accepting applications for enrollment. Beginning Fall 2008, the program will be offered totally in an on-line format. For more information visit: http://edtech.usca.edu/

The focus of the program is to develop capabilities essential to the effective design, evaluation, and delivery of technology-based instruction and training (e.g., software development, multimedia development, assistive technology modifications, web-based development, and distance learning) in order to (1) prepare educators to assume leadership roles in the integration of educational technology into the school curriculum, and (2) to provide graduate-level instructional opportunities for several populations (e.g., classroom teachers, corporate trainers, educational software developers) that need to acquire both technological competencies and understanding of sound instructional design principles and techniques.

Anyone interested in enrolling in this program should contact Karen Morris at 803-641-3489.

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**Foundational Core Courses (6 hours)**

- **AERM/EDRM 700 – Introduction to Research in Education**
- **AEET/EDET 709 – Applications of Learning Principles**

**Design Courses (15 hours)**

- **AEET/EDET 603 – Design and Development Tools I**
- **AEET/EDET 703 – Design and Development Tools II**
- **AEET/EDET 722 – Instructional Design and Assessment**
- **AEET/EDET 755 – Design and Evaluation of Information Access and Delivery**
- **AEET/EDET 793 – Advanced Instructional Design and Development**

**Technology Core Courses (12 hours)**

- **AEET/EDET 650 – Internship in Educational Technology**
- **AEET/EDET 735 – Technological Applications for Diverse Populations**
- **AEET/EDET 746 – Management of Technology Resources**
- **AEET/EDET 780 – Seminar in Educational Technology**

**Electives (3 hours chosen from the following courses)**

- **AEET/EDET 652 – Design and Evaluation of Games and Simulations**
- **AETE 731 – Instructional and Informational Applications of Technology**
- **EDTE 731 – Integration of Technology and Instruction**
- **SLIS 706 – Introduction to Information Technologies**
- **TSTM 790 – Advanced Study in Technology Support/Training Management**
FRIENDS OF THE RPSEC
Annual Fund 2008

The Friends of the RPSEC support the mission and activities of the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center. Friends of the RPSEC can help by volunteering time and talent, by providing financial support, by identifying resources, by raising funds, by strengthening ties to local government and community groups, and by advocating the services of the RPSEC. You can help infuse the love of science, mathematics, and technology by becoming a Friend of the RPSEC. Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Giving levels include:

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I am proud to support the RPSEC.

Name(s): ____________________________________________________________
E-mail: ____________________________________________________________
Mailing Address: ____________________________________________________
City __________________________ State __________ Zip Code ____________
Home Phone: __________________________ Cell Phone: ____________________
I/We enclose/pledge $ __________________________ payable to Aiken Partnership/RPSEC
You may make your gift by credit card. Please charge $ ___________ to my ___ VISA ___ MASTERCARD ___ DISCOVER ___ AMEX
Card Number: __________________________ Exp. Date ____________
Signature: ______________________________________________________
Date: __________________________

Other ways to make your annual fund contribution:

- Give now by calling in your gift to USCA Advancement at 803-641-3334. You can also visit www.usca.edu/annualfund/Onlinegift.htm to make your gift. We accept all major credit cards including American Express, Discover, MasterCard, and Visa. (Please be sure to specify USC Aiken as the campus, and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center as the area)
- Contact the USCA Annual Fund office at 803-641-3480 or annualfund@usca.edu for more information on our Matching Gift program through your employer.
- Call the USCA Advancement office at 803-641-3342 to get information on how to include the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center in your will or estate plan.

Please return pledge to USC Aiken Advancement, 471 University Pkwy., Aiken, SC 29801
The Ruth Patrick Science Education Center, USC Aiken, and Aiken County Public Schools present

Science Rocks!

Science Education Enrichment Day

October 18, 2008 * 10am-3pm
USC Aiken

Current Event Sponsors:

SRP Federal Credit Union

NBC Augusta
Savannah River Site’s Education Outreach Programs
in partnership with the
Ruth Patrick Science Education Center
Proudly Sponsors the

2008-2009 South Carolina Regional Future City Competition

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational program for seventh and eighth grade students. This program combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a “hands-on” application as students present their vision of a city of the future.

