



**Invest In A Child's Future
... Support Excellence in Education**

[Volunteers Needed](#)

Give us 24 hours a year, 1 day,
For the opportunity to impact
The lives of thousands of
Shelby County School Students

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Our Local Challenge...

Sustain the efforts of SCS to enhance the standards that prepare our students to compete nationally and internationally and help SCS to be the model for excellence in education

"Breaking Point: The Education Crisis in America"
Fox News - 11/28/2003

***"U.S. Teens
Trail Peers Around World
on Math-Science Test"***
Washington Post - 12/5/07

***"U.S. Students
'Middle of the Pack'
Compared with World"***
USA Today - 11/23/07

"A study of 2010 ACT college-entrance scores revealed that less than 25 percent of high-school grads had the skills to pass entry-level college classes."
Commercial Appeal - 8/23/10

Shelby County Schools is the 106th largest public school district in the US. It has 47,000 students, 5,200 employees, and 51 schools serving Arlington, Bartlett, Collierville, Germantown, Lakeland, Millington and the county's unincorporated areas. It has the operational complexities of a large business yet it achieves educational excellence while understanding the role and responsibility as steward of public monies.

Shelby County Schools' annual budget is approximately \$360,000,000. Its facilities are effectively designed with the average cost of construction being 26% below the average school construction in the southeast. On a per-capita spending basis, it spends almost 5% less than the Tennessee average and a staggering 20% less than the national per-pupil spending average. But, as will be outlined below, even at this low per-pupil spending level, Shelby County Schools consistently produce above average results. In fact, for the last sixteen consecutive years, Shelby County Schools has been recognized with the national "What Parents Want Award" by School Match, Inc. a firm quoted by The Wall Street Journal as "The best source of test scores, student-teacher ratios, spending and education level of residents." In short, Shelby County Schools makes limited funds stretch to their maximum potential under strict spending limits.

Shelby County Schools has been viewed as stereotypical suburban Memphis schools; in fact, they reflect an ever-changing, wonderful and enriching cross section of America, as you will see in later pages.

A Cross-Section of America:

- 33%** of students are Economically-Disadvantaged
- 46%** of Students are a Racial Minority
- 17%** of students in Special Education (8% gifted)
- 20** foreign languages spoken by students

The Results of a Strong Program:

The results and achievements of Shelby County Schools, *particularly given its large size and restricted budget*, represent a true point of pride for the communities' it services and serves as a shining star to businesses looking to relocate to the area.

- **Graduation Rates:** Shelby County Schools 96%; Knox County Schools 82%; Metro Davidson Schools (Nashville) 76%
- **ACT and SAT scores** consistently above national averages
- **91%** continue on with post-high school technical, vocational, or university education
- Dropout Rate and Truancy Rate both **under 1%**
- Very **high retention** rate and very **low teacher turnover** rate
- **One of only 10** TN school systems (136) to rate **all A's in Academic Achievement on TN Report Card**
- **Every School** rated **proficient or advanced** under "No Child Left Behind" criteria
- **Each of the 51 Schools** in the system has an **active and engaged PTA**
- 1/3 of all state **PTA membership** comes from Shelby County Schools parents
- 56% of its teachers have **Masters Degrees**
- **Student Attendance Rate** is a noticeably high 95%
- All high schools have numerous Advanced Placement ("AP") Courses or Honors Courses and 2 high schools even offer the prestigious **International Baccalaureate Program**
- Shelby County Schools was one of the first in Tennessee to offer **English as a Second Language**, a program modeled nationally and internationally
- All schools offer **student health initiatives**, including personal wellness screenings
- All schools are "wired" for **internet capability** – (they just need more funding for computers!)
- For the last 16 years, Shelby County Schools has received the "What Parents Want Award" from School Match Inc., the nation's largest school selection consulting firm, an award recognizing SCS as one of the **best school systems in the country** at meeting the needs of students and their families
- The Shelby County Board of Education has received the **Board of Distinction** from the Tennessee School Board Association for the last 14 years
- A significant number of state and national **athletic, community service, and academic awards**
- High Schools have been named this year by Newsweek as one of the **"Best High Schools in America!"**
- **Fine Arts Students** consistently earn national recognitions each year

Scholarships Awarded - \$113mm: \$38,450 per senior
VS
Cost to Educate (4 years of High School): \$32,800 per senior

The Impact on the Community:

The impact of producing a quality education program in which the students develop pride, character, and a solid foundation for their role as the next generation of our workforce, has a positive impact on the quality of life, workforce and property values in our communities. This effect can be *compounded geometrically* in terms of dollars of return on investment in the schools.

