

For Immediate Release

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The Lionheart School is Model for Use of Assistive Technology

ATLANTA (January 2, 2009) – There is a gleam in the eyes of the children with autism at The Lionheart School in Alpharetta when they use the new interactive whiteboards that draw them into increased interaction with their classmates. This interaction is so crucial for children who would otherwise be isolated. Staff member Ann Leverette will be sharing the gleam with professionals from around the country at The Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) Conference in Orlando on January 28-31.

“We have seen such progress in our students using the whiteboards. It allows these children, who are at-risk in their academic potential to interact more freely with their environment and with their peers,” said Ann Leverette about the whiteboards. Elizabeth Litten Dulin, Director of Education and Admissions at Lionheart adds, “We are so grateful to Promethean, who developed the boards and donated three to Lionheart, and to The Childhood Autism Foundation, Inc. and the Howard Dobbs , Jr. Foundation for providing funding for the support of two additional boards in our classrooms. Without their support, our teachers and children would not enjoy the benefits of this wonderful interactive technology. The kids love the boards!”

Ann will be presenting Lionheart’s success with technology at the ATIA Conference. “ATIA is the collective voice of the Assistive Technology industry, and I am thrilled to be selected to present Lionheart’s success at this important conference. The conference will include over 2400 professionals and consumers in the AT industry. Hopefully, our success will be a model for similar schools across the country whose students could benefit from the wonderful new technologies that are available,” Ann says. “ATIA provides one of the best educational experiences in the industry, and it speaks volumes that Lionheart was accepted to present as a leader in the Southeast in the use of assistive technology for children with autism.”

The Lionheart School is a non-profit organization, co-founded by some of the Southeast's leading Early Childhood Education professionals and a group of families unable to find a school or program which fit the needs of their children. Their mission was to create a new type of learning environment - one which combined the area's finest Special Education teachers, Speech, Occupational and Music Therapy professionals and concerned and active parents. At the Lionheart School, a child's development becomes a cooperative effort with teachers, therapists, consultants, parents and, of course, children, all actively involved.

The Lionheart School is an accredited member of the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Lionheart is also a Member of the Georgia Independent School Association (GISA). For more information about The Lionheart School, go to www.thelionheartschool.com, or call Kati Keyes at 770-772-4555. ###