



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Baytown Chamber of Commerce Partners of the Year Community Resource Credit Union & Lamar Elementary

The Baytown Chamber of Commerce announced on May 4 that Community Resource Credit Union has been named the 2010 Partner of the Year for its outstanding partnership with Lamar Elementary School.

Through the Partners In Education program, sponsored by the Baytown Chamber of Commerce, businesses are paired with Goose Creek CISD schools depending on resources and needs. Sponsoring organizations plan a number of activities for the students of their schools each month, ranging from tutoring and mentoring programs, to perfect-attendance incentives, to academic incentives, and lunch-buddy programs, to field trips and guest speakers. The Baytown chamber's Partners In Education program started in 1987 with three partnerships, and has grown to 28 partnerships.

Community Resource Credit Union has partnered with Lamar Elementary School for 15 years. This is the second time Community Resource and Lamar have been recognized as partners of the year. The first time was in 2004.

"This partnership continues to be outstanding year after year. It has been one of the top partnerships for several years," said chamber president and CEO Tracey Wheeler. "This is why we call this program the partnership program. The school and the business form a bond that lasts, it seems, forever."

Wheeler noted some highlights of the Community Resource Credit Union and Lamar partnership:

Community Resource experienced a 70 percent growth in volunteer participation this year. The Lunch Pal's program gave employees the time to spend with students and was enjoyable and beneficial to both the employees and the students.

Employees also participate in a Pen Pal program exchanging letters with 70 students.

The company further provided perfect attendance awards. In addition to student awards of bicycles, teachers with the best attendance (98 percent or better) will receive a new laptop. A Big Deal Assembly is held to reward good behavior.

Red Ribbon Week was recognized with red ribbon bracelets for all students and staff. One hundred percent of employees also wore the red ribbon bracelets all week. The company also brought in an important Baytown leader to do a program on staying in school and staying "drug free."

In addition, Community Resource Credit Union assisted Lamar Elementary with:

- Book fair
- Adopted families representing 36 children and provided a gift for each child at Christmas
- Provided Thanksgiving meals for eight families
- Contributed to the clothing closet



Goose Creek CISD photo by Kathy Clausen

The Baytown Chamber of Commerce announced May 4 that Community Resource Credit Union is the 2010 Partner of the Year for its outstanding partnership with Lamar Elementary School. From left are Mike Smith, CRCU vice president of marketing; Macie Schubert, CRCU community development; Tucker Coughlen, CRCU board member; Maria Rosas-Gonzalez, Lamar family involvement coordinator; Ronnie Anderson, CRCU senior vice president of business services; Greg Lynd, Lamar principal; Raychelle Ysquierdo, Lamar assistant principal; and David Frazier, CRCU president and CEO.

In preparation for TAKS, Math/Science Family Night and Accelerated Reader Nights were held with door prizes and refreshments provided.

More than 800 snacks were provided to keep the students focused and energized during their testing.

At the end of the school year, Community Resource Credit Union will assist with the Spring Celebration, a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, the Accelerated Reader field trip, and the End of the Year Teacher Luncheon.

"It's amazing to watch the Credit Union employees come to Lamar and help our kids. They get it ... that it's about the kids," said Lamar Principal Greg Lynd.

"Every time we meet with them they ask about the kids and what they can do for them. Lamar is a successful school because of the efforts of the students, the parents, the staff and our PIE. It is truly a team effort and they are a large part of it. This award was truly earned.

"Goose Creek Memorial High School is the lone school in Goose Creek CISD still in need of a Partner in Education.

If you are interested in becoming a Partner In Education, contact the Baytown Chamber of Commerce at 281-422-8359 or rikki@baytownchamber.com.

The Baytown Chamber of Commerce began giving the Partner of the Year Award in 1994.

Here is a list of winners:

- 1994 - Bayer and Bowie Elementary
- 1995 - Amoco and Alamo Elementary
- 1996 - Chevron Phillips and Crockett Elementary
- 1997 - Duke Energy and Highlands Elementary
- 1998 - ExxonMobil BOP and Pumphrey Elementary
- 1999 - ExxonMobil BOP and Pumphrey Elementary
- 2000 - Baytown State Bank and Ashbel Smith Elementary
- 2001 - Rhodia and Carver Elementary
- 2002 - ExxonMobil BTEC and San Jacinto Elementary
- 2003 - LCY Elastomers and Harlem Elementary
- 2004 - Community Resource Credit Union/ Lamar Elementary
- 2005 - CenterPoint Energy and Gentry Jr. School
- 2006 - ExxonMobil Refinery and Travis Elementary
- 2007 - Kiwanis Club of Baytown/ Alamo Elementary
- 2008 - Bayer and Bowie Elementary
- 2009 - Exxon Research & Engineering and Cedar Bayou Jr. School
- 2010 - Community Resource Credit Union and Lamar Elementary

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