

#### WE SALUTE OUR SCHOOL NURSES ON SCHOOL NURSE DAY AND EVERY DAY!

National School Nurse Day is Wednesday, May 10th. School nurses help students to be healthy, safe and ready to learn and achieve. They are essential in detection of infectious disease, identification of physical and mental health concerns, implementation of health screenings and vaccinations, and they ultimately support families in maintaining healthy lifestyles. For many children living in or near poverty, the school nurse may be the only health care professional they access regularly. We celebrate our school nurses for their hard work and dedication to the students of Houston County.

Houston County School District currently employs 10 school nurses: Tania Bartlett RN, Shanelle Bobo RN, Jennifer Lawrence RN, Sonovia Ling LPN, Brenda Marshall RN, Heather Roland LPN, Cathy Sillence RN, Suzanne Simpson RN, Liz Tosi LPN, and Chasity Williamson RN. Your work constantly keeps the students and schools of Houston County safe!



### Retirement Celebration for Student Services Celebrating 97 Total Years in Education Dr. Alicia Campbell Tami Atkinson **Christy Jones** Thank you for Celebrating you today! **Best Wishes! You** ~Happy Retirement~ will be missed! your service! **30 Years 31 Years 36 Years** DDI



Dr. Scott & Mr. Brevard Hunt



Resource Room is ready

The Lindsey Student Support Center (LSSC) hosted an **L** Open House and community picnic on April 17th. This event gave people an opportunity to see the ways in which the former Lindsey Elementary School was "repurposed with a purpose!" Attendees were able to learn about the vision behind the Center, as well as take a tour of the facility. During the tour, guests observed a cooking class being conducted by Houston Healthcare, as well as our state champion Sharks practicing in the Shark Tank. Mr. Dave Partin, pitmaster, graciously prepared 250 barbecue sandwich meals for the picnic. All food and beverages were donated and served by Southside Baptist Church, For the 478 mission. There were several special guests in attendance, and some had a very strong connection to the facility. Mr. Brevard Hunt, principal of Lindsey Elementary from 1964 to 1994 expressed his pride in the repurposing of the facility to meet the needs of students and families. Several family members of Mrs. Carol Cherry were also in attendance. Mrs. Cherry was principal of Lindsey from 1994 to 1999, and the former Media Center was named in her honor. Miss Kelsey Hollis, Houston County High School graduate and current Miss Georgia, is the granddaughter of Mrs. Cherry. Kelsey, as well as her mother, aunt, and grandfather were honored that the Literacy Center continues to honor Mrs. Cherry while continuing her work in literacy.

Lindsey Student Support Center



Pitmaster Dave Partin & Partners Southside Baptist, *For the 478*, ready to serve for community picnic



Food Pantry is stocked



Houston Healthcare Cooking Class Instructors





Family of Mrs. Carol Cherry with her portrait in the Literacy Center





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## autism acceptance

#### Spread Your Wings and See How Far You Fly

DID YOU KNOW THAT APRIL IS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH? AT BONAIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, IN HONOR OF THIS SPECIAL MONTH, MS. KELLEY RICE CAME UP WITH A WAY TO PROMOTE ACCEPTANCE AND INCLUSIVITY THROUGH A SPECTACULAR FEATHERED WING DISPLAY. STUDENTS WERE ASKED TO SHARE A TRAIT DESCRIBING THEMSELVES, OR A TRAIT THAT THEY WISHED TO EMBODY. STUDENTS THEN WROTE THEIR CHOSEN TRAIT ON A FEATHER AND PLACED THEIR FEATHER AS PART OF A FULL SET OF WINGS. THE WINGS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE WITHOUT ALL STUDENTS CONTRIBUTING THEIR INDIVIDUAL TRAITS, MAKING THE WINGS NOT ONLY WHOLE, BUT ALSO COLORFUL AND BEAUTIFUL.



### TEACHER Spotlight

This month's spotlight is shining on our CEC Special Educator Award winner Tyler **L** Rodgers from Perry High School. Mr. Rodgers returned to his alma mater to teach, mentor, and coach. During his nine years at PHS, he has deescalated student behaviors and mentored successful engagement in the learning process. One of his achievements includes assisting students with using APEX to earn credits towards graduation. Last year students recovered 38 classes towards graduation. When asked about what rewards he has experienced in teaching, he shared" The biggest reward I have experienced is watching the culture shift at Perry High School over the last 9 years. Because of Mr. Martin, Coach Smith, our administration, and teachers, our school has experienced a lot of success in academics and athletics over the last few years. Perry High School has bought into the Coffee Bean message Coach Smith has implemented and it has been extremely rewarding to be a part of the success Perry High School has experienced over the past few years." Mr. Rodgers and his wife Cally are parents to Everleigh (5), Adley (2), and Beckett (1). In his down time, he enjoys spending time with his family, attending First Baptist Church in Perry, and spending time outdoors. He is currently working on his Doctorate Degree through Liberty University. Thank you Mr. Rodgers for all you do to ensure the success of all students at Perry High!



### **HERO IN EDUCATION**

#### attillitum

The Perry Chamber of Commerce recognizes outstanding individuals across all departments of our school system. Congratulations to Mr. Daulton Stewart, Food Assistant from Northside High School, who was announced as the "Hero in Education" for March 2023! We appreciate his excellent contributions to the school nutrition program and the students of Northside High over the past 10 years. Congratulations to Mr. Marcus Lester, Lead Custodian at LSSC, who was announced as the "Hero in Education" for April 2023! We appreciate his excellent contributions to the opening of the Lindsey Student Support Center and the community it serves! Thank you Mr. Stewart and Mr. Lester for your continued dedication to the students of Houston County School District!





On April 11th, Christy Jones was invited to attend a meeting with the Executive Directors of the National Federation of High Schools and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association in Indianapolis, Indiana. She presented information on how the Houston County Sharks have maintained one of the largest and most successful programs in the state of Georgia. The directors were complimentary of our program and hope to spread the Adapted Sports initiative around the country.





Houston County Sharks Coaches visited the University of Georgia on April 14th to assist Dr Nicole Kirk with introducing Adapted Sports to the students of the Northeast Ga RESA region. Fourteen students in grades 2nd-10th participated in wheelchair skill building activities, wheelchair football, and wheelchair handball games.

The Houston County Sharks Varsity Basketball team was recognized on April 17th by the Warner Robins City Council and Mayor Patrick for their State Basketball Championship. Team members and coaches received pins and a large ovation from council members and visitors.



# YES WE CAN! BMS

A team of general education teachers and special education teachers, from Bonaire Middle School, attended the *"Yes We Can! An Unprecedented Opportunity to Improve Special Education Outcomes"* conference in January 2023. A redelivery of the information was presented to the faculty of Bonaire Middle on March 31st. This hands-on training utilized professional learning communities (PLCs) best practices to develop collaborative partnerships and identify high-leverage structures to level the playing field, accelerate learning, and support success for all students. The main focus was to ensure achievement gaps are closed, and all students are provided the opportunity to excel. This is the true definition of collaboration! Thank you Bonaire Middle School for the effort you are showing to make sure ALL students succeed!



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