Chamber Membership Supports New Educators Breakfast

The business community welcomed about 100 new educators to our community at the New Educators Breakfast which was held on Friday, August 21st at the Millwood Station Special Events Center. The Top of Virginia Regional Chamber and MidAtlantic Farm Credit hosted the annual event and over 40 businesses helped to support it by participating as sponsors or donating door prizes and classroom supplies. The schools that participated in the event were Winchester Public Schools, Frederick County Public Schools, Clarke County Public Schools, Randolph Macon Academy, Timber Ridge School, Grafton School, Shenandoah Valley Christian Academy, Mountain View Christian Academy, Powhatan School, Apple Country Head Start, Shenandoah University and Lord Fairfax Community College.

A delicious breakfast was provided by Jimmy's Restaurant & Grill Catering and many great door prizes were donated by Chamber member businesses. The Chamber appreciates the generous contributions from the members that helped to make this event a big success.

A highlight of the breakfast this year was the guest speaker Dennis Kellison, former superintendent of Winchester Public Schools. Mr. Kellison reflected on his experience in public education and the climate in which schools are operating today. He offered the new educators some words of wisdom and motivation as they enter a new and challenging field and work place.

The business community has traditionally been very supportive of this event and this year was no exception. In light of the economic times our business partners did not disappoint us and stepped up in support of the schools. The Chamber would like to recognize our sponsors who made the event possible. They include the **Presenting Sponsor:** MidAtlantic Farm Credit, **Platinum Sponsor:** Winchester Printers, **Gold Sponsors:** Bank of Clarke County, United Bank, and BB&T, **Silver Sponsors** Aflac-Lona Bishop, Apple Federal Credit Union, Artistically Framed, Winchester Public Schools, Frederick County Public Schools, Clarke County Public Schools, Summit Community Bank, Old Dominion University-Teletechnet, Shenandoah University, Sportsplex Indoor Sports & Event Center, Triad Engineering, Allen Properties, Toll Brothers-Twin Lakes Overlook, Kiwanis Club of Winchester, Kiwanis Club of the Blue Ridge, and Kiwanis Club of Old Town, and **Teacher Sponsors:** Wingate by Wyndham,

Bruce, Renner and Wilfong, Accounting Associates, Rich Weller, Dan Wall, Realtor, Sue Hickman-Arbonne International, American Woodmark, PatriciaTaylor, Toan & Associates, Phillip S. Griffin, II, PC, Unique Hoops, Thermo Fisher Diagnostic, and First Bank.

Thank you again to all the Chamber business partners who donated door prizes and school supplies. It's the support of our members that makes the efforts of the Chamber successful. We couldn't support the community without you!