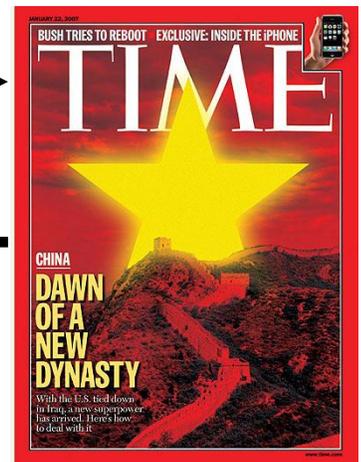
But – back to the Challenge.....



THE GLOBAL ECONOMY



Our Nation's Challenge



The community should not and cannot take Shelby County Schools for granted. For all its past accomplishments, the practical challenges of the future and limited budget continue to curtail its ability to be on the *cutting edge of education and innovation*.

This is particularly important not just because of present community challenges in our community, but those facing our next generation. China and India are already investing in their educational programs at a pace that far exceeds that of the U.S. It is time to step back, appreciate the accomplishments and contributions of Shelby County Schools and invest in its future. A gift to Shelby County Schools is a direct investment in our local community and its future.

It is time to invest or lose its high rate of return for our communities.

Shelby County Schools Education Foundation

The Need: Public education is a local responsibility. Our schools are an essential ingredient in strengthening the fabric of our community. Public schools should reflect our values and advance our priorities.

Our Vision: The Foundation's objective is generating financial support for programs that are not funded or under-funded.

We accomplish this by:

- Providing additional sources of revenue to the system
- Providing major support for targeted programs
- Working closely with the SCS administration in supporting long-term strategic goals and objectives
- Raising awareness in the community
- Recruiting community and business leaders to partner with the Foundation and Shelby County Schools

How can you help “meet the need”?

Invest your time/talents/resources in the future of a child by supporting excellence in education. Assist the Foundation in implementing its “Vision” (see page 8 for more details) and/or serve on a committee (see page 11 for more details on standing committees). Consider donating your time and talents in any of the following areas:

- Office administration/operations
- Database, social networks and website management
- Business/strategic planning
- Marketing/public relations
- Annual fund raising
- Grant researching/writing

Including the Foundation in your annual giving enables the Foundation to continue providing financial support to teachers and students. In-kind donations of much needed computer equipment/software, office equipment/supplies, advertising services, printing and supplies for all events, allows the Foundation to direct more of its limited resources to supporting teachers and students.

Don't see an area matching your needs, expertise or talents! Don't write us off! Give us an opportunity to find a match. Please call us at (901) 202-5015 or email info@scsef.com.

For more information on the Foundation's Vision, Board Members, Programs and Committees please see pages 8 through 11. You can also check us out at www.scsef.com.

Shelby County Schools Education Foundation Vision

The Foundation was formed as a 501(c)(3) organization in 2002 in order to help the district fill in funding gaps, a function both of rapid growth (including a total of more than 1,000 new students every year over the preceding year) and of chronic under funding from public sources (about eighty percent of the national average on a *per capita* student basis). Even so, the Foundation is proud to note the district is the best of Tennessee's large systems and one of the best in the state, according to statistical data prepared by the State of Tennessee. On a comparative national basis, ACT and SAT scores of students in Shelby County Schools are above both state and national averages.

The Foundation has set the following areas as funding priorities:

- Teacher and Staff Development
- Reading and Elementary Foreign Language
- Health and Science
- Math and Technology
- Music and the Arts
- Student Development

And, has implemented the following programs to advance those priorities:

- *Student/Teacher Benefit Programs*
 - ✓ The James B. Mitchell, Jr. Lecture Series (for high school seniors on major issues of international importance)
 - ✓ The David A. Pickler Technology Award (awarded to two Shelby County teachers for excellence in technology integration in the classroom)
 - ✓ The David A. Pickler Leadership Award (recognizing graduating seniors for outstanding leadership and community service)
 - ✓ The Jaques Student Art Competition (awarded to a Middle and High school student and their art teachers)
 - ✓ Targeted Educational Enhancement Grants (mini-grants to schools supporting unfunded or underfunded projects)
- *Fundraising Programs*
 - ✓ The SCSEF Race for Education (the second largest sanctioned race-event in the area, benefiting arts, music and physical education programs in the Shelby County Schools)
 - ✓ The Evening of Excellence (annual update on Shelby County Schools System and honors distinguished students and graduates of the school system)
 - ✓ In addition, the Foundation is implementing a major outreach to the Memphis-Mid-South community for funds to supplement large-scale programs in the district, mostly in the realm of language, math and science.

