



# Muscofee County School District

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## For Immediate Release

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## NEWS RELEASE

### 19<sup>th</sup> Annual “Drug Free...You and Me Conference”

**(Columbus, GA)**-Growing up can be a challenge for our children. That is why some of the nation’s top anti-drug, education speakers are participating in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual “Drug Free...You and Me Conference” at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center.

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 - Thursday, April 2, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., sixth grade students from around the county will hear straight talk on how to avoid addiction to drugs, exposure to sexually transmitted diseases, and the importance of a good education.

The “Drug Free...You and Me” conference is designed to help children make wise choices about alcohol, other drugs, and a life of crime. Powerful motivational speakers and musical entertainment is just a part of the spectacular event. Parents, teachers, counselors and other educators are on hand encouraging students to make choices they can be proud of. Approximately 900 to 1,000 students from Muscofee County and Fort Benning participate in the conference each year.

McDonald’s, the Muscofee County School District “Safe and Drug Free Schools Program”, in association with the Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce “Drugs Don’t Work Program”, are proud sponsors and organizers of the event.

Director of Guidance Services, Dr. Betty J. McBride says, “At some point, children of all ages will encounter a situation that involves drug or alcohol abuse.”

“Our goal is to serve our children now by equipping them with the facts about the harsh, but real consequences of making bad choices at an early age,” said McBride.

-More-

Each year, at least one high school student, who has the best Drug Free essay, receives an award. The award honors a former Shaw High School student who was killed by a drunk driver.

For more information send an e-mail to [bjmcbride@mcsdga.net](mailto:bjmcbride@mcsdga.net), or e-mail [communications@mcsdga.net](mailto:communications@mcsdga.net).

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