

NEWS

For Immediate Release

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PHSSA PRESENTS NEWLY FORMED ADVISORY BOARD
Virginia's First Charter School is Honored By Community Participation

RICHMOND, VA December 5, 2011 – Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts (PHSSA), a Richmond Public School, is pleased to announce the seven members of its newly formed advisory board.

The members are as follows:

Former First Lady Jeannie P. Baliles is the founder and chairman of the Virginia Literacy Foundation, a Trustee of Virginia Union University, past president of Virginia Opera and a board member of several cultural and arts organizations. Including, Richmond Ballet, 1708 Gallery, and the Virginia Literacy Institute at VCU. She is also a member of the Jenkins Foundation. She has long been an advocate of charter schools. She is a graduate of Washington College in Chestertown, MD and has a masters degree from Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT.

Dr. Louise Einolf has experience as a teacher and administrator in both public and private secondary and higher education. Prior to her retirement, she was the Executive Director of the *Richmond Urban Partnership for Educational Success*, a project for 12 U.S. cities, funded by the Ford Foundation and other donors, to increase the number of urban youth who graduate from high school and go on to college.

Tichi Pinkney Eppes works as a Health Center Director in a school-based health center. She is a member of local, state and National PTAs, and a member of P.L.A.C.E. (Parent Leaders Advocating for Children's Education) of the Legal Aid Justice Center. She also serves as a Co-Chair of the Mayor's Participation Action and Communication Team as well as a council member with Initiatives of Change, Hope In the Cities.

Amelia Lightner has been a grassroots organizer for more than 10 years. She has worked on campaigns for Richmond City Council, Mayor, Governor, Presidential and Delegates. Lightner was appointed by Mayor L. D. Wilder, on the Transitional Team, Round Table, Richmond Hospital Authority, City of Richmond Personnel Board, and Rails to Trails Planning Team. She has also volunteered with Communities In Schools, Mayor's Jones MPAC Co-Chair and President of Brookbury Civic Association.

Dr. Tom Shields is the Director of the Center for Leadership in Education and chairs the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies program at the University of Richmond.

Shields has also taught at the Jepson School and has worked on good government and educational issues in the Richmond region for many years.

Wallace Stettinius is the former Chairman and CEO of Cadmus Communications Corporation. Today Stettinius teaches corporate governance and general management at the Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia, where he has been a member of the faculty since 1996. He is also a senior executive fellow in the School of Business at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he teaches in the MBA programs. He also serves on numerous boards and non-profits organizations.

Lacy Ward, Jr. is director of the Robert Russa Moton Museum in Farmville, VA. Moton interprets the road to and aftermath of the Brown v. Board decision. An advocate for expanded educational opportunity; Ward is project director of a U. S. Department of Education Charter Schools Program grant in Southside Virginia.

“The PHSSA Advisory Board was formed under the outline in its charter and in accordance with the vision and mission of the school,” said Sharon Burton, president of PHSSA Board of Directors. “The collective expertise of these members can relate and advise the school on matters regarding the local region and community, to local history and world geography, to education, and to questions pertaining to legal and fiscal concerns. The Board is honored to have such a diverse group of expertise.”

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Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts (PHSSA) is a kindergarten through fifth-grade school based on meaningful parent, educator, and community involvement. The school provides the children of our diverse community with an academically rigorous science- and arts-based curriculum that emphasizes environmental awareness and social responsibility. PHSSA is the first elementary charter school in Virginia. The school’s charter was signed in May 2008. The school welcomed 150 children in kindergarten through fifth grade from all over the City of Richmond in August 2010.