

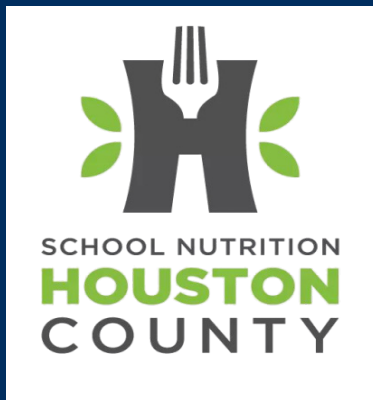
STUDENT SERVICES REPORT

Congratulations



The Student Services Department would like to congratulate one of our own! Mrs. Jessica Miranda, Special Education teacher at Veterans High School, was recognized as the 2021-2022 District Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Miranda grew up traveling because of her father’s army career, so no place felt like home until her parents settled in Centerville, Georgia. She says, “I knew in middle school that teaching children to learn and enjoy learning was something I wanted to do with my career.” Outside of the classroom, she enjoys spending time with her husband, two daughters, dog (Yoda), crafting, cooking, reading, and watching sports.

District Teacher of the Year



While the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way students received meals, one thing that didn't change was School Nutrition's commitment to safety. This past school year, our 38 lunchrooms received a total of 77 health inspections county-wide. Out of 77 reviews, 75 were a perfect score of 100!

The schools listed below have had a decade or more of perfect health scores!! We love that our managers and employees work so hard to make healthy and safe meals for our students!

1. Eagle Springs Elementary (10 years) – Sharon Deas
2. Lindsey Elementary (10 years) – Lynn Dubose
3. Northside High (10 years) – Wanda Keene
4. Northside Middle (10 years) – Pat Rice
5. Pearl Stephens Elementary(10 years) – Pam Ross
6. Warner Robins High (10 years) – James Bryant
7. Feagin Mill Middle (11 years) – Rose Reimers
8. Mossy Creek Middle (11 years) – Shella McGahee
9. Veterans High (11 years) – Gloria Jean Williams
10. Parkwood Elementary (13 years) – Mary Land
11. Bonaire Middle (14 years) – Tevita Wood
12. Houston County High (14 years) – Maria Harrell
13. Perry Middle (14 years) – Jaynie Perez
14. Shirley Hills Elementary (14 years) – Tricia Nicolosi
15. Huntington Middle (15 years) – Josephine Durham
16. Quail Run Elementary (15 years) – Vera Jackson
17. Lake Joy Elementary (16 years) – Lois Winchester
18. Warner Robins Middle (16 years) – Gloria Reichman
19. Miller Elementary (18 years) – Stephen Askew
20. Morningside Elementary (18 years) – Donna Stewart
21. Perdue Primary (18 years) – Brittany Williams
22. Tucker Elementary (18 years) – Melissa Edwards

High School Credit Recovery Program 2021

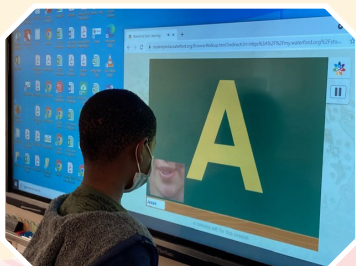
The Student Services Department offered a five-week Credit Recovery opportunity at Northside High School and Perry High School. Students with special needs from all five high schools were given the opportunity to attend. The program was held June 2 through July 2, Monday - Friday, from 7:30 am - 12:00 pm. Students attended in person Monday through Thursday and participated virtually on Fridays. Daily, door-to-door, transportation was offered for students. Breakfast and lunch were also provided for students each day. The program employed seven special education teachers and eight special education paraprofessionals to support the students and facilitate the web-based program.

The goal for these students was to allow them to take courses to get back on track for graduation; therefore, increasing the Houston County graduation rate for students with disabilities. The high school special education teachers, counselors, and Program Specialists worked together to identify special education students in grades 9-12 who were credit deficient. This opportunity was available to these students through their Individual Education Plans. A total of 236 courses were completed during the five weeks and 3 students with disabilities were able to graduate.

Early Learning Summer Fun!!

We are excited to share that approximately 150 Pre-K and Kindergarten students with disabilities participated in summer learning with the Waterford Reading Academy! Houston County School District partnered with Waterford to provide free online access to the program during the months of June and July. To ensure successful implementation, four Special Education Teachers provided support for parents.

The Waterford Reading Academy is a research-based intervention for elementary students. The program provides engaging instruction aligned to ELA/Reading standards and immediate feedback with interactive content. At-home learning recommendations are another feature of this instructional software. Parents were provided students' individual usernames and passwords for online access to the program throughout the summer. Many parents expressed appreciation for this summer learning opportunity.





