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PRESS RELEASE

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Gifted & Talented Education Teachers Honored by Shah Family

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Fifty-four teachers of gifted and talented students from across the Houston County School District were recently honored as recipients of the Houston County Education Assistance Fund on behalf of Dr. and Mrs. Manoj Shah. Each teacher was presented with a classroom grant between \$400 and \$500, as well as a certificate in recognition of their enthusiasm, devotion and effectiveness in gifted, honors and advanced placement programs.



After their children graduated from Warner Robins High School, Dr. and Mrs. Shah began the Houston County Education Assistance Fund because they were pleased with the education their children received while enrolled in Houston County. The family created the fund to support teachers who nurture and encourage innovation, creativity and student passion. The award began with Warner Robins High School and over time was extended to all five high schools. In 2017, the Shah family expanded their gift to include Houston County's eight middle schools, and in 2022, Dr. Shah increased his donation to include one gifted teacher from each elementary school in the county.

The honorees from the high school level are listed below.

- ★ Houston County High: Jennifer McDaniel, Donna Purvis, Grace Watkins
- ★ Northside High: Cody Smith, Tiffany Smith, Ashton Wilson
- ★ Perry High: Nathan Dooley, Thomas Dunbar, Dawn Knapek
- ★ Veterans: Dana Burress, Lindsay Lambert, Shawn White
- ★ Warner Robins High: Chad Ekey, Brandon Narsing, Amanda Watson

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The honorees from the middle school level are listed below.

- ★ Bonaire Middle: Shannon Sanders and Stephanie Wilson
- ★ Feagin Mill Middle: Brooke Arrington and LeSan Kimbrough
- ★ Huntington Middle: Brittani Thomas and Shikeshia Thornton
- ★ Mossy Creek Middle: Jennifer Davidson and Angela McConnell
- ★ Northside Middle: Annie Renee Stephens and Dawn Stuckey
- ★ Perry Middle: Whitney Dady and Lia Evans
- ★ Thomson Middle: Kisha Dawson and Terra McMillan
- ★ Warner Robins Middle: Melanie Mann and Jamie Nash

The honorees from the elementary school level are listed below.

- ★ Bonaire Elementary: Tiffany Banks
- ★ Bonaire Primary: April Eubanks
- ★ C.B. Watson Primary: Rakiya Hunter
- ★ Centerville Elementary: Julie Villalobos
- ★ David Perdue Elementary: Amy Floyd
- ★ David Perdue Primary: Emily Brooks
- ★ Eagle Springs Elementary: Samantha Brown
- ★ Hilltop Elementary: Kwanzaa Thomas
- ★ Kings Chapel Elementary: Janet Peters
- ★ Lake Joy Elementary: Samantha Mayes
- ★ Lake Joy Primary: Cassandra Singleton
- ★ Langston Road Elementary: Mori Harris
- ★ Langston Road Primary: Sabrina Comeau
- ★ Matt Arthur Elementary: Monica Woods
- ★ Miller Elementary: Savanna Pollard
- ★ Morningside Elementary: Katrina West
- ★ Northside Elementary: Crystal Tucker
- ★ Parkwood Elementary: Marianne Rudziak
- ★ Pearl Stephens Elementary: Nicole Harrell
- ★ Quail Run Elementary: Trish Doyle
- ★ Russell Elementary: Amy Materne
- ★ Shirley Hills Elementary: Cheryl Combs
- ★ Tucker Elementary: Whitney Grisham
- ★ Westside Elementary: Henry Jones

The gifted and talented education program in Houston County offers motivated students unique opportunities to further their education. From the sciences to humanities, dedicated teachers have been paramount in the success of these advanced classes. For more information on the Gifted and Talented Education program, please visit www.hcbe.net/giftedandtalented.

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