

December 3, 2008

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This letter is to inform you of an opportunity for ninth-grade students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch or who meet the income eligibility guidelines (see attached sheet) to earn a scholarship from the **Take Stock In Children** Scholarship Program. **Take Stock In Children** helps high potential, low-income children stay in school, earn a high school diploma, graduate from college, and enter into the workforce.

The selected student receives: (1) a four-year college scholarship, (2) a mentor to provide motivation, support, and tutoring, (3) continuous monitoring and intervention services to support the student's educational achievements, and (4) college and career counseling.

The students in this comprehensive program sign performance contracts agreeing to get good grades, exhibit positive behaviors, demonstrate a willingness to work with their mentor, and remain drug and crime free. Students who adhere to their contracts receive their four-year college scholarships.

Students applying to this program must meet strict financial and academic criteria to be selected. Ninth grade students in Calhoun County must meet the following criteria to be considered for the scholarship:

1. GPA of 2.75 or higher
2. FCAT Level 3 or higher in reading and math
3. Qualify for free or reduced lunch or meet the income eligibility guidelines (if using eligibility guidelines, attach a W-2, federal tax return, or pay stub)
4. Excellent attendance
5. Excellent behavior

Parents of the student also sign the contract, promising to be involved with their children's academic achievement and supportive of their chosen paths.

If your child meets the qualifications for this scholarship opportunity, contact Loraine McClellan at Blountstown High School or Charlene Yon at Altha Public School to obtain an application. **Completed applications must be received and receipted by Mrs. McClellan or Mrs. Yon by December 17, 2008, by 3:15 PM.** Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Barbara Hathaway at the Calhoun County School Board office at 674-5927, ext. 21.

Sincerely,

Tommy McClellan
Calhoun County School Superintendent

