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April 22, 2008

Greetings!

Please see below current News on the Georgia Charter Schools movement.

From the Staff at GCSA

CURRENT NEWS

Governor Perdue Considers House Bill 881

Charter public school advocates from across Georgia have been sending letters to Governor Perdue asking him to support House Bill 881 and allow for a statewide alternative authorizer for charter public schools.

Below, please find some of the comments coming from the letters being sent to the Governor:

"By signing this bill into law you will cement your legacy as a leader, who was committed to the continuing growth of Georgia educational excellence."

"Please sign House Bill 881 and give the 'tax-paying' customers a much improved chance to create their own innovative educational solutions."

"Locally, we are meeting significant resistance from the local Board of Education to the idea of a school in which parents have more input and control over their children's education. Charters should not be resisted; they offer parents a voice and a choice in their children's education."

Please sign H.B. 881 promptly so that charter schools have a reasonable chance. They are good for students, parents, and communities."

HELPFUL RESOURCES

[Woodruff Arts Center to Honor Leaders in](#)

Art Education

Woodruff Arts Center The Woodruff Arts Center announced last week their "Woodruff Salutes Georgia Arts in Education Leaders", a program to honor teachers, school and arts administrators, community leaders and volunteers throughout Georgia who have championed and demonstrated the ability of the arts to impact positively the lives and learning of young people in grades Pre-K through 12.

Each month from September through December 2008, a Georgia arts-in-education leader will be recognized through a special citation, a \$1,000 contribution to an arts program of each honoree's choice, newspaper and radio announcements, a Woodruff Arts Center campus display, and a culminating reception for all honorees to follow at the Woodruff in 2009. Honorees will be selected by the Woodruff Arts Center Education Committee.

School Inventory for Sale

Heritage Christian Academy in Richmond Virginia will be closing after 15 years of operation and is currently selling off the school's possessions. Below is a small sampling of items the school is currently selling. If you would like to have a full list of items for sale, please contact [Andrew Lewis](#) with Georgia Charter Schools Association. You can also contact [Mike Kennedy](#) with Heritage Christian Academy to learn more.

Lot Name	Lot Description	Est. Value
Library	8000 Volume Catalogued Library for K thorough 12th grade	\$25,000
Elementary	Elementary School Classroom and Office Furnishings	\$15,000
Upper School	Upper School Classroom and Office	\$15,000
PreK/K	PreK - Kindergarten School Classroom and Office Furnishings	\$15,000
Tech	Various Computers, Monitors and Printers	\$3,000
Duplicator	A DUPRINT, 300x600 dpi digital duplicator capable of 120ppm handling paper stocks from 53 to 210gsm. Features include: A parallel computer interface as standard, zoom capabilities of 50-500%, memory modes and various scan modes. spot color work can be achieved through a simple drum change	\$2,000
Fireproof File Cabinet 1	4 drawer FIREPROOF Student record file cabinet	\$2,000
Fireproof	4 drawer FIREPROOF Student record file	\$2,000

File Cabinet 2	cabinet	
Marketing Display Board	Heavy duty folding advertising display board	\$500
Music/Art	Music and Art Supplies	\$200

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

National Charter Schools Week - May 5-9 **Georgia Charter Schools Association plans activities for members**

National Charter Schools Week will be celebrated May 5-9, 2008. The theme for this year's celebration is Charter Schools: Growing Excellence. A primary purpose of this annual event is to connect charter school students, parents, teachers, and leaders to policymakers so they can experience the schools and the enthusiasm of the people supporting them.

Georgia Charter Schools Association encourages all charter schools to invite policy makers and business leaders to their school during National Charter Schools Week to learn more about their school. National Charter Schools Week can provide you and your school the opportunity to spread the word about how your charter school is opening doors to hope and opportunity for families in your community.

To help amplify this message, GCSA suggests using the power of the Internet. Each charter school is encouraged to create a short video demonstrating what makes their school great. Schools can post these videos on YouTube and email the videos to their federal, state, and local policymakers during National Charter Schools Week.

To obtain contact information for all of your policy makers for your charter school, please use the legislative advocacy portal on the [GCSA home page](#). Simply put in your zip code in the "write your legislators" field and follow the simple instructions.

The National Alliance for Charter Public Schools has provided a [National Charter Schools Week Tool Kit](#) with materials to guide and assist your charter school in executing successful and newsworthy National Charter Schools Week activities.

We look forward to working with you to make this year's

National Charter Schools Week a success.

2008 NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

JUNE 22-25, 2008 - NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

REGISTER BEFORE APRIL 27 TO GET LOWEST
REGISTRATION RATES

WHY ATTEND

Hosted by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, this conference is the ONLY national gathering of the entire charter school community. This year's conference is June 22-25 in New Orleans, LA. Participants will not find a better opportunity to learn and grow in an atmosphere of camaraderie and fun.

"Still We Rise: Achieving Academic Excellence at Scale" is the conference theme, reflecting the growth of quality public charter schools across America. The theme has special resonance in New Orleans, which boasts the nation's largest percentage of public charter school enrollment.

PROGRAMMING

Geoffrey Canada, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Harlem Children's Zone, will offer the keynote speech on Monday June 23. Throughout the rest of the conference, attendees will learn and share best practices, discuss national and state policy issues, network with colleagues and attend over 120 breakout sessions.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Attendees will have the opportunity to volunteer at local charter schools, and enjoy special evening events featuring New Orleans traditions, food and music! Questions? Call 206-463-3344 or e-mail nationalconference@publiccharters.org

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Over 3,000 people are expected to attend: charter school leaders, teachers, school board members, finance and facilities managers, policy makers, authorizers, state leaders, funders, advocates and researchers.

Save the Date!

**2009 Georgia Charter Schools Association
7th Annual Conference**

Wednesday, February 25th - Friday, February 27th

The Marietta Resort & Conference Center

Georgia Charter Schools Association