

HONORS AND AWARDS

This list represents just a fraction of the many honors and awards bestowed upon Richland One schools, departments, students and staff during the 2007-2008 school year. Congratulations to everyone on another successful school year!

- Richland One Student Nutrition Services' Silver Spoon Lunch Program, a program created to teach good manners to students, won the USDA 2007 National Customer Service Award.
- Dr. Alma Byrd, Columbia Mayor Bob Coble, Charles Dickerson and Sen. Kay Patterson were inducted into the Richland One Hall of Fame.
- Dreher High School Web site was nominated as an exemplary site and highlighted in the eChalk online newsletter.
- Paulette Cunningham of Southeast Middle School is the 2007 SC Bar Law Related Middle School Teacher of the Year.
- Dana Amaker of Webber Elementary School is the 2007 SC Preserve America History Teacher of the Year.
- Twelve high school students from Dreher and A.C. Flora high schools were named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.
- Richland One's Challenger Learning Center was recognized as a leader in space science education at the 2007 Challenger Center Annual Conference in Seattle.
- Melony Sanford of Columbia High School was named 2007 SC Teacher in Excellence for Secondary Social Studies.
- Webber Elementary School won the Excellence Award from the SC Council for the Social Studies conference.
- The A.C. Flora Math Team won the Carolina Panthers' Numbers Crunch Full Contact Math competition, a football-themed math competition sponsored by the NFL football team.
- Sandra Jamison of C.A. Johnson, Shari Williams of W.G. Sanders, Brenda Bell of A.C. Moore, Renee Scott of Webber and Valerie Thomas of Pine Grove schools were winners of the 2007 Diane Harlin Award for Excellence in Bookkeeping.
- Dr. Traci Young-Cooper, director of the Office of Extended Day Programs, was named a 2007-08 Afterschool Ambassador by the Afterschool Alliance, a national nonprofit awareness and advocacy organization.

- The Junior League of Columbia and the Mill Creek PTA were presented State Department of Education Volunteer Awards at a meeting of the State Board of Education.
- Twenty-seven Richland One teachers earned National Board Certification in 2007, the highest credential available in the teaching profession. The district now has 222 teachers with National Board Certification.
- The Keenan High volleyball team finished as state runners-up in the Class 2A championships.
- Fourteen Richland One schools have been named 2007-08 Palmetto Gold and Palmetto Silver award winners by the state for having high levels of student academic achievement and improvement, more than triple the number of district schools that earned the awards last year.
 - Columbia High, Gold, \$16,765
 - Dreher High, Gold, \$27,389
 - A.C. Flora High, Gold, \$29,012
 - Brennen Elementary, Silver, \$10,033
 - Gadsden Elementary, Silver, \$2,356
 - Greenview Elementary, Silver, \$7,008
 - Hand Middle, Silver, \$13,240
 - Hopkins Elementary, Silver, \$4,795
 - Mill Creek Elementary, Silver, \$4,102
 - A.C. Moore Elementary, Silver, \$4,324
 - E.E. Taylor Elementary, Silver, \$3,021
 - H.B. Rhame Elementary, Silver, \$5,266
 - Brockman Elementary, Silver, \$3,991
 - Heyward Career and Technology Center, Gold, \$17,264
 - Brennen Elementary School, Silver, \$10,033
- Loma Jones of Burnside Elementary and Samuel Trump of Hand Middle School were selected as winners in the 2008 Lt. Governor's Writing Awards Program.
- The Lower Richland High School Academic/World Quest team won the Columbia Affairs Council's World Quest Competition.
- Girls' basketball teams from Keenan and Lower Richland high schools won state championships in their respective divisions.
- The Crayton Middle MATHCOUNTS team won its fourth state title in the last six years.

- The Robo-Raiders, Keenan High School's robotics team, won The Chairman's Award at the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Palmetto Regional Robotics Competition held March 29 at Clemson University. The Keenan students and Evolution, the robot they created, competed against rivals from 37 states during the event.
- Richland One schools took first place in five of the 11 categories of the 2008 State Odyssey of the Mind competition, an international educational program that challenges students from kindergarten to college to solve problems using their creative skills and quick-thinking abilities.

First-place winners

- Brockman Elementary School - Odyssey Road Rally, Division I
- Lewis Greenview Elementary - The Wonderful Muses, Division I
- W.G. Sanders Middle School - The Wonderful Muses, Division II
- W.G. Sanders Middle School - Tee Structure, Division II
- Lewis Greenview Elementary - The Eccentrics! Division I

Second-place winners

- Lewis Greenview Elementary - Odyssey Road Rally, Division I
- Brockman Elementary - The Eccentrics! Division I

- Deputy Sherrick Hill, school resource officer at Brockman and John P. Thomas elementary schools, was named the 2008 South Carolina DARE Officer of the Year.
- Carolyn Duff, RN, school nurse at A.C. Moore Elementary, won the 2008 Dee Dee Chewing Healing Award from Healthy Learners, an organization that works to provide access to health care for uninsured and underinsured children in South Carolina.
- Marilyn Davis, Richland One's executive director for special education, was named the SC Council for Exceptional Children's Advocate of the Year.
- Richland One's Office of Communications received three awards and two honorable mentions through the S.C. Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association's 2008 Rewards for Excellence Program.
- The Annie B. Burnside Elementary School Challengers finished second in their division in the Destination ImagiNation state competition held March 29 in Simpsonville. The team was invited to compete in the Destination ImagiNation

Global Finals in Knoxville, Tennessee on May 21-24.

- St. Andrews Baptist Church, a partner of H.B. Rhame Elementary School, won the 2008 South Carolina Governor's Volunteer Group Award. The award honors a group that has provided exceptional service to the community and individuals and that has shown extraordinary initiative and commitment.
- Twenty-three Richland One middle school students were recognized as Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP) Scholars, an honor bestowed upon academically gifted students who score at or above the national average on at least one part of the SAT.
- The Dreher High School Academic Decathlon team competed in the 40th National United States Academic Decathlon Competition. The team finished sixth in its division and 17th over all.
- A.C. Flora High School won the Class 3A state golf title.
- Newsweek magazine has ranked Dreher High School in the top 5 percent of public high schools in America. Dreher is one of 19 South Carolina high schools included on the 2008 Newsweek/Washington Post "Challenge Index," an annual survey that measures rigorous course offerings and how all students perform in those classes.
- Richland One Superintendent Dr. Allen Coles was honored as Educator of the Year during the Eau Claire Community Council's 13th Annual Awards and Appreciation Dinner.
- Webber and A.C. Moore elementary schools were named Red Carpet Schools by the State Department of Education and the SC Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association. The award recognizes schools that demonstrate excellent customer service.
- The National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) announced that the Richland One: Discover the Urban Advantage CD-ROM received an Award of Excellence through the organization's 2008 awards competition. The district's promotional brochure received an honorable mention.
- Newsweek magazine ranked A.C. Flora and Dreher high schools on its list of the top five percent of public high schools in America. They are two of 21 South Carolina high schools included on the 2008 Newsweek/Washington Post "Challenge Index," an annual survey that measures rigorous course offerings and how all students perform in those classes.

- Danielle Rivers of Columbia High School was among the 63 South Carolina graduates in the Class of 2008 recognized for not missing a day of school in 12 years.
- Webber The Junior Scientists of Forest Heights Elementary School were named state Champion of the Environment winners by the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). The school received a \$2,500 check, a crystal trophy and a certificate signed by Gov. Mark Sanford.