

Get Involved: Be A Seed Of Difference



**Brookstone Schools**  
*Sowing Seeds of Wisdom*

**Annual Report  
2010-2011**

Get Involved: Be A Seed Of Difference

Brookstone parent, Minguel Santos with  
his daughter Abigail, 6th grader



## Offering Hope: A Community In Action



*"It has been so gratifying to see how our community has supported Brookstone through the first ten years. The collective action of many is producing remarkable results."*

*- Miller Porterfield,  
Chairman of the Board*

**History:** In 1996 a small group of concerned citizens from different backgrounds, races, and denominations were drawn together to found a non-profit, Christ-centered school in Charlotte's urban core. Their passion was to give hope – to be the 'seed of difference' for low-income, minority children whose life outcomes could be dismal.

Brookstone Schools opened its doors in 2001 with grades K-1, adding one grade per year until it reached K-5. Thanks to a generous grant, we will expand to K-6 in the fall of 2011, on the road to our K-8 goal. *From a seed planted in prayer, the school has blossomed to become a beacon for under-resourced children in Charlotte, NC.*

**Vision:** Our objective is to provide marginalized children with a peerless academic education while incorporating into their daily lives the strong Judeo-Christian principles upon which our country was founded. After 10 years, our testing shows amazing academic results of our students. Also, the moral and ethical training has begun to bear fruit as they become leaders and achievers in our community.

Our long term vision is to provide facilities that will allow us to offer two classes each in grades K through 8, serving 300 students and their families. The school owns property for a new building adjacent to the Stratford-Richardson YMCA, where we have cultivated a strong partnership including PE classes and a shared after school program.

Cover Photo: Deswon Thompson, 3rd grader

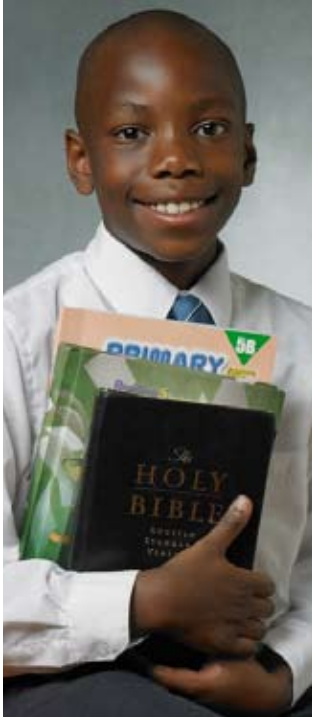


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Dr. Donald Larson, Headmaster, with  
Kaylen Norris, 1st grader and  
Trinity Broom, 4th grader

## Brookstone's Heart and Soul



*Isaiab Shembo, a 2010 graduate, is on the A/B Honor Roll at Charlotte Secondary School. He hopes to be a lawyer one day.*

### Board of Directors

Miller Porterfield	<i>Chairman Executive, Retired</i>
Carole Ardizzone	<i>Television, Education</i>
Miller Byne	<i>Business, Retired</i>
Sam Cornwell	<i>Insurance</i>
Mollie Faison	<i>Community Advocate</i>
Dean Jones	<i>Development, YMCA</i>
Courtenay Miller	<i>Financial Planning</i>
Rebecca Pitts	<i>Consultant, Protocol</i>
John Stamas	<i>Financial Planning</i>
Harry Schrader	<i>Architect</i>

### Advisory Committee

Justin Boyd	Bob Shive
Rod Culbertson	Alice Smyth
Nah Darkwa	Samuel Snapp
Meg Dewey	Cathy Thompson
Bill Foster	Tom Waters
Susan Goode	Wendy Welch
Brad Grow	Julie White
Sheila Johnson	Anita Williams
John Mauldin	Debbly Woodhouse
Sue Makepeace	
Greta Orcutt	
Lynn Purdum	
Keith Robelen	

Donald Larson, PhD-Head of School  
Suzanne Wilson, M.Ed.-Director of Development

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Brookstone Partner Anita Williams and Jermaine Whittaker, 5th grader

## You Are Making The Difference



*Suzanne Wilson, Director of Development, with Tanasia, 3rd grader*



"My experience as a lunch buddy and Chapel speaker at Brookstone has been amazing. Every time I have a chance to be around those kids I am touched by them more than they are touched by me. These kids are having their lives changed and being prepared to impact our culture."

*- Matt Ham, Pastor, Hope Community Church*



"I love Brookstone School. It's the place I go to experience joy. I see God's love lavished on urban children. When I want to live out my Christian calling to love the least of these, I'm drawn to Brookstone."

*- Tari Williamson, Dean of Women, Reformed Theological Seminary*



"It has been an amazing and rewarding experience to be a partner to Terryn Derosier over the last five years. This has brought our family great joy. I look forward to seeing what a successful young man he becomes because of the foundation laid at Brookstone!"

*- Marion Shields, partner*



"Volunteering every week consistently during school hours has let me see the heart of the school happening. I've really enjoyed having an opportunity to relate to the children one on one."

