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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Five Middle School Students in Houston County Awarded REACH Scholarships

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Five middle school students in Houston County have been named a Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (REACH) Scholar and were awarded \$10,000. The REACH Georgia program provides support for students with academic promise, to help them successfully progress from middle school through college, with a goal of earning a degree.



The 2024 REACH Scholars are:

- Bonaire Middle: Addelyn Roach
- Feagin Mill Middle: Landon Ott
- Huntington Middle: Kamorah Rumph
- Mossy Creek Middle: Morgan D'Antignac-Robertson
- Thomson Middle: Cristofer Cano-Rivera

The REACH Scholarship program is designed to provide support for students by pairing them with an academic coach and mentor. Throughout enrollment in middle and high school, recipients will meet regularly with their academic coach and mentor. Meeting topics will include college and career planning, social interaction, life skills, study skills and academic support available at school. Mentors undergo a detailed training orientation and receive ongoing training throughout the school year. The goal is for the mentors to stay with their assigned student through high school.

After successful completion of the program, the students will receive the scholarship funds upon high school graduation. The funds can be distributed over four years of college. With the addition of these five, there are 33 students enrolled in the program.

“The Class of 2025 will be the first class from our District to graduate and receive this scholarship”, said Monica Smith, Houston County School District’s REACH Scholar Coordinator. “This is an incredible opportunity for our students to learn valuable skills that will benefit them throughout their

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lives. By building relationships with the students, the mentors can truly make a difference in the path that these students take after high school. We are so thankful for our community and District for their support of this program.”

The Houston County School District receives community support to fund each scholarship. The Bank of Dudley, Flint Energies, and SunMark Community Bank provided support for this year’s scholarships.

If you or your organization are interested in contributing toward future REACH Scholarships, please contact Monica Smith at [monica.smith@hcbe.net](mailto:monica.smith@hcbe.net).

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