



For Immediate Release

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MEDIA RELEASE

Kendrick High School Earns Outstanding High School Award

(Columbus, GA)-Kendrick High School is selected as an Outstanding High Schools That Work (HSTW) School. The award is based on the success of local school leaders and teachers in improving school practices and increasing the quality of experiences provided to students. The award was presented by Dave Spence, president of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), at the 27th Annual *HSTW* Staff Development Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

Spence praised the school for its achievement, pointing out that it takes dedication and hard work on the part of state, district and school leaders, and teachers to make progress in preparing students for postsecondary studies and careers. He presented the award before an audience of more than 4,000 educators from across the nation attending the HSTW Conference.

Kendrick High School was one of only 19 HSTW schools in the nation to receive the 2013 Outstanding School Award. To be recognized as an Outstanding HSTW School, a school had to be nominated by the HSTW state coordinator or by an SREB director for a noteworthy accomplishment such as improving achievement, improving graduation rates, improving college and career readiness, improving the quality of CTE offerings and robust assignments, fully implementing the HSTW design, implementing a signature feature, or extensively implementing the Gates' Literacy Design Collaborative and/or Mathematics Design Collaborative.

“This school has shown what can be accomplished to raise student achievement by deeply implementing the HSTW model for strengthening curriculum and instruction,” said Gene Bottoms, SREB senior vice president. “The school illustrates the spirit of change that High Schools That Work advocates to get students ready for postsecondary studies and careers.”

The largest SREB program, HSTW is a national, comprehensive school improvement design based on the premise that most students can master rigorous academic and career/technical studies if school leaders and teachers create a school environment that motivates all students to

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make the effort to succeed. The HSTW initiative is the nation's first large-scale effort to engage state, district and school leaders in partnership with teachers, students, parents and the community to equip all students with the knowledge and skills needed to graduate from high school and succeed in college and the workplace. More than 1,100 high schools in 30 states and the District of Columbia participate in the HSTW school improvement initiative.

For more information, e-mail communications@muscogee.k12.ga.us or contact the principal of Kendrick High School, Dr. Alonzo James, 706-565-2961.

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