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NEWS RELEASE

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Northside High Awarded Governor's Cup for SAT Scores



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Governor Sonny Perdue and State Superintendent of Schools Kathy Cox paid a surprise visit to Northside High School today, Oct. 6, 2009. Early this morning in front of the student body, faculty and staff and special guests, Northside High principal Mark Scott was presented the Governor's Cup trophy and a \$2,000 check for the school's SAT scores. Juniors and seniors were also given a T-shirt to commemorate the achievement. Northside High tied for first place for the most improvement on SAT scores among Class AAAAA schools.

In 2009, Northside High's mean score was 1,521, above the national average of 1,509. Northside had a phenomenal improvement over last year's SAT scores, increasing by 55 points, continuing a trend started in 2008 when Northside's SAT scores jumped 56 points.

"There is no place I would rather be this morning than here celebrating the accomplishments of the students and teachers of Northside High School," said Principal Mark Scott during the ceremony. "The phenomenal improvement in SAT scores over the past two years is unprecedented. It is a great morning to be a Northside Eagle!"

The Governor's Cup Challenge was announced in 2003 as an initiative to raise SAT scores across the state. High schools are encouraged to implement innovative strategies that will improve student performance on the SAT. Schools compete on three-year average gains on the SAT, with winners determined by the largest numerical increase in average SAT scores. Perry High School won the Governor's Cup in 2007 for Class AAA.

"Our students, teachers and principals have stepped up to the challenge and worked hard to raise SAT scores," said Governor Perdue. "These schools now have bragging rights for the next year. This is a tough competition to win, and I am proud of the tremendous improvement these schools have achieved in SAT scores."

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The Governor's Cup Challenge is organized by Georgia High School Association (GHSA) Class and Region assignments. By using these assignments, schools are compared against similarly-sized schools within the same region of the state. The competition is sponsored by AT&T, which provides prizes for all of the winning schools.

Northside High is located at 926 Green Street in Warner Robins. Principal Scott may be contacted at (478) 929-7858 or mark.scott@hcbe.net. For more information about the award, visit the Web site SATRocks.com.

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Gov. Perdue took time for a photo with the Northside High Senior Exec students, a group of seniors chosen by their peers to represent the Class of 2010.



Superintendent David Carpenter, Principal Mark Scott and the Northside High cheerleaders are pictured with the Governor's Cup.