

For Immediate Release

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PENCIL Foundation Recognizes FWBBC

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College received a plaque of recognition May 4 at the 29th annual PENCIL Celebration for its supportive educational role at Tom Joy Elementary School, according to Thurman Pate, chairman of the Teacher Education Department. Hundreds of representatives from PENCIL's 754 partners in Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools and presenters from the business community attended the event, including Mayor Karl Dean and Director of Schools Jesse Register.

Dr. Pate represented FWBBC during the 90-minute celebration at Lipscomb University's Allen Arena and accepted the plaque on behalf of the college: "FWBBC was one of only four groups recognized for 20 years of enduring partnerships with PENCIL. This partnership was formed and has been maintained by our Teacher Education Department. Through the years, FWBBC students have been actively involved in Tom Joy Elementary's field days, tutoring, parenting sessions, and more."

The non-profit PENCIL Foundation (Public Education Needs Community Involvement Leadership) opened its doors in April 1982, and is the premier organization linking community volunteers and material resources with Metro Nashville Public Schools. PENCIL administers eight educational programs that involve the community as volunteers and mentors, provide academic enrichment opportunities, prepare students for graduation, and get school supplies in the hands of children who need them.

Provost Greg Kettelman, who served almost 30 years (1977-2006) as a teacher, principal, and professional educator in Metropolitan Nashville Schools, logged one year as assistant principal at Tom Joy (1993) before moving on to broader responsibilities within Metro Schools and later joining the FWBBC administration in 2006.

"I experienced first-hand how important the PENCIL partnership with local businesses and educational institutions can be to schools like Tom Joy," Dr. Kettelman said. "The organizational

partnership now enhances the education of more than 74,000 students in the Nashville area. I'm so thankful that men like FWBCC's John Carter, chairman of our Arts and Sciences Department, kept us involved in this vital community outreach. It's good for FWBCC, good for our students, and good for the Tom Joy community."