

# STUDENT SERVICES REPORT

## Collaborative Planning

Huntington Middle School and Warner Middle School small group classes have been planning collaborative Community Based Instruction (CBI) trips together. This allows their students to be able to interact with each other across the district.

Students at HMS and WRMS recently had the opportunity to explore the Harriet Tubman Museum. While there, students were able to better understand the historical lessons of the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement. The students learned how Harriet Tubman was a pioneer for independence, freedom, and rights. They used context clues within the gallery to determine the meaning of the words and phrases within the captions on the art and artifacts. They also practiced social skills by interacting with peers from another school. They truly enjoyed each moment of coming together in the community.

Jacqueline Render, Special Education Teacher, at HMS and Kayla Sadler, Special Education Teacher at WRMS, did a great job of planning this trip. They made sure that it was not only fun, but educational by tying it to their content standards. They will be planning more collaborative CBI trips in the future.



# TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



This month's spotlight is on Amanda Davis from David Perdue Elementary. Mrs. Davis has been a paraprofessional for 7 years. Ms. Kahtava, teacher from Perdue, shared that "Mrs. Davis is absolutely one of the best! She is highly motivated, organized, enthusiastic, helpful, and hard working. She goes above and beyond to build relationships with the students and ensure their needs are met. Her kindness is noticed by everyone she meets." Mrs. Davis finds her position as a paraprofessional very rewarding and chose her career because she enjoys working with children. Mrs. Davis stated, "I am truly blessed to work in such an amazing school system, where I feel loved and supported every day!" Mrs. Davis and her husband, Ethan, have one daughter, Alyssa, who is in fourth grade. Outside of school she enjoys spending time with her family. Her many interests include camping, shopping, scrapbooking and making crafts.



## Meet Our Intern



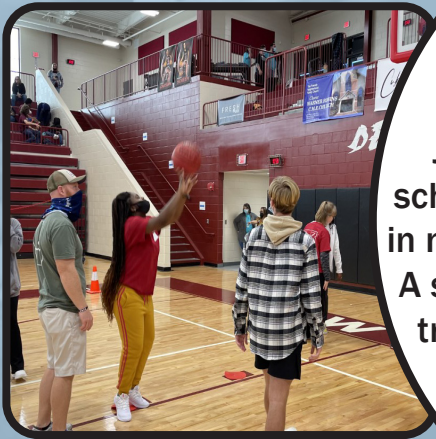
Over the years, School Nutrition has enjoyed introducing our profession to the next generation. With three Registered Dietitians on staff, we are able to provide valuable learning experiences and crediting hours in the field of food-service management towards Dietetic Internships. We are proud to highlight our current intern, a product of Houston County Schools!

Hannah Hobbs (Crawford) graduated from Veterans High School in 2016. She has recently married and is living in Warner Robins. After graduating from The University of Georgia with a degree in Dietetics, she decided to do her Dietetic Internship back in her hometown. She will complete several rotations at local hospitals and nutrition education centers, and she is excited to be spending time with the Houston County School Nutrition Program for the food-service management portion of her program. Hannah says that she is "most looking forward to having a wide variety of experiences and learning firsthand The Houston County Way!" During her rotation with our department, Hannah will work side-by-side to learn procurement, budgeting, human resources, as well as supporting our students with special dietary needs. We are excited that she chose to work with us, and we hope that one day she will make the Houston County School District her home!

# Houston County Special Olympics



The Houston County School District Winter Special Olympics were held at Warner Robins High School January 12th - 14th. We had 25 schools and 511 athletes participate in many activities that included: Level A skills, individual skills, team skills, traditional basketball, and unified basketball. The games were fun and exciting with many ribbons awarded to students.



# Professional Learning

On Tuesday, January 18, 2022, our Student Services department hosted two professional learning opportunities for our new special education teachers. Teachers providing services in the general education setting attended a virtual session on co-teaching strategies and techniques. Teachers providing services to our students on an alternate curriculum attended a session discussing the programs and resources that are available to them.

Christa Nelson, Kanisha Tripp and Natalie Preston, Program Specialists, reviewed the different models of co-teaching as well as the differences between modifications and accommodations for students. While reviewing the different co-teaching models, participants had the opportunity to share their experiences and scenarios. Additionally, participants were given different situations and had to determine whether the student was receiving an accommodation or modification.

New teachers who provide services to students on the alternate curriculum attended a different session to collaborate with one another and explore the following programs: Unique Learning System, News2you, and TeachTown.

- Unique Learning System is an online, interactive, standards-based curriculum specifically designed for students with special needs. It allows teachers and students to download and interact with monthly, instructional, thematic units of study. Unique Learning System's instructional tools provide alignment to general education standards as well as state extended standards, helping teachers deliver age-appropriate, differentiated lessons.
- News2you, a weekly newspaper for students that delivers world events and news in a differentiated, age appropriate, weekly newspaper that enables students to access informational text.
- TeachTown offers a blend of computer-delivered and teacher-led applied behavior analysis (ABA) instruction that is proven to increase a student's vocabulary, listening skills, social-emotional development, independence, academics and cognitive skills.