This will be accomplished by:
• Fostering engineering skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem solving
• Providing interaction among students, teachers, and engineer mentors
• Informing the community about the multi-disciplines within the engineering profession
• Inspiring students to explore futuristic concepts and careers in engineering

The National Engineers Week Future City Competition requires:
• Problem-solving
• Teamwork
• Research and presentation skills
• Practical math and science applications
• Computer skills

The competition employs a team-based approach. All members of the team have an important role that is necessary for the completion of the project.

To register, email Bonnie Maxwell at bonnie.maxwell@srs.gov

The competition employs a team-based approach. All members of the team have an important role that is necessary for the completion of the project.

The Traveling Science and Mathematics Demonstrations Program has over 300 science and math kits available for use in the classroom. Supplement your curriculum with nationally recognized and state adopted exemplary materials. Kits have been correlated to SC state standards. Many kits contain children’s literature so that you can integrate your science and language arts lessons together.

In addition to these resources you can request a visiting STRAND (Scientists with Traveling Resources and Neat Demonstrations) volunteer for classroom presentations. Last year over 14,000 students benefited from this program.

For more information, please visit http://rpsec.usca.edu/travelingscience/ or call us at 803-641-3683.

Camp Invention

The sounds of “Camp Invention is our name. Being inventors is our game,” rang through the halls of the RPSEC as 95 first- through sixth- grade students stretched their imaginations at this year’s Camp Invention program. The RPSEC welcomed students from across the CSRA for the fifth year for a week-long science day camp full of learning and fun.

Camp Invention, sponsored locally by the RPSEC, inspires creativity and inventive-thinking through science, math, history and the arts. It offered children hands-on activities with five age-appropriate modules each day including disassembling old machinery and using parts to make their own inventions in the I Can Invent module; rebuilding a cleaner, more eco-friendly city in the Saving Sludge City module; art with recycled materials in the Art Park module; executing a trip to Mars, and becoming the first astronauts to explore the planet in the “M.A.R.S.” module.

“Camp Invention’s creators continue to surprise and delight us with their innovative approach to education,” according to John Hutchens, director of the RPSEC program. Children who attend Camp Invention learn skills that enhance their abilities to brainstorm, solve problems and work in teams. “As educators, we know that children of all ages should continue sharpening these skills as we enter an era in which critical thinking will be extremely important to their future,” said Hutchens.

Camp Invention began in 1990 as an education outreach program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation in Akron, Ohio, with support from the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. The first camp in Akron was such a huge hit, and enthusiasm for the program spread so rapidly, that by 1995 the program was able to go nationwide. This summer, more than 52,000 children participated in Camp Invention.
Local Schools Sponsored Through the Central Savannah Math and Science Regional Center to Participate in Statewide Math and Science Training.

The Central Savannah River Area Mathematics and Science Regional Center (CSRA MSRC) works with seven other SC Mathematics and Science Regional Centers to implement 4 weeklong summer Math and Science Coaching Institutes for mathematics and science coaches in elementary and middle schools across the state. Currently, the training and follow-up support involves over fifty school districts.

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Math and Science Coaching Initiative 1 (MSCI 1) (July 14, 2008-July 18, 2008)

The focus of MSCI 1 is PLANNING FOR EFFECTIVE COACHING. MSCI 1, held in Spartanburg, SC, assists coaches, their school principals and district support staff in planning to improve classroom instruction. The Math & Science Unit's Theory of Action for Instructional Improvement, based on research done by the National Science Resources Center of the Smithsonian Institution/National Academies, serves as the story line for the weeklong Institute.

The goals of the institute are:
- Develop a shared vision for mathematics and science education and the role of coaches and administrators in promoting that vision.
- Explore systems thinking as it applies to making change in a school setting.
- Enhance understanding of research & best practice around the five school infrastructure components of the MSU Theory of Action for Instructional Improvement (Research-based curriculum materials, Competent Teachers, Assessment, Instructional Materials Support, Engaged School Community).
- Establish a network of coaches, administrators, MSU staff and others.
- Develop a school plan such that each coach is able to make immediate improvements to instruction at their school.

CSRA Participating Schools: Douglas Elementary, Johnston Elementary, East Aiken Elementary, Oakwood-Windsor Elementary, and North Augusta Elementary

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Math and Science Coaching Initiative 2 (MSCI 2) (August 4, 2008-August 8, 2008)

The focus of MSCI 2 is PREPARING FOR EFFECTIVE COACHING. MSCI 2, which will be held in Summerville, SC, will provide initial training in the specific skills of coaching and help coaches develop their knowledge of curriculum standards and content appropriate to their role in improving instruction. The Math & Science Unit’s integration of Cognitive Coaching (SM) concepts, serves as the story line for the weeklong Institute.

