



HOUSTON COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS

HCBOE HEADLINES

An award-winning monthly communiqué of the Houston County School System



Vol. 5, Issue 4

Veterans High Wins State FFA Event

The Veterans High School FFA Agriculture Sales team won the State FFA Agriculture Sales Career Development Event. They also qualified to compete at the national competition in Indiana. Congratulations to team members Alex Carns, Julia Joiner, Nicole Holden and Ben Toland!



VHS Teacher Named Secondary Teacher of Excellence

Mr. Ike



Thompson, Veterans High English teacher, has been selected by the Georgia Council of Teachers of English as the recipient of the Teacher of Excellence Award. This award is sponsored by the Secondary of the National Council of Teachers of English.



FMMS - Georgia Outstanding Assistant Principal, District 11

Feagin Mill Middle School Assistant Principal Mr. Jim Langley has been named the Georgia Outstanding Assistant Principal for District 11. The Georgia Association of Middle School Principals presents this award.

Rep. Dickey Honors Top 10 Georgia Teacher of the Year

Rep. Robert Dickey visited Northside Elementary School in September to present Mrs. Beth Sciarro a proclamation for being named a 2011 Top 10 Georgia Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Sciarro advanced to the competition after being named the 2010-2011 Houston County Teacher of the Year.



Learn more about the proposed E-SPLOST to support our schools.

New Cell Phone Policy

Band Night Rescheduled

Follow us on Facebook.

School Events Open to the Public

- Quick Links**
- HCBOE HOMEPAGE
 - CALENDAR
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Board of Education Honors Years of Service

The Houston County Board of Education honored employees who have served 30 or 35 years in the Houston County School System at the October Board meeting. A reception was held in their honor and the special guests were recognized during the Board meeting. Pictured are two of the honorees, Mrs. Mary Gentry, Perry High, and Mrs. Brenda Gentry, Central Office.

Message from the Superintendent: Be sure to vote on the E-SPLOST!

An Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (E-SPLOST) is on the county ballot Nov. 8, asking citizens to vote on extending the one-cent sales tax to help fund school improvements. If approved, it would continue the current sales tax. It is **not** a tax increase, **not** an additional tax and **not** a property tax. It is a one-cent tax based on consumption and shared by all who shop in Houston County, to include visitors. An E-SPLOST helps keep ad valorem taxes low. It is an equitable way to fund educational improvements contributed to by everyone, not just property owners. By law, E-SPLOST funds must be used for

capital outlay projects for educational purposes or to make payments on bonds, but not for operating expenses, such as salaries or textbooks.

Our children are not the only ones who benefit from good schools. The social and economic strength of a community are greatly influenced by the school system. Good schools contribute to well-prepared citizens, a strong labor force, and an inviting place to live and work. One of the key questions asked by industrial prospects is, "What is the quality of your schools?"

Money raised from extending the E-SPLOST would benefit all 38 schools.

Overall the funds would be used to create a better and safer learning environment for our students. The E-SPLOST priorities are technology, safety and facilities. Funds would be used to: update classroom technology across the system; improve safety and security of students and staff; provide much needed facility upgrades; improve existing facilities; and purchase future school sites. A proposed projects list and much more information are posted online at www.hcbe.net on the SPLOST page. Hope to see you at the polls!

Sincerely, Dr. James R. Hines, Jr.



Georgia Power Awards Talented New Teachers

Mr. Jonathan Bates, an English teacher at Veterans High School, and Mr. Seth Reber, a math teacher at Perry High School, were among 40 of Georgia's new teachers to receive a New Teacher Assistance Grant from Georgia Power. Mr. Neal Rearden, Area Manager for Georgia Power, presented each teacher a \$1,000 New Teacher Assistance Grant and a Georgia Power model truck.



Student Designs Art for Perry Music Festival

Elyse Westra, a sixth-grader at Perry Middle School, won the art contest for the Perry Music Festival art design. She was surprised by Perry Mayor Jimmy Faircloth when he visited her art class to announce that she won the contest and to present her with a cash award of \$900.



School Bus Poster Contest Winners

The Georgia School Bus Safety Week contest was held Aug. 22 through Sept. 26. The School Bus Poster Contest theme was, "I See the Driver—The Driver Sees Me!" Congratulations to all of our winners!



BOE Honors School Liaison Officer

Sgt. Porter Wood was honored at the September Board meeting for his service and dedication to our schools. A Warner Robins Police Department officer, he has served as the School Liaison Officer for nearly 16 years. Sgt. Wood was given a certificate and 15 years-of-service pin as a token of appreciation. We are thankful for the wonderful support provided by all of our law enforcement!



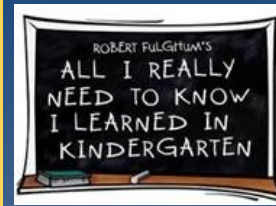
Teachers Recognized for Contribution to Gifted Students

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. Thank you, teachers, for all that you do day in and day out!



High School Plays

Houston County High Presents:



All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten
Oct. 28 & 29
7:30 p.m.
\$5

Northside High Presents:

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
Oct. 30
3:00 p.m.
\$5



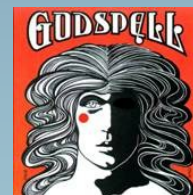
Perry High Presents:



Eurydice
Nov. 3
7:00 p.m.
\$5

Won 1st Place at Region One-Act!

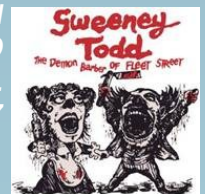
Warner Robins High Presents:



Godspell
Nov. 3 & 4
7:00 p.m.
\$5

Veterans High Presents:

Sweeney Todd
Nov. 18 & 19
7:00 p.m.
\$7



The **mission** of the Houston County School System is to produce high-achieving students. Our **vision** is that our system will be world class.