

# PRESS RELEASE

## Lee County Public Schools

Communications Department

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Date: November 18, 2009

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**SUBJECT: SCHOOL HONORED FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT**

South Fort Myers High School is proud to announce that it has earned the Silver and Golden School Award from the Florida Department of Education. The award is given annually by the Florida Department of Education to recognize secondary schools whose students provide exemplary volunteer services.

The **Silver School Award** is presented to secondary schools that have met the following criteria:

- The school must have a school volunteer coordinator who provides coordination of the program, placement of students, orientation and training for the students and program evaluation;
- The school must have a volunteer coordinator who provides coordination of the program, assist in the placement of the secondary students, provide orientation and training for the receiving staff, and assist in providing for student and program evaluation;
- Student volunteers and the receiving faculty must both receive orientation and training. Student volunteer hours must equal at least one half the total number of students in the sending school.

The **Golden School Award** is presented to secondary schools that have met the following criteria:

- A minimum of 80 percent of the school staff participated in training related to school volunteerism;
- A school volunteer coordinator designated for recruitment, placement, training and supervision;
- The total number of hours in volunteer service equaled twice the number of students enrolled in the school.

Having met the criteria listed above, South Fort Myers High has achieved excellence not only by providing meaningful volunteer opportunities for students, but also by providing invaluable learning experiences for young students. These young volunteers make a tremendous impact on the academic achievement of the students they assists.

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Vision: To be a world-class school system