



CHAIRMAN  
*Greg Jones*

VICE CHAIRMAN  
*Bill Hauck*

For Immediate Release:  
November 7, 2008

Contact: Jim Lanich  
(916) 498-8980

## **MACY'S DONATES \$50,000 TO JUST FOR THE KIDS-CALIFORNIA TO HELP CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP**

**(Sacramento, CA)** – California Business for Education Excellence affiliate Just for the Kids-California ([www.jftk-ca.org](http://www.jftk-ca.org)) today announced the receipt of a \$50,000 grant from Macy's West to further its work to raise student academic achievement and close achievement gaps in California's public schools.

The grant will support the expansion of a system that connects hundreds of lower performing schools with high performing, high poverty schools across the state to learn first hand the practices that make these schools successful in raising student achievement. Teachers and principals will connect peer-to-peer to share effective ways of understanding student performance data, improving their instruction and making sure all students are learning what they need to know and do at each grade level.

Macy's support will also scale up the recognition and sharing of what is working in 907 Honor Roll schools – high performing schools identified by the California business community each year that are raising academic achievement and closing achievement gap.

"We greatly appreciate the support and leadership Macy's has provided to help increase our outreach," said James Lanich, president of California Business for Education Excellence. "This grant will go a long way toward raising student academic achievement, particularly in high poverty, high minority schools, and to better prepare many more young people for college and the workplace."