



MISSOURI SENATE

Jeff Smith
4th Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 425
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**For Immediate Release:
April 28, 2008**

**Contact: Christine Brauner
(573) 751-3599**

Senator Smith Set to Join 'It's Cool to Be Smart Tour'

Jefferson City — Sen. Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis, will participate in the “It’s Cool to Be Smart Tour” scheduled to take place in several St. Louis city public and charter schools throughout the last two weeks of April.

Along with Rep. Rodney Hubbard, Sen. Smith visited the Williams 9th Grade Academy, 3955 St. Ferdinand Ave., St. Louis, on April 21 and will visit the Ethel Lyle Academy Middle/High School, 706 N. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, at 8 a.m. Friday, May 2, to speak to students about the importance of being smart and making wise decisions. He is among several guests invited to more than 20 participating schools to encourage success in education.

“I love meeting with students to share with them the enormous benefits of doing your best in school and working to reach your full potential,” Sen. Smith said, who has visited over 40 schools since entering office in 2007. “Any student, with the proper motivation, encouragement and teaching guidance, can succeed in school and is empowered to reach his or her goals.”

“It’s Cool to be Smart” is a non-profit organization that strives to enrich the lives of youth by providing access to role models, music artists, and positive messages that encourage success in school. The program provides creative activities such as youth forums, health and academic workshops, school concerts, assemblies and pep rallies that support academic achievement for middle and high school students. The program is available to schools at no charge.

“As a lifelong educator, I particularly appreciate these kinds of programs that seek to inspire kids to make their school experience positive and rewarding,” Sen. Smith said.

###