*- Cody Pate, Charlotte Fellows Intern*

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Zuri Richardson, 1st grader with  
Sharisse Stafford, Administrative  
Assistant & Teacher



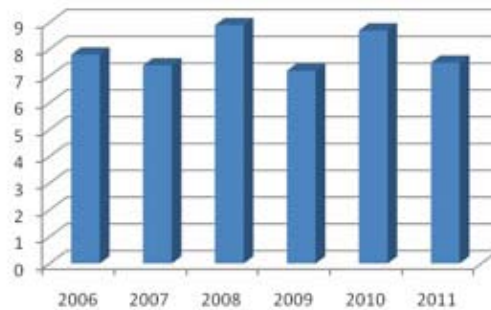
## What We Have Accomplished: Academic Highlights



*4th grader Trinity Broom won highest academic achievement in her grade last year.*

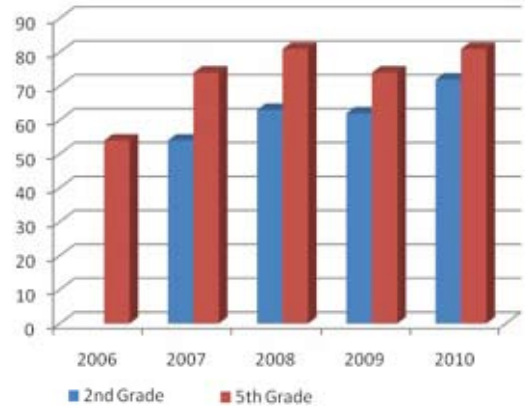
Above-grade level outcomes are being sustained from one year to the next in all core academic subjects. Graduating classes have scored in the 70th to 85th percentile range on the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT-10). An at-risk population typically scores at or below the 25th percentile.

### 5th Grade Level



*This table shows that our 5th grade students are performing 2 to 3 years above their grade level.*

### Graduating Class Growth



*Significant growth is shown by each graduating class from second to fifth grade.*

Deysi Hernandez-Bran, 2nd grader,  
Jermaine Whittaker, 5th grader and  
Suzanne Wilson, Director of Development





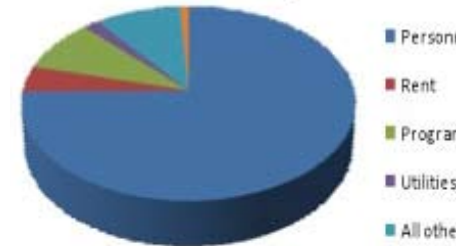
Blaine Williams, a 2010 graduate, is on the honor roll at Charlotte Secondary School.

## Financial Highlights

Statement of Activity July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

Revenue	
Total Contributions	\$685,000
Total Student Fees	58,000
Other Income	9,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$752,000</b>
Expenses	
Personnel costs	\$498,000
Rent	29,000
Program costs	58,100
Utilities	12,000
All other expenses	62,500
Increase in fixed assets	6,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$666,100</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$85,900</b>

### 2010-11 Expenses



*Expanded Vision: Brookstone Schools is in the process of uniting with the Carolina School for Children organization, whose goal is to include residential housing as part of our day school. This expansion, the addition of group homes alongside the school, would allow us to provide a safe and supportive full-time environment for those students who are most in need. Despite the critical demand for these facilities, our Board will not initiate a capital campaign until we are convinced that operating costs can be sustained.*

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Volunteer Matt Ham with  
Kalen Norris, 1st grader

## Get Involved: Be A Seed of Difference



*Come visit. Take a closer look at what's happening at Brookstone.*

### **Volunteer.**

Get actively involved as a tutor, mentor, lunch buddy and more. Share Brookstone with your church, business, or civic organization – there are always creative ways to serve!

Contact us  
([getinvolved@brookstoneschools.org](mailto:getinvolved@brookstoneschools.org))  
or download a volunteer application from our website.

### **Donate.**

Sponsor a child or classroom.

Or, give a one-time gift or a monthly draft to Brookstone.

*Designate your dollars:*

- General Fund
- Academic Fund
- Fine Arts Fund

Donate Online  
[www.brookstoneschools.org](http://www.brookstoneschools.org)

Or, send a check.  
Brookstone Schools  
PO Box 667890  
Charlotte, NC 28266

### **Tell a friend. Come Visit.**

Visit our website for a schedule of upcoming **Lunch & Learns**. Tour the classrooms and talk with the children we serve. It's our joy to share our work and mission with you.

*We are a 501(c)(3) organization.  
Your gift is tax-deductible and  
you will be sent a receipt.*

# Thank You For Helping Make a Difference

## FOUNDATIONS

John and Louise Allred Fund  
Bank Of America Foundation  
Bank Of America United Way Campaign  
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The Bodwell Family Giving Fund  
Children's Scholarship Fund  
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Carmel Presbyterian Church  
Davidson United Methodist Church  
Foundations Bible Study  
Grace Covenant Church  
Holy Trinity Reformed Church  
Luther Snyder/Ruth Fisher Bible Class at Myers Park United Methodist Church  
Matthews Orthodox Presbyterian Church  
Myers Park Presbyterian Church  
Southlake Presbyterian Church  
Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church  
St. Giles Presbyterian Church  
Warehouse 242  
Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Our name refers to the five smooth STONES that the young shepherd, David, chose from a BROOK in order to slay the unconquerable giant, Goliath. We believe that the “stones” of EDUCATION, FAITH and INTEGRITY that children acquire at Brookstone provide them with the “ammunition” they need to slay the giants of poverty and disadvantage in their lives.

  
**Brookstone Schools**  
*Sowing Seeds of Wisdom*

Grateful thanks go out to Michael Harrison Photography who generously donated his time and talent again this year. His photography of our volunteers, staff and children produced these gorgeous pictures in this report. And thanks to Patti Ratcliffe/Ratcliffe Design for her graphic design talent and ongoing support of our mission.