The goals of the institute are:
- Learn strategies to establish trust, build relationships, and develop a team approach to problem solving in schools.
- Understand content that is important for students to know, how they come to learn it, and how we know they did.
- Develop coaching skills used to plan, reflect and problem solve with teachers.

CSRA Participating Schools: Douglas Elementary, Johnston Elementary, East Aiken Elementary, Oakwood-Windsor Elementary, and North Augusta Elementary

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Math and Science Coaching Initiative 3 (MSCI 3) (June 23, 2008-June 27, 2008)

The focus of MSCI 3 is REFINING EFFECTIVE COACHING. MSCI 3, held in Spartanburg, SC, continues training in specific skills of coaching and helps coaches examine the coach’s role for student learning through the assessment component of the Theory of Action for Instructional Improvement.

The goals of the institute are:
- Address instructional improvement issues through professional articles and case studies.
- Understand student assessment for learning about critical mathematics and science concepts, skills, procedures, and facts and then apply that information to inform their instructional decisions.
- Understand student assessment for learning by the applying the Action Reflection Process.
- Critique the level of reflection of journal entries and apply this knowledge edge to their own journal entries.
- Examine the Theory of Action for Instructional Improvement through a simulation activity
- Refine the school plan.

CSRA Participating Schools: North Aiken Elementary, Redcliffe Elementary, and Macedonia Elementary

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Math and Science Coaching Initiative 4 (MSCI 4) (June 23, 2008-June 27, 2008)

The focus of MSCI 4 is SUPPORTING COACHING IN A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (PLC). MSCI 4, held in Spartanburg, SC, prepares coaches, principals, and district contact persons with the knowledge, tools and techniques to develop a professional learning community within their school.

The goals of the institute are:
- Understand the coach’s role in developing and sustaining an engaged school and community focused on continuous improvement.
- Understand how the five dimensions of a processional learning community (Supportive Conditions, Shared Vision and Mission, Collective Learning, Shared Personal Practice, and Shared and Supportive Leadership) support the MSU Theory of Action for Instructional Improvement.
- Explain the relationship between coaching and a self-sustaining professional learning community in the context of math/science.
- Implement the ideas and philosophies of a processional learning community for continual revision of the MSCI school plan.

CSRA Participating Schools: W.E. Parker Elementary, Barnwell Elementary, and Allendale Elementary School

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For further information, please contact the MSRC staff:
Gloria Allen, Coordinator at 803-641-3592, gloriaa@usca.edu;
William Cue, Mathematics Specialist at bobbyc@usca.edu, or
Gregory MacDougall, Science Specialist at gregm@usca.edu
SCAP envisions mathematics and science education that will enable all students to become educated, responsible, and contributing citizens. The MSU supports 63 schools statewide. The goal of SCAP is to increase student achievement in mathematics by increasing the capacity of teachers:

- to use effective instructional strategies
- to use their understanding of what students know to modify and make instructional decisions
- to continuously reflect on their practice.

The work of the MSU specialist and teachers will be guided by four essential questions:

1. What do we want students to know?
2. How will we support students in their learning?
3. How will we know that they have learned it?
4. What will we do when they don’t?

William R (Bobby) Cue, Math Specialist for the Central Savannah River Area Math Science Regional Center, will provide support to the following schools:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Participating Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aiken</td>
<td>Jackson Middle</td>
<td>Marc Funderburk</td>
<td>Amy McClain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aiken</td>
<td>New Ellenton Middle</td>
<td>Elisa Sanders</td>
<td>Renee Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aiken</td>
<td>Silver Bluff High</td>
<td>Todd Bornscheuer</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood 50</td>
<td>Brewer Middle School</td>
<td>Gerald Witt</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood 50</td>
<td>Greenwood High</td>
<td>Beth Taylor</td>
<td>Keith Cozart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood 50</td>
<td>Westview Middle</td>
<td>Cyndi Storer</td>
<td>Cliff Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurens 55</td>
<td>Laurens High</td>
<td>Anita Wilson</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington 2</td>
<td>Brookland-Cayce High</td>
<td>Scott Newman</td>
<td>Ashleigh Lewis, April Stephenson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For further information, please contact William Cue, MSRC Mathematics Specialist at bobbyc@usca.edu

**CE-MIST Funding Begins**

The new Center of Excellence in Middle-level Interdisciplinary Strategies for Teaching (CE-MIST) began funding in August 2008. The project was made possible through support of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education under the auspices of the state EIA Teacher Education Centers of Excellence Grant Program.

