JoAnne R. Shields 1914 Huntington Place Rock Hill, SC 29732

January 26, 1998

Dr. Phillip J. McDaniel, Superintendent Rock Hill School District Three of York County 660 N. Anderson Rd. P.O. Drawer 10072 Rock Hill, SC 29731

Re: ParentSmart program

Dear Dr. McDaniel:

My daughter Jessica and I are participating in the ParentSmart program and I wanted to let you know how very impressed I am with the entire program.

Currently I am a full-time mother, but I am also a S.C. and nationally-certified school psychologist. Thus my expectations for educational services may be more stringent than those of a lay person.

We attend the ParentSmart ECLE class at Ebinport Elementary twice monthly and are visited by a Parent Educator monthly. My daughter and I both enjoy all of the activities; we really look forward to attending class and to the home visits from the Parent Educator. My daughter has shown remarkable growth in her language, cognitive, gross and fine motor skills, and social skills since receiving ParentSmart services. The curriculum and activities are very stimulating and enjoyable for the children, as well as for the parents. The knowledgeable, personable staff provides parenting support, teaching role models, and ideas for enhancing our children's developmental skills.

As you know, the latest research on the brain development strongly indicates that early learning experiences in the birth through three years are critical in enhancing later learning abilities. The ParentSmart program is at the forefront of putting this research into practice.

I want to commend RHSD 3 for providing such a progressive and excellent early intervention program. The ParentSmart program is a very worthwhile program that deserves the full support of the district administration and Board of Trustees. All young children would benefit from these services. Thank you for making this opportunity possible for the young learners in RHSD 3.

Sincerely yours, Lotune R Shields

JoAnne R. Shields

c: Jane Peeples, Chair of Board of Trustees Cindy Hunt, ParentSmart