

TO: Friends interested in the MCSD History Project  
FROM: MCSD History Committee Mary Sue Polleys, Chair  
RE: Update  
DATE: March 1, 2011

In order to document and display the history of public education in Muscogee County, we have collectively accomplished several things. First, we set out to raise at least \$10,000 for the History Project, which we defined with three components—a wall display featuring a historical overview in the Public Education Center, DVD's preserving oral histories, and possibly a paper or electronic book. We are very grateful for the response of all of you in helping raise a total of \$13,700.00 to date. These funds are being held in a special account maintained by the school district. None of the money has been spent to date. The recording of oral histories has begun and will continue.

At our meeting on August 12, 2010, the Committee voted to collaborate with the Columbus Museum in creating the wall display. This effort will be part of the Museum's larger local history project. Mike Bunn, Curator, sent us a letter in January (attached), explaining the project timeline. Libba Russell has completed a timeline of significant MCSD milestones that will be incorporated into the wall display. Richard Hyatt and Karen Jones have begun the process of accessing historic photos and articles owned by the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, and artifacts and portraits are being collected in an "extra" room at the Public Education Center.

At this time, our main focus is to identify volunteers who would like to help with the work at the Ledger-Enquirer. Karen will train one volunteer at a time. The work consists of identifying and retrieving documents and photos from school files and scan for electronic preservation. If you can commit an hour or two per week to this project, please email Karen at [Jones.Karen.P@muscogee.k12.ga.us](mailto:Jones.Karen.P@muscogee.k12.ga.us) so that we can make a schedule and keep making progress with these files.

While this is the week of our regular History Committee meeting, we do not need to meet until we have more information to share and/or decisions to make. We will plan to meet on April 14, 2011, 12:00 noon (MCSD is on spring break at our regular meeting time).