



Personal Pathways to success™
**WACCAMAW
REGIONAL EDUCATION CENTER**

NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact: Patty Shortt
Waccamaw Regional Education Center
843-436-7207 or pshortt@scpathways.org

Coastal SC Students Impacted by Junior Achievement Volunteers

Since 1966, Junior Achievement (JA) of Coastal South Carolina has been a positive influence for students in a nine county region stretching along the S.C. coast from North Carolina to Georgia. JA programs provide knowledge and skills that enable students to proactively manage their finances; and are delivered at no cost to participating schools and students. JA students see the relevance of what they learn in school with the real world; and understand the value of staying in school. Junior Achievement helps students develop the competence, confidence and character to make smart academic and economic decisions. Students of all ages benefit from these fundamental concepts and many are empowered to own their economic success.

JA programs are delivered by trained corporate and community volunteers who share their professional skills and experiences to make learning come to life. Volunteers invest their time and expertise in a JA classroom experience to enable youth development that will contribute to the vitality of our community.

JA volunteers deliver a comprehensive, hands-on curriculum developed in partnership with educators to reinforce and supplement the state's learning standards and common core requirements for elementary, middle and high school students. Age appropriate JA lessons are interactive and memorable for students and user-friendly for the volunteers. Teachers welcome JA volunteers who engage students in programs that are easy to integrate in to the classroom and have a significant impact in demonstrating the relevance of academics to work-readiness.

So far in the 2011/12 academic year, JA of Coastal SC has assigned volunteers to 213 classrooms impacting 4,686 Students in 35 Schools. Corporate and community volunteers also serve on the JA Advisory Board. JA Advisory Board members from the Waccamaw Region include: Kim Filosa, First Citizens Bank; Zephyr Chmura, TD Bank; Tim Tompkins, Renewable World Energies; Glen Insley, Retired Financial Services Executive; Ray Funnye, Georgetown County Government; Tom Raub, Gemsbok LLC; David Mikolajczyk, Better Brands; Dianne Jelinek, PG&A/BlueCross BlueShield; Will Howard, First Citizens Bank; Peter Gasca, Wild Creations; John Rowe, First Federal; Ryan Heiskell, Bell Legal Group; Patty Shortt, Waccamaw Regional Education Center.

For more information on how to become a JA volunteer please contact Chad Vail, President, Junior Achievement of Coastal South Carolina, Inc at 843-745-7050 or visit www.JACoastalSC.org