



The combined Step Teams perform a routine during the Step-A-Thon fundraiser.

Elijah Akudugu, captain of the LCJSMS Step Team, at left, and Shakira Hines, center, and Marta Castillo present a check to Dr. Darren Clarke, director of the South African Initiative program.



From left, Dr. Steffany Henion, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School Principal Matt Block, and Dr. Darren Clarke.

Step Teams raise money for South African program

The Rutgers University South Africa Initiative program was the beneficiary of a fundraiser conducted by members of the step teams of Summit High School and Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School. The 15 steppers raised \$1000 for the program, which benefits underprivileged South African Schools. Dr. Darren Clarke, director of the South African Initiative, attended the event to accept the donation.

The Summit students stepped together for two hours without stopping during the Step-A-Thon, which was held at both the middle school and the high school. Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School special education teacher Dr. Steffany Henion is advisor to the step teams.

"Dr. Clarke was overwhelmed by the students' efforts for his program and so pleased with the donation," said Dr. Henion.

Dr. Henion will serve as group facilitator when she joins Dr. Clarke and 12 educators this summer, from July 19 to August 3, for the 10th Annual Rutgers South Africa Initiative trip. The study tour will consist of educational lectures, blogging, service learning projects, and teaching opportunities within schools in the Cape Town and Johannesburg areas.