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NEWS RELEASE

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Teachers Recognized for Contribution to Gifted Students



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Fifteen teachers of Gifted and Advanced Placement students were honored in September as recipients of the Houston County Education Assistance Fund. Each was presented \$500 and a certificate by the Houston County Gifted Department on behalf of the Manoj H. Shah family.

The Shah family initiated this gift several years ago at Warner Robins High and extended it to all five high schools in 2010. “Dr. and Mrs. Shah are strong supporters of education in general and of gifted and honors education specifically,” commented Jan Jacobsen, Director of Gifted Education and Advanced Placement Coordinator. “They feel that their children benefited greatly from the higher level classes that they took while students at Warner Robins High. This award is the Shah family’s way of supporting our school system’s gifted program and dedicated teachers.”

MORE

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The teachers are pictured with Dr. Shah. This year's honorees were (from left, first row to last):

- Rebecca Myers, Northside High, AP Statistics, Accelerated Math;
- Barbara Hilliard, Warner Robins High, AP Literature, Honors American Literature;
- Maureen Martin, Houston County High, Humanities and AP World History;
- Pam Stanescu, Warner Robins High, Humanities and AP European History;
- Alyson Keenom, Houston County High, Accelerated Math;
- Ike Thompson, Veterans High, AP Language and Composition;
- Debra Anderson, Perry High, AP US History;
- Kristine Keplinger, Perry High, AP Statistics;
- Mary Gentry, Perry High, AP Calculus, Accelerated Math;
- Dr. Shah;
- Jami Moore, Northside High, AP Chemistry, Honors Chemistry;
- Matt Boone, Northside High, AP World History, Honors US History;
- Alan Bowers, Veterans High, Honors American Government/Civics; and
- Jay Jones, Veterans High, Accelerated Math, AP Calculus.

Not pictured are:

- Jeff Grange, Houston County High, AP Statistics; and
- Roshonda Deshazor, Warner Robins High, AP Statistics.

The certificate contains a quote by the Shahs: "The advanced placement and honors programs at high school offer motivated students unique opportunities to further their education. These programs have been extremely successful over the years and have produced a countless number of outstanding students. From the sciences to the humanities, dedicated teachers have been paramount in the success of these advanced classes. To further promote and facilitate the opportunities that advanced classes offer students, we wish to provide additional funds... to enhance classroom opportunities and support dedicated educators..."

For more information, contact Jacobsen at 478-988-6395, ext. 10393, or jan.jacobsen@hcbe.net.

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