

TO: Finance and Operations Committee  
FROM: Carizma Brown  
Community Services Coordinator  
RE: Robinson Junior High School Historical Marker funding proposal

The Old Island School Committee has requested district assistance in funding:

- A historical marker marking the location of the former Robinson Junior High School.
- Installation of the marker.

The following text (provided by Rex Garniewicz, President and CEO of the Coastal Discovery Museum) would be displayed on the historical marker:

***ROBINSON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL***

*In 1949, the first junior high school for Hilton Head Island's African-American students was built at this location on land donated by William "Bill" Robinson. It had three rooms and three teachers, one for each grade, and allowed students to continue their education through Grade 9. With an average class size of 30 students, hundreds of students were educated here over the next 12 years by six dedicated teachers: Mrs. Ruth E. Jones, Mr. Melvin Albergottie, Miss Daisy Wright, Mrs. Rosa Lee Barnwell, Miss Sarah Young and Mr. Diogenese E. Singleton. The school closed in 1961 when students were transferred to the Michael C. Riley High School in Bluffton. The building continued to be used as housing for migrant farm workers for several years before it was eventually torn down.*

*Sponsored by the Old Island School Committee of the Gullah Museum of Hilton Head Island*

REQUEST TO DEFRAY COSTS: The Town of Hilton Head has agreed to provide half of the historical marker's total cost of \$2,455 (including production and installation). The Old Island School Committee is requesting that the school district fund the remaining \$1,227.50.