

Great Things are Happening at Central High School

HCDE and PEF : Partners for Strong Schools

The Public Education Foundation (PEF) is a local non-profit organization that partners with the Hamilton County Department of Education (HCDE) to improve student achievement by improving public schools. PEF contributes:

- research into best practices
- training for teachers and school leaders
- opportunities for educators to share great ideas
- fundraising to support this work

The HCDE/PEF Leadership Initiative touches every public school in Hamilton County through training for principals and other school leaders. Other comprehensive initiatives have contributed to deep reform work in every high school, every middle school and 16 elementary schools throughout the district. PEF has contributed over \$50 million to Hamilton County schools in the last eight years.

Together, HCDE and PEF are changing education in Hamilton County, and changing students' lives. Learn more at www.HCDE.org or www.pefchattanooga.org.

[About PEF](#)

[Receive updates and podcasts on school reform](#)

[Invest in this work](#)

[Contact PEF](#)

Reinventing High School Education

From 2001 – 2006, Central was one of 16 Hamilton County high schools to benefit from \$14 million in funding from the Carnegie Corporation and other local contributors through PEF. This high school reform initiative helped each school develop its own individual plan to boost achievement in literacy and make classes more engaging and effective for students. Since then, high school reform work has expanded to include a focus on improving math skills and helping more students go to college.

These initiatives have brought strong results: test scores are rising, more students are graduating and more are going on to college.

Smooth Transitions

Students should arrive at Central well prepared for a rigorous academic environment. Since 2005, Hunter Middle School and Brown Middle School have been working hard to increase rigor, engage students, and implement highly effective teaching strategies, thanks in part to HCDE and PEF partnerships. For more on these schools, go to www.pefchattanooga.org/BrownMid or www.pefchattanooga.org/Hunter.



Public Education Foundation
Partners for strong schools.

pefchattanooga.org



Great Things are Happening at Central High School

Working Hard Together: HCDE, PEF and Central

Hamilton County schools and the Public Education Foundation are strong partners in providing training for teachers, helping principals become more effective school leaders, and improving secondary education in Hamilton County. Central has made great use of this partnership:

- Principal **Finley King** and assistant principals **Carol Thomas** and **Barbara Jordan** collaborate with other Hamilton County principals in regular meetings and semi-annual leadership institutes.
- **Mr. King, Ms. Jordan**, principal trainee **Brent Cooper**, academic coordinator **Shelley Pritchard**, and teachers **Phil Iannarone, Donna Sellers** and **Meg Allen** have gained leadership skills through the Leadership Fellows program.
- As a result of HCDE/PEF's high school reform initiative, **Ms. Pritchard**, math coach **Samantha Rabuka** and college access coordinator **Teresa Reagan** work hard to boost student success at Central.
- Through the high school reform initiative, Central developed career-based learning academies—a Mathematics, Technology, & Science Academy; a Technology, Communications, & Business Academy; and a Humanities, Fine Arts, & Communications Academy—and a 9th grade academy to make learning more engaging.
- With funding from PEF, county-wide literacy and math leaders help teachers improve student reading and math skills and integrate those subjects into all areas of study.
- Central teachers have access to a variety of professional development opportunities, including annual learning institutes for math and literacy.

Student Achievement is Climbing

2008 Scores

English Gateway:

98% proficient or advanced, up from 87% in 2003.
74% advanced, a significant increase from 48% in 2003.

Algebra Gateway:

77% proficient or advanced, an improvement from 60% in 2003.

Graduation Rate

77%, up from 73% in 2003.

Leaders and teachers at Central are innovative, committed educators. They work hard to provide an excellent education for their students and eagerly seek better ways to achieve that goal. As a partner to the Hamilton County Department of Education, the Public Education Foundation is proud to support this dedicated group of educators.

Visit Central online at www.chattanooga-central.net



Public Education Foundation
Partners for strong schools.

pefchattanooga.org

