

GO WELL*

The Newsletter of
The Dr. Bettye Bouey-Yates Educational
Foundation

April 2012

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Board of Directors Next

Meeting

Date: September 29, 2012
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: To Be Announced

Dear Foundation Members and Donors:

Thank you for your generous support in helping the Foundation accomplish its initial goal of enhancing the quality of education at Christianenburg Public Primary School. When the Foundation was incorporated in 2003 the school had few books and educational supplies and little opportunity for physical education. Today there is a sports field, a modern, well-stocked library with tables and chairs, and an air-conditioned computer center with stations for fifty students. The construction of a building for the computer center was accomplished by partnering with the Divine Life Society of South Africa. These are but a few of the accomplishments. Additional accomplishments, but no less important ones, may be found at our website, www.bb Yates Edu Foundation.org. As members and donors you should be very pleased with how effectively the Foundation has worked with the Christianenburg School to virtually transform it.

In August 2009, two Board members conducted an onsite evaluation of our efforts to assist the school. They interviewed parents, teachers, and the principal of the Christianenburg School, the principals of three other primary schools in the area, and the principal of one of the high schools where the students continue their education. Their report was so encouraging that we decided to extend our efforts to the three other primary schools in the same area as Christianenburg: Clermont, Clernaville, and Udumo. Since 2010 the Foundation has distributed dictionaries each year to the three schools for the seventh grade students. And, in 2011 a set of encyclopedia was purchased for Clernaville, and readers were purchased for Clermont and Udumo. We believe that the students at these three schools also are making excellent use of the books provided for them.

One of the Foundation's goals is to upgrade or help to establish libraries at each of the three neighboring primary schools. And, since next year, 2013, is our tenth year of incorporation, what better way is there for us to celebrate this occasion than by creating a library at another school? We are excited about the idea and we hope that you share our excitement. To meet this goal we need to raise \$20,000 over the next twelve months in addition to funding our annual budget of \$15,000. We, the Board of Directors, are committed to accomplishing this goal, and we need your continued membership and generous support to do it. Can we count on you?

Go Well,

The Foundation Board of Directors

* **Go Well** is an expression of encouragement and endearment by South Africans. It is the wish of the Foundation that all go well as they go through life.

NEWS FROM CHRISTIANENBURG SCHOOL

Support for the students and staff at Christianenburg Public Primary School has been at the core of the Foundation's mission. Our work with the school has encouraged other stakeholders to become partners with the school. New opportunities for the students have resulted from this combination of interests from many sources.

Environmental Awareness: Seventh-graders created a school-wide campaign designed to demonstrate how students can help protect the environment by saving water and recycling waste products (plastic bags, bottles, newspapers). Based on the award-winning project, some students were invited to the "2011 African Children Conference on the Environment" in Durban. They spent four days and three nights at the meeting. The students interacted with other youth from Gauteng and Cape Town, South Africa and students from Swaziland, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. Subsequently, a special assembly was held at Christianenburg in order for them to share their experiences with the entire school.

Soul Buddyz: Soul Buddyz is a group of students who volunteer to help others in a variety of areas. The work of this group offers aid to their fellow students and to individuals, both young and old, in the community outside of the school. A primary focus of Buddyz is to make certain that needy children are treated fairly. Students with domestic problems find a helping hand from Buddyz. Also, there is assistance for students who cannot afford school uniforms and other types of clothing.

Buddyz works with child and family welfare organizations on behalf of the school. Students help home-bound persons by doing household chores and assisting with personal hygiene. Finally, Buddyz students plant vegetables and donate the harvest to those in need.

Field Trip: Two busloads of students took a three-day trip to the Drakensburg Mountains, about 350 kilometers from the school. They saw the hydroelectric dam located at the foot of the mountain that provides water and electricity to the school and homes of the students. This was a combined fun and educational experience.

Nurturing Orphans of AIDS (NOAH): Christianenburg has an on-going partnership with NOAH, a non-governmental agency funded by the US Government and local organizations. The primary mission of NOAH is to care for AIDS orphans and vulnerable children at this school and Clernaville Public Primary. Students receive counseling, meals, and clothing seven days a week. At the end of last year, NOAH secured funds to create offices, a kitchen, and counseling rooms at the school. The offices for these services will be retrofitted containers previously used for shipping materials around the world.



7th Graders who attended “2011 African Children Conference on Environment” share their experience with fellow students and teachers



Annual Christmas Party specially arranged for orphans and destitute children. Students from Christianenburg, Udomo, and Clearnaville attended the party

THE FOUNDATION SUPPORTS FOUR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Foundation provides assistance to four primary schools in the Township of Clermont, Province of KwaZulu-Natal near the city of Durban. The four schools are Christianenburg, Udomo, Clermont, and Clernaville,

Students in South Africa lag behind international norms for literacy and mathematics. There is a national movement to rapidly close the gap. The South African government has launched “The South African Schools Act to Improve Literacy and Numeracy.” Our Foundation has a continuing mission to provide schools with dictionaries, readers, encyclopedias, and teacher resource materials as part of this “educational revolution.” Schools have received readers for 7th grade students. There are plans to expand the inventory of readers for other grade levels. Each year 7th graders receive a personal dictionary.

