



## Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Mark Scott

## Board Members

Helen Hughes, Chair

Lori Johnson

Dr. Rick Unruh, Vice Chair

Jon Nichols

Dave Crockett

Bryan Upshaw

Mark Ivory

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** April 11, 2023

Release #2022/23 – 074

Contact: Jennifer C. Jones, Director of Community & School Affairs, (478) 988-6390, [Jennifer.C.Jones@hcbe.net](mailto:Jennifer.C.Jones@hcbe.net)

### Jessica Story from Hilltop Elementary School Named District Media Specialist of the Year



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Mrs. Jessica Story was named as the Houston County School District's Media Specialist of the Year. Mrs. Story is a media specialist at Hilltop Elementary School in Bonaire. She will advance to represent the Houston County School District at the regional level.

Mrs. Story has served as the media specialist at Hilltop Elementary for the past seven years. Prior to that, she taught for 11 years at Morningside Elementary School in Perry, where her principal, Dr. Pat Witt, encouraged her to become a media specialist. She holds an associate degree from Middle Georgia College, a Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Science in Child and Family Development from the University of Georgia, and a master's degree in Education from Mercer University. She also earned a Specialist in Education in Instructional Technology with a Library Media Certification from Valdosta State University.

"Words cannot express how humbled and honored I am to be named the Houston County Media Specialist of the Year by my peers," said Story. "I have the privilege of working at the best school and with the most incredible media specialists in the state."

Story says her favorite thing about her job is making the library an exciting place for students. She also enjoys building relationships with students and matching them with books they will enjoy. She encourages her students to think outside the box by incorporating fun activities and lessons, such as Skyping with authors and quarterly reading challenges. She has welcomed guest readers such as Miss America, legislative representatives, and local mayors.

**MORE**

## Jessica Story Named District Media Specialist of the Year / Page 2 of 2

This year, Story introduced Hilltop students to a book vending machine that provides students a free book during their birthday month. The books are provided through profits from the school's book fairs and donations. The vending machine is used to promote a love of reading and students to develop libraries of their own at home.

Story added, "Being a media specialist is the most rewarding and fulfilling job. I love getting students excited about reading and becoming lifelong readers. Reading opens up opportunities for students in a way that nothing else can."

Hilltop Elementary School is located at 301 Robert Bryson Smith Parkway in Bonaire. Ovedia Glover serves as principal. For more information about Hilltop Elementary, visit [www.hes.hcbe.net](http://www.hes.hcbe.net).

###