CE-MIST will work with teachers and students at three schools in the CSRA: A.L. Corbett Middle School, Johnston-Edgefield-Trenton (JET) Middle School and Leavelle McCampbell Middle School. Activities will include professional development for teachers and activities for students.

**Goals and Objectives:**

Goal 1: Developing and modeling exemplary teacher training programs.
To address this goal, CE-MIST will develop and model programs that are: collaborative, field-based, use state-of-the-art technology and use proven strategies.

Goal 2: Providing hands-on, inquiry-based, research-supported programs.
CE-MIST will provide hands-on, inquiry-based, research-supported programs that incorporate innovative practices in teaching middle-level children with diverse backgrounds and learning styles from targeted low performing schools. Goal 2 is related to Goal 1 but shifts the focus from teacher to student. The middle-level students will have opportunity to engage in these activities at the RPSEC at the USCA, which will introduce them to a higher education institution and allow them to benefit from the state-of-the-art, RPSEC facility.

Goal 3: Developing an influential constituency for the Center
CE-MIST will develop an influential constituency by following the model exemplified by the RPSEC. A new group, the CE-MIST Advisory Council, will be created during this project. This group will be composed of individuals from each of the partner schools, USCA and key individuals with backgrounds in middle-level philosophy.

Goal 4: Achieving a position of leadership in the state
As CE-MIST develops and models exemplary teacher training programs and develops an influential constituency, there will be a natural progression to achieving a position of leadership in South Carolina.

Goal 5: Develop a detailed research agenda

For more information about CE-MIST, visit our website at http://rpsec.usca.edu/CE-MIST/.
Central Savannah River Area Regional Science and Engineering Fair

Back by popular demand, the CSRA Science and Engineering Fair will be sponsored by the Savannah River Site’s Education Outreach Programs, the University of South Carolina Aiken, and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center, on Saturday, March 14, 2009 at USC Aiken.

We would like to invite you to participate in the 2009 CSRA Science and Engineering Fair by registering on-line at http://educationoutreach.srs.gov/ starting September 1st. The fair will be open to all 4th through 12th graders in public, private and home schools in the following counties: in Georgia the counties of Burke, Richmond, Columbia, Lincoln, Wilkes, Jefferson, Taliaferro, Warren, McDuffie, Emanuel, Jenkins, and Glascock and in South Carolina counties of Hampton, Allendale, Barnwell, Bamberg, Aiken, Edgefield, Saluda, and McCormick. The school registration deadline is October 31, 2008. All local science and engineering fairs will need to be completed and first place winning projects reported on-line by February 28, 2009.

Students may bring their projects to set-up at USCA on the afternoon of Friday, March 13, 2009, or the morning of Saturday, March 14, 2009. Project judging and the awards ceremony will follow. Lots of great prizes will be given out during the awards ceremony. We hope this will be a rewarding and fun event for all participating students.

A FREE teacher workshop will be offered to review fair rules, to go over the registration process, to give guidance on how to conduct a local fair, and to convey what makes a good project. Workshops will be held at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center in Room 117 on August 15 on August 1, 2008, from 9:00AM - 12:00 PM and at the Richmond County Board of Education Building on August 25, 2008 from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Exact date for the workshop at the Richmond County Board of Education to be determined. If you would like to register for one of the workshops, please complete the registration form.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Bonnie Maxwell, 803-952-8720 or bonnie.maxwell@srs.gov, at the Savannah River Site’s Education Outreach Programs.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2009 CSRA Science and Engineering Fair!

2008 Savannah River Regional Science and Engineering Fair

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Address:  ____________________________________________________________

Home Phone: _______________________________________________________

School: ___________________________ Fax #: ___________________________

School Address: ______________________________________________________

School Phone: ___________________________ Grade Level: ____________

e-mail: ___________________________ Alternate e-mail: __________________

Workshop Date (check one):  □ August 15 from 9am-12pm  □ August 25 from 4:30pm-7pm

Return registration forms by August 11, 2008 to: Bonnie Maxwell, Building 730-1B, Aiken, SC 29808 Fax: 803-952-8264