
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

DJJ School District Achieves Absolute Rating of Excellent

DJJ's annual School Report Card released by the State Department of Education shows that the agency schools achieved an absolute rating of excellent and an improvement rating of good for 2005. This is the second consecutive year that DJJ schools have received top ratings. The district is comprised of middle and high schools at the Birchwood School and the Willow Lane School on DJJ's Broad River Road Complex. Other satellite schools are located in the agency's three regional evaluation centers and its Detention Center.

DJJ's Birchwood School is Fully Accredited

The middle school at DJJ's Birchwood School has received accreditation from the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges. The high school at the Birchwood School was accredited in January 2005. Accreditation entitles the schools to all the services and privileges of regional, national, and international professional recognition. The schools also hold accreditation from the State Department of Education.

"Best in the Business" Recognition

DJJ's Piedmont Regional Administrator Margaret Barber was recognized in the October issue of *Corrections Today* as one of the "Best in the Business." During Barber's 27 years with the agency she has held numerous positions working with youth in the community. *Corrections Today* recognized Barber as part of its "Women Working in Corrections" special issue. The magazine cited her "desire to provide juveniles with better alternatives," her "goal-oriented drive," and her "desire to seek out community collaborations to help juveniles." *Corrections Today* is the professional membership publication of the American Correctional Association.

DJJ Receives Champion of Afterschool Award

On Wednesday, October 19, the Department of Juvenile Justice received a "Champion of Afterschool Award" from the South Carolina Afterschool Alliance. Director Byars accepted the award on behalf of the agency for its support and dedication to using after school programs as a way to deter youth away from the juvenile justice system. DJJ, in collaboration with the South Carolina Black Caucus and the African Methodist Episcopal Church, has initiated Teen Afterschool Centers around the state to provide young people with academic assistance, employability skills, and other structured activities after school and during the summer.

Schedule

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| November 22 | Press Conference on Law Enforcement Budget
Highway Patrol Troop 5 Headquarters, Florence |
| November 29 | Deliver Keynote Address at Youth Corps Luncheon
Capital City Club |
| December 6 | DJJ All-Star Banquet
DJJ Birchwood Gymnasium |