2021 Extended School Year

The 2021 Extended School Year (ESY) program returned to on-campus learning at MAES and TMS this summer! The program took place Monday- Wednesday, June 7th through June 23rd. Students in grades PK through 12th grade participated in engaging lessons focusing on their IEP goals and objectives. In addition to ESY, our staff provided Covid Compensatory Impact Services (CCIS) to students who may have demonstrated regression on their IEP goals and objectives due to COVID19 circumstance. During the month of June, 304 students were served through their IEP and in July, 6 students were served. Staff members comprised of teachers, paras, speech language pathologists, interpreters, med techs, and nurses helped make this program a success. Everyone was excited to be together in order to make connections and facilitate positive learning outcomes.



Immunization Requirement Update

Georgia's immunization requirements for students entering or transferring into the eleventh grade have been revised to align with the current recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

Effective July 1, 2021, all students who are new entrants or transfers into a Georgia school in the eleventh grade will require proof of a booster dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY), unless their first dose was received on or after their sixteenth birthday. Additional information about these new requirements can be found at:

<https://dph.georgia.gov/immunization-section>

Houston County Health Department, in collaboration with Houston County School System, will be offering voluntary drive-through Meningitis vaccine clinics on August 23, August 25, and August 27 from 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm. All clinics will be located behind Houston County Health Department located at 98 Cohen Walker Drive, Warner Robins, GA, for students who will be rising 11 graders and need vaccination for the 2021-2022 school year. During the drive-through event, students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who is 18 years or older and have a completed consent form to be vaccinated.

Accepted insurance plans for vaccines are listed on the consent form. Students covered by an accepted insurance company will have no out-of-pocket expense for the vaccination. Students who do not have insurance coverage for vaccines may also receive the vaccine at no cost.

Other opportunities for MenACWY, and other required vaccinations, are available through our students' primary care provider, local pharmacies, or the Houston County Health Department.

Project Aware Update

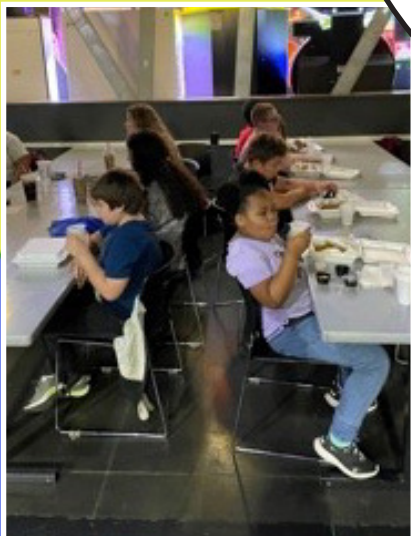
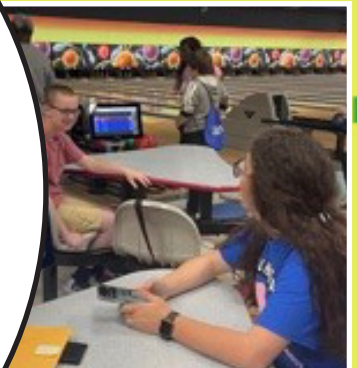
Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education) is excited to partner with several community members in the formation of the Community Advisory Council (CAC). The main purpose of the CAC is to promote mental wellness and resilience in the community. We recognize that it is important to connect and educate our community regarding socio-emotional needs of our youth. The council plans to meet monthly and looks forward to student involvement and collaboration.



APEX CAMP



Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education) along with Middle Flint Behavioral Healthcare hosted its annual socio-emotional Summer Camp. Students were selected through their participation with APEX, a school-based mental health program. The camp focused on coping skills, stress management, and goal setting using creative techniques such as tie dye activities, making stress balls and slime. Students enjoyed community integration outings to the Museum of Aviation, Rigby's Entertainment Complex and Gold Cup Bowling Center.



Welcome to Student Services



Bethany Baker is our new Assistive Technology Teacher and is entering her 14th year with the Houston County School System. She earned a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Middle Georgia State University, a master's degree in Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment from Walden University, and a specialist's degree in Teacher Leadership from Georgia Southwestern University. She started her career as an interrelated special education teacher at Warner Robins High School, where she worked for 11 years before moving to Mossy Creek Middle School. On the weekends, Bethany enjoys spending time with her family on the lake or just relaxing with a good book!

Brittany Poole joined our team towards the end of last school year as a secretary with the School Nutrition Department. She is married and has three children that attend LJPS, LJES, and MCMS. Before joining our team, she was employed with the Perry/Kathleen Post Office for four and a half years. She is currently attending Middle Georgia State University. During her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, and having a cup of coffee.



