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## NEWS RELEASE

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### Two Students Named to State Student Advisory Council



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Houston County High School junior Will Freeman and Warner Robins High School senior Morgan Meilinger have been selected to serve on the State Superintendent of Schools' Student Advisory Council. Superintendent Dr. John Barge named 50 students from across the state to his 2011-2012 Student Advisory Council.

More than 700 students applied to be a member of the Student Advisory Council by filling out an application and answering an essay question. Students were chosen based on essay answers and involvement in their school and

community.

As members of the council, the students will meet twice throughout the school year to advise the Superintendent and Georgia Department of Education on how state policies are impacting the classroom. The Student Advisory Council will also discuss other education-related issues and will serve as the State Superintendent's ambassadors in their respective schools. The first meeting was held Nov. 1, 2011, at the Georgia Department of Education in Atlanta.

"We had a large number of qualified applicants this year, which made the task of choosing the members of the Student Advisory Council very difficult," Superintendent Barge said. "I think we have a great group of students, and I'm looking forward to our first meeting." He also commented, "The Student Advisory Council is an invaluable resource to the leadership of the Georgia Department of Education. This group will provide a unique perspective on how state policies are working in the classroom and allow me the opportunity to communicate directly with students in schools throughout Georgia."

Houston County High School is located at 920 Highway 96 in Warner Robins. Dr. Michelle Masters serves as principal. Warner Robins High School is located at 401 South Davis Drive in Warner Robins. Steve Monday serves as principal. For more information about the Student Advisory Council, please contact Matt Cardoza, GaDOE Communications Office, at 404-651-7358 or [MCardoza@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:MCardoza@doe.k12.ga.us).

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