

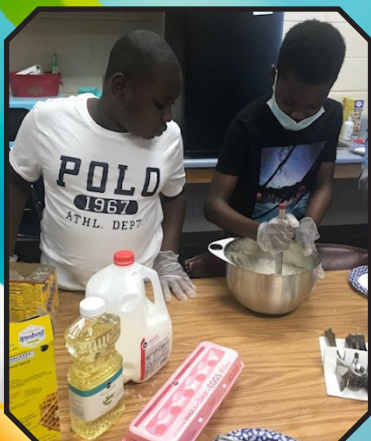
STUDENT SERVICES REPORT

Behavior Support Program

Our students in the Behavior Support Program at Lindsey Elementary recently participated in two events to celebrate their accomplishments.



On April 15th, these EGGstraordinary students earned an egg hunt by meeting behavior goals. The students received Easter baskets, treats, and a special lunch. Our middle school students hid the eggs for the elementary grade levels. They all had an amazing time. One student said, “this egg hunt is the best.” Dr. Gary Pool sponsored this event for our students. We are honored that Dr. Pool would donate funds so that our students could experience a school Easter egg hunt.



Students earning PBIS recognition for the month of April participated in a fun cooking activity. Our students earned this experience for improved behavior for the month of April. They helped make the waffles by reading the recipe, measuring the ingredients, and mixing the batter. One student said, “this is the best waffle I have ever had!” This event was sponsored by Publix Corporate. We were honored to collaborate with them.





Sharks Receive Donation



Mrs. Alyson Keenom and the newly crowned Miss BMS, Annie White, recently presented the Houston County Sharks with a check for \$1000. The annual Miss BMS pageant recognizes outstanding accomplishments by young ladies attending BMS. Each year money raised by the pageant is donated to worthy causes within the Houston County Community. Thank you to Bonaire Middle School for your support of the Sharks.

Assistive Technology



Meet Arielle, a second grade student at Parkwood Elementary. Arielle uses an Accent 1400 communication device with Look Eye Tracking technology to communicate with others. When she looks at a button on the screen, it is selected, similar to when we touch an icon on our phone to open an app. Arielle is able to look at a sequence of buttons to create sentences, enabling her to have conversations with peers and teachers. Arielle uses her device to talk to others, complete writing assignments, read electronic books and participate in class discussions. When Chromebooks were distributed for all students, Arielle was able to connect her eye tracking device to her Chromebook. She can use on-screen buttons that she controls with her eyes on her Accent to control her Chromebook, similar to a mouse or trackpad. Before she had a Chromebook, Arielle required assistance to complete these assignments. She can now sit at her desk and independently complete classwork!



SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM



The Houston County School Nutrition Program (SNP) will offer its annual summer feeding program in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Education. Meals will be offered free of charge to children who are 18 years of age and under from Tuesday, May 31 through Friday, July 22, 2022. Organizations offering summer programs for children may be eligible to participate in this program and receive meals at no charge for participants. Interested organizations must have been approved by April 29, 2022. Vacation Bible Schools, athletic practices, scout troops, recreation departments and tutoring programs are examples of the many summer programs that may be eligible to receive free meals for children attending their programs and activities. Approved organizations can pick up meals at Northside High School, Perry High School, or Warner Robins Middle School. To register as a site to serve meals or for more information, please contact Sybrennia James, Summer Feeding Coordinator, at 478-322-3308, ext. 3366



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



This month's spotlight is on Crystal Tucker, Interrelated Teacher at Northside Elementary. Mrs. Tucker is a product of Houston County Schools and could not imagine teaching in any other district. She attended Kings Chapel, Perry Middle, and Perry High School before obtaining her Bachelor's and Master's from Mercer University, along with her Math and GTE endorsements.

Mrs. Tucker began her teaching career at Northside Elementary nine years ago, working the first five years as a paraprofessional. Mrs. Tucker taught 4th grade math and science for three years then made the transition to teaching special education. When asked why she decided to change

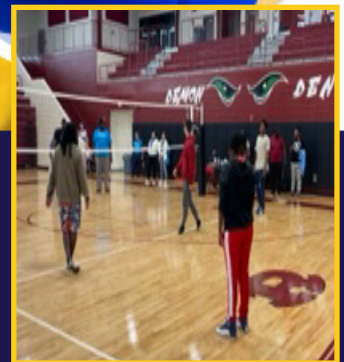
from general education to special education she replied, "I have always had a passion to help all learners, regardless of any barriers they may face. I saw a need in our special education department and wanted to give it a shot. I am so thankful to have been able to lead our team in this position and help students across multiple grade levels. I truly believe that all students have the ability to learn at their own pace and with their specialized set of skills. I hope that I was able to showcase that this year!"

Education was not Mrs. Tucker's first career. She worked at Chick-fil-A for seven years and then in insurance for the following seven. Mrs. Tucker also served our country in the Army as a nurse, fractured both legs, and was medically discharged. She is grateful for her time in the Army and believes it laid a strong foundation of structure and high expectations. In 2020, her second year teaching, she was named Houston County's Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Tucker is married to her high school sweetheart. They have been married for 14 years and have two children. Peyton is an 8th grader at WRMS and Chloe is a 3rd grader at QRES. She says, "I wouldn't raise my children in any other district than Houston because of the high expectations that our district has and the support I know they will have." Any student or staff member at NES knows that her loves (besides her family) are coffee and cats! She enjoys getting up early to be at Crossfit by 5:00 am. She can't imagine starting her day any other way. Thank you Mrs. Tucker for your service to our country and our students. We are grateful for your dedication to excellence and determination to see ALL students achieve.

GAME TIME

On Friday, April 19th, the Houston County School District hosted a volleyball tournament at Warner Robins High School for Special Olympics athletes. Teams participating from our district included Houston County High School, Warner Robins High School, Perry High School, and the Transition Academy. Jones County and Peach County also brought teams to participate in the tournament. Both Warner Robins High and Houston County High won first place in their brackets.



New Teacher Induction

On April 19th, twenty-three teachers participated in the April Special Education Teacher Induction professional learning session. Topics included Speech/Language Services, Special Transportation, Occupational and Physical Therapies, and Social Services supports. Participants learned about the many services available to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

Fun on the Farm

Mrs. Ashley Moore, a special education teacher from Houston County High School, recently had the opportunity to take her class for a visit to the Halo Farm. This visit was done as a part of their Community-Based Instruction (CBI). The students were able to learn about the work required to run a farm. They enjoyed being able to feed and pet a donkey, cow, and some goats. It was a wonderful learning experience that put a smile on the students' faces.