The most recent distribution of learning materials to the four schools are:

1. Christianenburg: dictionaries, 150; readers, 148; a teacher’s English reference guide
2. Udomo: dictionaries, 120; readers, 102
3. Clermont: dictionaries, 70; readers 100
4. Clernaville: dictionaries 112; encyclopedia (one set)

CHRISTIANENBURG: There is an enrollment of 1200 students with a staff of 38 teachers. * The students’ performance on the Annual National Assessments was satisfactory. * The furnishing of the computer center, including air conditioning equipment, was completed with contributions from the Foundation. * *Wish List:* New desks and chairs for the students to replace 30-year-old furniture.

UDOMO: There is an enrollment of 1,000 students and 24 educators * The Education Department has plans to build an extension to the school building.

CLERMONT: The student enrollment is 531 and there are 23 teachers. A report from the school includes the following: “The arrival of the readers has given the learners a lot of confidence in dealing with their school work in general.” * Seventh graders are learning how to use dictionaries.

CLERNAVILLE: The school has 840 students and 25 teachers. * A World Book representative taught educators how to use the encyclopedias. * The Divine Life Society is committed to building a computer center. * *Wish List:* A partner to work with the Society as the organization plans and builds the computer center.

The following quote from a student at Christianenburg reflects the beliefs of other students who have benefited from assistance provided by the Foundation and other organizations: “We are privileged to have computer and library classes. Our grandpas and grandmas attend this school and we are very fortunate. We have teachers and a principal who understand us and provide us with good foundation and also teach us to be good citizens of our country.”

VOLUNTEER

The work of the Foundation began with a few travelers who were on a “South African Adventure” tour with Dr. Bettye Yates. From their bus they saw children on the way to school. The travelers followed the students to the Christianenburg Primary School, Kwa Zulu, Natal.

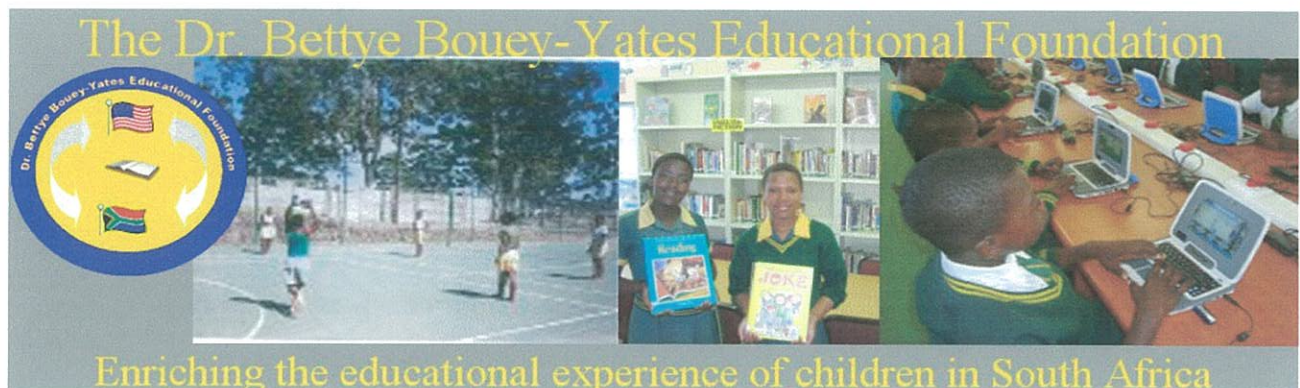
The students and staff of the school impressed the travelers with their warmth, dedication to learning, and need for so much assistance. This visit served as the basis for the Foundation.

So much has been accomplished for Christianenburg and other schools in the area through the dedication and hard work of volunteers working through the Foundation. Your continued support is vital to our success as we approach our tenth anniversary.

You can help in many areas including the following:

- Become a Foundation Board member
- Provide the Foundation with the names and addresses of individuals and organizations that may be interested in the work of the Foundation.
- Work with one of the Foundation committees listed on page 7 of this newsletter.
- Encourage others to visit the Christianenburg school as part of the annual “South African Adventure” tour. A link to information about the tour can be found on our web site: www.bbyatesedufoundation.org.

Banner for the Foundation website:



THE DR. BETTYE BOUEY-YATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

ENRICHING THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE OF CHILDREN IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Enclosed is my annual membership contribution of \$25.00.
Enclosed is my membership and an additional contribution of _____.
- I would like to make a contribution of _____.

YOU MAY USE PAYPAL. SEE OUR WEBSITE: www.bbyatesedufoundation.org

The Foundation has the following committees:

- Program Fund Raising Membership
- Publication Scholarship Public Relations

Please indicate which committee(s), if any, you would like to work with to help carry out the Foundation's mission.

If you have special interests or skills that would be beneficial to the Foundation, please specify:

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

FAX No: _____

Email Address: _____

We Deeply Appreciate Your support of the Dr. Bettye Bouey-Yates Educational Foundation, a non-profit § 501(c)(3) Organization.

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MAIL TO:

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