

Looking At The ISSUES

October 27, 2006

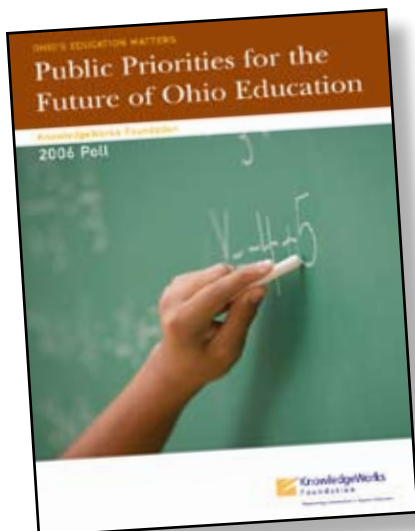
Focus on Finding Solutions:

Public Opinion – KnowledgeWorks Foundation Poll 2006

Ohioans understand the education and economic statistics about Ohio, but in many ways and in many forums they are saying that the focus must be on finding solutions. It is no longer enough to say that the workforce or the economy in Ohio needs to be improved.

The KnowledgeWorks Foundation recently released its 2006 poll and summarizes the findings by saying that “Education Matters to Ohioans.” Public support is expressed in this poll for:

- Additional state funding for both K-12 and higher education
- Small schools within large high schools
- Dual credit (credit for both high school and college courses) opportunities for high school students
- Additional training beyond high school for high school graduates
- The specifics of the Ohio Core Curriculum proposal (4 years of English, 4 years of Mathematics including 2 years of Algebra, 3 years of Science including physics, chemistry and biology, 3 years of social studies and 2 years of a foreign language).



The full polling results are available at: <http://www.kwfdn.org/poll/2006/home/introduction.asp>.

Looking At The Week

Welcome Rolls-Royce

Welcome to Stark County to Mark Fleiner, President of Rolls-Royce Fuel Cell Systems, Inc. The North American headquarters will be in the Fuel Cell Prototyping Center located on the campus of Stark State College.

Schools of Promise

Congratulations to three schools in Stark County designated as “Schools of Promise” by the Ohio Department of Education: Smith Elementary–Massillon City schools; Genoa Elementary–Perry Local Schools; East Sparta Elementary–Sandy Valley Local Schools.

All-USA Teacher Team

Congratulations to Darrell Woods, Hoover High School (North Canton City Schools), one of 20 teachers named to the All-USA Teacher Team, featured in USA Today.

In Stark County we have examples of what the poll indicates that Ohioans favor:

- Small Schools within a large high school:
 - McKinley High School as a part of the Ohio High School Transformation Project
 - Timken Campus with Career Academies and Early College
 - Plain High School with Career Academy Programs.

- Dual Credit:
 - Advanced Placement Opportunities in many high schools that afford students the opportunity to earn “tested” college credit
 - Tech Prep programs that afford students the opportunity to earn “articulated credit”
 - PSEO opportunities with our high schools in partnership with Kent State University–Stark and/or Stark State College of Technology
 - Early College High School on the Timken Campus satellite location of Stark State College of Technology
 - Summer Scholars at many high school locations in partnership with Stark State College of Technology
 - A newly minted grant proposal that, if approved, will provide the opportunity to establish dual credit opportunities for 440 students at many high school locations in a teaming arrangement with high school teachers and college professors at all of our local colleges and universities
 - Excellent training opportunities for adults through the work of the school districts, colleges and local Workforce Investment Board

Milken National Educator Award

Congratulations to Compton Elementary School (Canton City Schools) teacher Julie Herman who was recently honored with a Milken National Educator Award.

Siemens Competition

Congratulations to North Canton City’s Hoover High School students – Madhav Chopra and Kurt Feng – who were announced as semifinalists in the 2006-07 Siemens Competition in Math, Science & Technology. The twelve finalists will be announced next week.

Tapping Ohio’s Potential

On October 24, Adrienne O’Neill, Ed.D. participated in a conference call updating the work of the Tapping Ohio’s Potential group.

Ohio College Access and Success Conference

Judge Reader, Adrienne O’Neill, Joseph Rochford, and Adele Gelb attended the Ohio College Access and Success Conference, in Columbus, October 23 to 25 where Dr. O’Neill and Dr. Rochford presented *Key Components of Successful P-16 Partnerships* on the 24th.