L Lauren Hall is our new Audiologist. She is originally from Birmingham, Alabama. She obtained her Bachelor's of Arts degree in Human Development and Family Life Science from Samford University. She then received her Doctorate degree from the University of South Alabama. Lauren moved to the middle Georgia area in 2019 to complete her residency with The ENT Center of Central Georgia and continued with them after graduating in 2020. During her time in graduate school, she felt drawn to the pediatric side of Audiology. She and her significant other, Brian, have been together almost 2 years. They have an Old English bulldog named Carolina (she only has one eye) and a tabby kitten named Murphy. Lauren has enjoyed getting to know the area, but also loves to travel especially to the beach. She is very excited for this new opportunity to work with the school system and all the community of people within it!

Sherry Bryant joined our team in the middle of last school year as a secretary for the OT/PT department. She grew up in Americus and is a proud mother of 4 adult children (2 girls and 2 boys). Her youngest daughter is deployed as a sailor in the Navy and her youngest son graduated from Perry High School last school year. Most of her career has been with the Georgia Department of Corrections. She is excited to be a part of the Houston County School System.



TaShaunessy Reese is one of our new elementary teachers in the Behavior Support Program at Lindsey Elementary School. She previously was an inclusion teacher at Pelham Elementary School. She attended Valdosta State University where she received a Bachelors in Psychology and Masters in Teaching Special Education. Currently, TaShaunessy is enrolled in a Specialist in Instructional Technology program.

Jennifer Stafford Bickle will be serving as a Project AWARE Mental Health Clinician. She is a licensed school counselor pursuing her requirements as a Licensed Professional Counselor. Jennifer has a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services from Mercer University and a Master's Degree in Education/School Counseling from Liberty University. Jennifer has experience in the education field as a counselor, teacher, and early intervention specialist. She also worked as a social worker at a local residential group home for children.



Welcome to Student Services



Dr. Misty Salter is our newest Program Specialist. She has a Bachelor of Science degree, as well as a Masters degree, in Special Education. She obtained her Specialist degree in Curriculum, Instruction, and Administration and earned a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction. She has served as a special education teacher for 17 years with her last 14 years here in Houston County. She and her husband, Dusty, along with their 3 children and 4 dogs, love being members of the Perry community. She's looking forward to a GREAT year in her new role!

Caitlin Belknap will be teaching at Lindsey Elementary as part of the Behavior Support Program. She is a product of the Houston County School System and is so excited to be teaching in the county that she has always called home. She received her two undergraduate degrees from Middle Georgia State University and is currently working on getting her graduate degree from Georgia College & State University. Caitlin married her husband earlier this year, and they have three amazing children together, ages 17, 13, and 4. They also have two dogs named Bear and Baylor. She is very excited and looking forward to what this year has to offer.



Sue Moore is happy to be back in Houston County as our new secretary with Student Services at Lindsey Elementary in the Behavior Support Program. She began her career with Houston County Schools in 1999 at Feagin Mill Middle School. She was then hired as the secretary of Mossy Creek Middle School until she and her family moved to Tennessee in 2016. She came back to Georgia in 2018 and worked in another school system. She and her husband, Jim, have 2 grown sons who are products of the Houston County School System. Parker lives in Dallas, Texas and Edward lives in Charlotte, North Carolina. Sue received her Bachelor of Business Administration from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. As always, GO VOLS!!

Devvie J. Benefield joins the Behavior Support Program at Lindsey Elementary as a Special Education Interrelated Teacher. She is a graduate from Fort Valley State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication/Public Relations. Devvie received her Master's Degree in Special Education from Grand Canyon University and began teaching in Moultrie, GA at Charlie A. Gray Junior High School in 2014. She has been married to her husband Nakia for 20 years and together they have 17 year-old twins who will attend Fort Valley State University as freshmen in the Fall of 2021 and a nine year-old who will attend school here in Houston County. Devvie is looking forward to many great years with HCBE and is excited for her and her family's future in the community.



Letitia Render is a native of East Dublin, GA, but currently resides in Houston County. She received a B.S. degree in Behavior Analysis from Savannah State University (2008), M.A.T degree in Special Education from Augusta State University (2010), Ed.S. degree in Special Education, as well as an Autism Endorsement from the University of West Georgia (2020). Her professional background includes over 10 years of experience working with children with autism and social/emotional needs. For the past 2 years, she worked at David A. Perdue Elementary School as an Autism Teacher. This school year, she has the pleasure of joining the Behavior Support Team as a Behavior Specialist. Mrs. Render has been married to her wonderful husband, Demarcus, for 9 years. She has two amazing children, DJ (7) and Leah (4) and 2 bonus daughters, Kyria and Kaelyn. Aside from work, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, and just being the best person God wants her to be.