



Big Hearts

Author : Mike Smith

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Special thanks to everyone who has contributed this year to the State Employees Combined Campaign (SECC). Obviously the poor economy means that many good causes and organizations are suffering. The needs in our communities are greater than ever. It would have been easy to use the economy as a reason not to participate this year, but that hasn't happened at the School. I am not surprised. Last year 52 employees at the School contributed \$16,616. This year (drum roll, please) 72 people already have contributed \$20,394, and we still have one more week to go. Our total includes \$620 raised through today's silent auction, which included some wonderful items—I got an excellent framed collage by Gini Hamilton. I'm not surprised that many of you have stepped forward because we attract people who want to serve others, and this is just one of the many ways that you do it.

The other reason I'm not surprised by our participation is because of our impressive volunteer leadership. Ken Joyner has been our team captain, and he has drawn on his highly relevant experience as a former tax collector. He also has had enthusiastic help from Susan Austin, Beth Graves, and Lisa Sheffield (great job on the auction!). If you haven't given to this year's campaign, please consider a gift of any size in the next few days. Thanks to everyone for making this such a successful year. As Susan Austin would say, "Woo Hoo!"