

**Fort Mill Elementary****Barbara Hartsoe****Assistant Principal****Summer Challenge**

The goal of "FMES Summer Challenge" is to help curtail the continued achievement loss through the review and reinforcement of math, reading and writing skills. This program will encourage our students to voluntarily participate through the incentives and the motivation that successful students don't take a "vacation" from learning. The "FMES Summer Challenge" will make a difference for these students in the first year, and in continued years to come.

**Gold Hill Elementary****Kristi Cutler****Music Teacher****Implementing Orff Instruments**

By acquiring additional Orff instruments, more students can actively participate in hands-on learning. In addition, more instruments provide additional opportunities for teacher observation and student assessment.

**Orchard Park Elementary****Kim Lee****Music Teacher****Voice Amplifiers**

With the assistance of the portable amplification system, music students will be more actively engaged and can more accurately mimic correct singing technique when they can properly hear the inflections, tones, and nuances of the teacher's singing voice.

**Riverview Elementary****Amber Martin****Lead Teacher****Science Fair Help Sessions**

Recommended students will have the opportunity to stay after school to complete a science fair project under the supervision of a teacher. Although the hope is to have improved test scores, the immeasurable sense of pride and accomplishment that comes with completing a long term project will be a catalyst for success with these students.

**Springfield Elementary****Kristin Swigunski****Kindergarten Teacher****Just Right Readers**

Using leveled text during instruction ensures that every child's needs are met and that each child makes adequate yearly progress. By building a child's reading confidence and success in Kindergarten, a love of books and reading will be carefully planted.

**Fort Mill Middle****Janet Schneider****7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher****Busy Bee Needlecraft Club**

The Busy Bee Needlecraft Club offers students the opportunity to participate in community service projects through learning new craft and hobby techniques. The benefits include collaborative teamwork, individual creativity, self-satisfaction, helping others, following directions and personal growth.

**Gold Hill Middle****Lorie Cafarella****Teacher****Digital Storytelling**

Digital storytelling revolves around the idea of combining the longstanding art of telling stories with graphics, audio, video animation, digital pictures and web publishing. Students learn to use the internet; develop communication skills and increase computer skills.

**Springfield Middle****Kristen Weeks****Theater Arts****Theater Arts Showcase**

This is a full-length production produced primarily by the students. It presents examples of student choreography from different cultures as well as a variety of short dramatic pieces. Students' final evaluation will be to respond to the collaborative process with informed, responsible and cooperative opinions and judgments.

**Fort Mill High School****Shelia Reynolds****Media Specialist****Playaway Digital**

The Playaway is a device about the size of a deck of cards in which students will listen to digital books. Student will improve in reading skills, thereby helping them to increase scores on standardized tests and begin to choose to read for pleasure.

The Foundation kicked-off their 'got funding?' campaign on May 21<sup>st</sup> for the 2008-2009 school year which allows teachers to apply for a grant over the summer and receive funds at the beginning of the school year. Teachers are invited to visit the district's website to download a grant application and submit it by July 16<sup>th</sup>. Recipients will be announced in August.

The Foundation is very appreciative of their major corporate contributors – including Founders Federal Credit Union, South Carolina Bank and Trust, Fort Mill Rotary Club, Allen Tate Realtors, Springs Global and ESP Associates. The Foundation also welcomes donations from individuals who are passionate about academic excellence in Fort Mill – renown for excellent schools.

got questions? or if you would like to learn more, contact Jill Lauber at [foundation@fort-mill.k12.sc.us](mailto:foundation@fort-mill.k12.sc.us).