



# Richmond Contra Costa County

# GLOBE

Listen to the  
**GLOBE**  
Newspaper Hour

Listen to what's going on  
in the East Bay community  
with moderator  
Eddrick Osborne.

Saturday mornings  
9 - 10 a.m.  
More Public Radio  
88.1 FM & 97.7 FM

www.jazzbeatradio.tv  
or any day, any time at  
www.theglobenewspapers.com

A RELIABLE VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY • WWW.THEGLOBENEWS PAPERS.COM

July 25 - 31, 2007

## Future is bright for Richmond College Prep students

*From the Globe Education Desk*

Richmond College Prep Elementary School, a rigorous and stimulating charter school operated by the Richmond Children's Foundation, announced Tuesday the results of its standardized test scores, with students meeting, and in some cases, exceeding national standards.

"We are pleased with the results and extremely proud of our teachers and students," says Richmond Children's Foundation President and CEO Dr. Sandra Nathan. "Our goal has always been to help our students thrive and excel – and these test results prove we're succeeding."

At least 77 percent of students met or exceeded the national standards in reading – 22 percent of these students scored in the top 90 percent in the nation. "This is a huge accomplishment for our young students," says Nathan. "Normally only 10 percent of students in this community score at this level."

Students completed the Peabody Vocabulary Test and the Woodcock-Johnson Test, a battery of learning assessments. Other areas of excellence were in vocabulary, math and sound awareness, with students consistently meeting or exceeding national scores.

Richmond College Prep El-



mentary School offers a unique multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary curriculum. Located in an area plagued by violence, high dropout rates and a per capita income below \$20,000, the school is dedicated to providing children not only a safe place for learning, but opportunities to excel in education.

The majority of students who completed the assessments are students who attended the Richmond College Prep Preschool, graduating to Richmond College Prep Elementary School.

"The children in this community are often wrongly characterized as underachievers," Nathan says. "For many of our students, this is the first time they feel comfortable and safe enough to focus on their education – and this feeling shows through a variety of different ways, including high-test scores."

"All these children really need is a safe, caring environment that nurtures the learning process," she adds. "Once they have this, their confidence grows and then you see it – you see it in

their eyes that they know they can accomplish anything. This is what we're all about.

Founded in 1997, the mission of the Richmond Children's Foundation is to build a strong, healthy Richmond community where families thrive and children are given new hope for a bright, successful future.

Working with parents and community leaders, our goal is to create new educational opportunities for children, strengthen families, restore neighborhoods and build community pride. ©