

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Presents First Annual Governor's Awards For Outstanding School-Community Partnerships

Jackson, MS – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today presented the First Annual Governor's Awards for Outstanding School-Community Partnerships at the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education seminar.

"These awards represent the very best in what's being done for our educational system and our children," Musgrove said. "They prove that if we think outside the box, if we create our own opportunities, there is no limit to what we can do for education in Mississippi."

Awards were presented in the following categories: Elementary Partnership – The Kidzeum, Grenada School District, Grenada, MS; Secondary Partnership – Aberdeen Middle School / BASF, Aberdeen School District, Aberdeen, MS; District Wide Partnership – Association for Excellence in Education / Jones County and Laurel School Districts, Laurel, MS; and Visionary Award – Ask for More Collaborative, Jackson Public School District, Jackson, MS.

Finalists included: The Aberdeen School-to-Career Program, Aberdeen School District; Brandon High School – Trustmark Bank / Rankin Division, Rankin County Public Schools; Baker Elementary School – Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell Law Firm, Jackson Public Schools; Joseph L. Frazier Primary School – International Paper, Natchez-Adams Public Schools; Bright Horizons, West Point Public Schools; and Challenge 2000 After-School Program, Yazoo City School District.

Musgrove praised the hard work of the finalists and award winners, especially the partnerships that were built during the process. "By building bridges between private sector businesses and public school districts, we can create some excellent programs for the students of Mississippi."

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The following companies were also honored for their participation in the Partners in Education program: Allstate Insurance Company, AmSouth Bank, Barksdale Reading Institute, BellSouth, Entergy, FedEx, Hancock Bank, Hardin Foundation, Memorial Hospital of Gulfport, Mississippi Power Company, Mississippi PTA, Mississippi Valley Gas Company, National Bank of Commerce, Parents for Public Schools, State Farm Insurance Company, Trustmark National Bank, Union Planters Bank, and WLBT-TV.