2016 State of the District Meeting

Richland One’s 2016 VIP Network
State of the District Meeting was
held January 29 at A.C. Flora High
School. During his State of the Dis-
trict address, Superintendent Dr.
Craig Witherspoon (above) high-
lighted some of the district’s many
Points of Pride and talked about ar-
eas of focus and upcoming initiatives, including a language immersion
program. The A.C. Flora Orchestra
played as audience members arrived and the A.C. Flora Jazz Band (inset) performed during the program. The
State of the District Meeting will be broadcast on Richland One TV and
available on ROTV On Demand at www.richlandone.org.

Richland One teachers named
finalists for prestigious award

Alison Espinosa of A.C. Flora
High School (left) and Richland
One Teacher of the Year Jenni-
fer Wise of Hand Middle School
(right) have been named state
finalists for the 2014-2015 Presi-
dential Awards for Excellence in
Mathematics and Science Teach-
ing.

They are among eight South
Carolina educators chosen as fi-
nalists for the prestigious award, which is the highest recognition
that a K-12 mathematics or sci-
ence teacher may receive. Mrs.
Espinosa and Mrs. Wise are final-
ists in the mathematics category.
Award winners receive a certifi-
cate signed by the president of the United States, a trip to Wash-
ington, D.C. and a $10,000 award from the National Science Foun-
dation. The winners will be announced next year.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Richland One joins in campaign to help ‘tackle hunger’

This week (February 1-5, 2016) has been
designated as “Reach the Goal – Tackle Hun-
ger Week” in Richland One, in conjunction
with the district’s participation in the 2016
Souper Bowl of Caring Campaign.

The Souper Bowl of Caring started at Spring
Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia in 1990 and has branched out
to include schools, businesses and congregations of all faiths. Together,
they have raised more than $100 million for soup kitchens, food banks
and other charities in communities across the country. The campaign's
vision is to transform Super Bowl weekend into America's largest youth-
led weekend of giving and serving. Young people collect monetary and
food donations during the week leading up to Super Bowl Sunday.
Here are the activities taking place this week in Richland One:

• A canned food drive for Harvest Hope Food Bank – All week, be sure to
drop canned food donations into the designated boxes at all schools and
at the following administrative offices/buildings: Stevenson Administra-
tion Building, Waverley Administration Building, Central Services Facility,
Lyon Street Student Support Services Center, Student Nutrition Services
and Olympia.

• Super Bowl Game Day Friday – School and district employees are en-
couraged to wear their favorite NFL sportswear and paraphernalia on
Friday, February 5.

• A Super Bowl Game Day tailgating lunch will be served at every Rich-
land One school by Student Nutrition Services on Friday, February 5.

For more information, contact Dr. Traci Cooper at traci.cooper@
richlandone.org or at 479-5259 (cell), or Deborah Boone at deborah.
boone@richlandone.org or 231-6914.

This Week
A Newsletter for Richland One Employees

February 3, 2016
Volume 29, No. 16
Happening This Week

February 1-29
Black History Month
American Heart Month

February 1-5
Reach the Goal – Tackle Hunger Week in Richland One (see front page)

February 5
National Wear Red Day/Go Red for Women (www.goredforwomen.org)

For Your Information

Changes to MUNIS Online
Munis Online is changing: Soon, your user ID will match your network login and you will be able to reset your own password. On Friday, February 12, Munis Online will be down all day in preparation for changing user IDs and passwords. Munis Online will be back up on Saturday, February 13. Effective that date, your user ID will be changed to the same as your network login (firstname.lastname). Your password will be changed temporarily to the last four digits of your Social Security number. You will have to change it immediately. Go to the Richland One Intranet at www.r1intranet.org to access the user guide.

HealthWorks assessments at A.C. Moore
A.C. Moore Elementary School will host HealthWorks for Prevention Partners Comprehensive Health Assessments on February 25 beginning at 6:50 a.m. The assessment is free for employees, retirees and covered spouses whose primary insurance coverage is the State Health Plan (Standard or Savings Plan). Participants without the State Health Plan as their primary insurance may get the comprehensive screening for $55. The assessment includes a full blood chemistry panel and complete blood count (hemogram). Anyone interested in registering for the assessment can contact Carolyn Duff, school nurse at A. C. Moore, at carolyn.duff@richlandone.org.

Introduction to the Gifted Curriculum class
The Center for Educator Quality will sponsor the Introduction to the Gifted Curriculum online class in partnership with USC-Aiken. The dates of the course will be March 14-May 4. Priority will be given to AAP and AP teachers. If you would like to receive an application, contact Dr. Denise Collier in the Center for Educator Quality at denise.collier@richlandone.org.

News & Notes

• Each year, Richland One and the City of Columbia team up to hold the “Honor the Dream” food drive to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The food drive benefits Harvest Hope Food Bank. At its January 26 meeting, the Board of School Commissioners recognized the schools that collected the most food through this year’s drive. Bradley Elementary School won first place (1,221 pounds of food collected); Brockman Elementary School, second place (984 pounds); and Arden Elementary School, third place (453 pounds). The Lower Richland Transportation Cluster received an Honorable Mention for collecting 1,100 pounds of food (the competition was for schools only). Richland One collected 5,815 pounds of food overall.

• On the morning of January 8, W.S. Sandel Elementary School held its second school-wide walk to raise money for breast cancer awareness. Students and staff members enjoyed pink popcorn and drinks. The school sold Palmetto Health Foundation T-shirts and pink bracelets to school staff, students and community members to raise the money for the event. The school raised $1,883 which was donated to the Foundation. Shown are (from left) are Gladys Green, guest speaker; Chaddrick Myers, assistant principal; Claudia L. Brooks, principal; and Joseph Brown, assistant administrator.

District to hold budget input sessions
Richland One will hold a series of meetings to receive input from employees and community members as administrators work to develop the district’s general fund budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. A budget input session for certified, classified and instructional support staff will be held Thursday, February 11 at 3:30 p.m. in room 102 (board room) at the Stevenson Administration Building. A budget input session for elementary school, middle school and high school principals will be held Wednesday, February 17 at 3:30 p.m. in room 206 at the Stevenson Administration Building. Three budget input sessions for community members and anyone else who would like to attend will be held at 6:00 p.m. on the following dates:

• Monday, Feb. 15 – E. E. Taylor Elementary School media center
• Monday, Feb. 22 – Burnside Elementary School media center
• Monday, Feb. 29 – Bradley Elementary School, room 304