Foundation Board Members

Board of Trustees

Chairman Andrew Wagner Vice-President, FedEx	Secretary Dr. Ken Uselton Pastor, First United Methodist Church
Trustee Jerry Dodds Retired, Brother International Corporation	Trustee Charles Perkins Owner, Perkins Law Firm
Trustee Andy Shayer Senior Council, International Paper	Trustee Peg Watkins President, League of Women Voters

Board of Directors

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Ex-Officio Butch Carruthers Shelby County Board of Education	Ex-Officio John Aitken Superintendent, Shelby County Schools

Student/Teacher Benefit Programs

James B. Mitchell, Jr. Lecture Series

Named in honor of a past Superintendent, the lecture series is an annual event in which a distinguished speaker addresses student leaders from all the district's high schools. The purpose is to encourage students to think globally and act locally.
Contact: info@scsef.com.

Jaques Art Competition

Annual art competition for Middle and High school students with a \$200.00 award for the winning art students and their art teachers. Chosen artwork will be framed and placed on permanent display at SCS Central Office. Contact:
info@scsef.com

Pickler Technology Award

Two \$500.00 grants will be awarded to two Shelby County teachers for excellence in technology integration in the classroom.
Contact: info@scsef.com.

Pickler Leadership Award

A \$1,000 grant will be awarded to on graduating senior for outstanding leadership and community service.
Contact: info@scsef.com

Targeted Educational Enhancement Grants

A mini-grant program offered to all Shelby County Schools supporting unfunded or underfunded projects.
Contact: info@scsef.com

Fundraising Programs

Evening of Excellence

Each year in the spring, the Foundation and the Board of Education hosts this event spotlighting the accomplishments of Shelby County Schools and talents of Shelby County Schools' Students. In addition, honors distinguished graduates of the school system, who have graduated at least 10 years previous to their nomination and have made measurable and recognized contributions both to their chosen profession or craft and to the their community. Also included are the presentations of the Pickler Leadership Award and Jaques Student Art Competition winner. Contact: info@scsef.com

SCSEF Race for Education

Annual MRTC sanctioned 5K run/ walk held in November with net proceeds from registration fees directly benefiting Shelby County Schools' art, music, P.E., and other specialty programs. One half of the registration fee goes to either a designated school or district-wide distribution, and the other half is distributed district wide. The Race is run completely by volunteers.
Contact: info@scsef.com

Funding

The Education Foundation seeks grants and donations to support Shelby County School students. Donations are tax deductible under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Contact: info@scsef.com

Foundation Committees

Executive Committee

Comprised of the officers of the Foundation and chaired by the Board president, this committee develops Board development policies and practices as well as plans Board development activities, including retreats. Members oversee the day to day operations of the foundation as well as human resource matters. The Executive Director works with this committee to assist in personnel decisions.

Finance Committee

This committee monitors the Foundation's finances and fiscal controls. Members oversee audit requirements and investments for the foundation. Typical tasks for this committee are to make recommendations regarding organizational investments, investment policies, annual audits, financial reports, and other banking matters. The Executive Director works with this committee to develop an annual budget.

Grants Committee

This committee develops grants policies and procedures for awarding mini-grants. Tasks include review and recommendations regarding mini-grant requests. The committee also researches and recommends grant opportunities aligned with the mission of the Foundation. Members provide assistance to the Executive Director in the development and preparation of grant applications.

Marketing/Resource Development Committee

This committee develops good relationships with the larger community, including key community groups. Members seek opportunities to participate in community events that will bring visibility to the Foundation. Other activities include oversight of press releases and contact of the Board and staff with media professionals. The committee also oversees the development of all marketing material for the Foundation. Also included under this committee responsibilities is establishing annual fund-raising goals. Tasks also include the solicitation of gifts and in-kind contributions, leadership of annual campaigns, oversight of the distribution of the annual letter, and active participation in special events.

Standing Events Committees

The role of this committee is to plan and implement the annual events sponsored by the Foundation. Members chair specific events and recruit community volunteers to provide the necessary assistance in planning and implementation. In conjunction with the Resource Development Committee, members solicit gifts and in-kind contributions. In addition this committee handles all special events. This committee examines alternative fundraising strategies and makes recommendations for the Board of Directors' approval. Upon approval, members plan and implement the special events with assistance from recruited volunteers.