



Muscogee County School District

P.O. Box 2427 • Columbus, Georgia 31902

For Immediate Release

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NEWS RELEASE

Be Well Columbus, GA Project: Walk to Microsoft Seventh Graders Wanted

(Columbus, GA)- The Columbus Research Foundation and the Muscogee County Council PTA invites all seventh grade students in the Muscogee County School District to participate in the Be Well Columbus, GA Project: *Walk to Microsoft* contest. The purpose of the project is to bring awareness to youth on the growing epidemic of childhood obesity and Type 2 diabetes. Childhood obesity is growing and associated medical problems are one of the most important health issues in children and adolescents in the United States.

The Be Well Columbus, GA Project: *Walk to Microsoft* will focus on caloric intake, personal activity, and an interactive map of the United States to show how far each class walks, as a group, along a virtual, interactive path from Columbus to the Microsoft headquarters in Bellevue, Washington. Class participants will see a computer generated view on a map that tracks their walk and site location.

Members of the first class to reach the virtual Microsoft headquarters will receive a Wii System with the Wii Fit cartridge. Along the way, incentives like water bottles, wristbands, and ball caps can be earned. As participants reach the half way mark, they will also receive tennis shoes.

Parents of seventh grade students will receive a participation and waiver form in the mail. However, some parents may not receive a form because some schools may not participate. Parents should complete and return the wavier and participation form to the following address:

-More-

Columbus Research Foundation
3 Bradley Park Court, Suite F
Columbus, GA 31904

The forms must be returned by Tuesday, November 25, 2008 to participate. For more information call the Muscogee County Council PTA (706) 332-7241, the Columbus Research Foundation (706) 507-2026, or email communications@mcsdga.net.

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