Bringing our community together
Investing in innovative practices
Enriching the environment for student learning
Introducing Champions For Learning™

It was with great excitement that in 2012 The Education Foundation launched a new mission, goals, and identity as Champions For Learning™. This critical new direction is a landmark in our 22-year history, and we are proud to say that we stand re-energized and re-committed to doing even more for Collier County’s students.

We believe we have a unique and important role in the learning process. As an independent, non-profit, community-based organization, we can work across the spectrum to underscore and support the value of learning in our community.

And so, based on our 18-month community engagement and listening process called Connect Now, we embarked on a rigorous strategic planning process that led us to our new mission and name, and to a renewed commitment to being a community catalyst and convener for education.

As we move forward, we will continue with the programs we know work. Teachers have the ability to impact many students, so we will maintain our EDUCATOR NETWORKS, CLASSROOM and SCHOOL-BASED GRANTS, and the GOLDEN APPLE teacher recognition program.

We also will remain diligent about enriching the environment for student learning, with the TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN scholarship and mentoring program, real world experiences, and music programs.

Finally, in recognition of the importance of family involvement in education, we will continue to support PARENT ENGAGEMENT programs.

At the same time, we will expand, develop and advocate innovative approaches that benefit student learning. Featured INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES are described on the next page.

We can clearly see a future in which students are prepared to move forward, with their lives and their careers, on much stronger footing.

It requires broad-based community support to achieve successes in learning that have impact on student performance. We urge you to become involved, by learning through our forums and roundtables, by volunteering as a mentor for a Take Stock scholar or in a classroom, or by making a financial gift to support any part of our work.

We owe it to our community and to our children to provide every student with an education that will prepare him or her to thrive in this ever-more-competitive world. Thank you for joining us as Champions for Learning.

Jim Hoppensteadt, Chairman of the Board

Susan McManus, President

FACTS & FIGURES

OVER THE PAST 22 YEARS...

$26 million has been raised by our community to enrich the environment for student learning through the work of The Education Foundation—Champions For Learning.

OF THIS

$10 million has been invested in direct support of educators, students and families through grants and scholarships.
Introducing Champions For Learning

Real World University

With cooperation from business and community, Real World University will provide community-based experiences for students and families, and educators and school leaders. Students and families will have opportunities for college preparation, career exploration, and development of life and workplace skills. Educators and school leaders will have opportunities to become connected to their community and bring real-world relevance to students.

2012-13 Featured Innovative Initiatives

Champions For Learning is committed to identifying and supporting innovative practices that improve the environment for student learning. Below, we highlight three initiatives that we believe will have dramatic impact on our students.

Golden Apple Teacher Recognition

Connect With A Classroom Grants

Take Stock in Children Scholarship and Mentoring

Family Literacy and Parent Engagement

Community and Educator Outreach

Real World University

Golden Gate High Pilot

Take Stock in Children Scholarship and Mentoring

Educator Network

The Edison State College Foundation, Champions For Learning, and Golden Gate High School are working together to leverage local resources to provide scholarships for 12 students who wish to pursue a two-year degree at Edison State College. This is an adaptation of the Take Stock in Children model that Champions For Learning currently manages.

Teachers and school leaders are building an integrated, community-based network that inspires innovation and collaboration for the benefit of student learning. This work includes Teachers 4 Teachers as they strive to support new teachers.
Thank You For Being Champions For Learning!

It is fitting that Alan and Beverley Horton are the recipients of the 2012 Heart of the Apple Award. He, a Yale graduate with a storied newspaper career, and she, a Vassar graduate with a master’s degree and career in education, have made countless contributions to our community.

Among them is Connect Now, an initiative they led, shaped and helped fund, and created a schools-community collaboration culture. It served as the basis for the strategic plan that led to The Education Foundation’s new mission and heightened identity as Champions For Learning.

photo by Guerilla Media
Investing in Learning

The Education Foundation of Collier County, doing business as Champions For Learning™, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Please visit www.ChampionsForLearning.org or call 239-643-4755 for a copy of our most recent financial audit and investment policy.

“Connecting the community to educators and students is key to ensuring that our young people thrive. We owe it to ourselves as a community to become Champions for Learning.”
—John Brooks

“Your Investment in Learning

For 2011-2012, the total amount invested in the work of The Education Foundation was $1,763,191

“"The Take Stock in Children program gives me the highest return on my investment. I am assured that my contribution is maximized to its fullest.”
—Phil McCabe

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—Phil McCabe

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The Take Stock in Children Foundation

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