

NEWSLETTER

February 2023

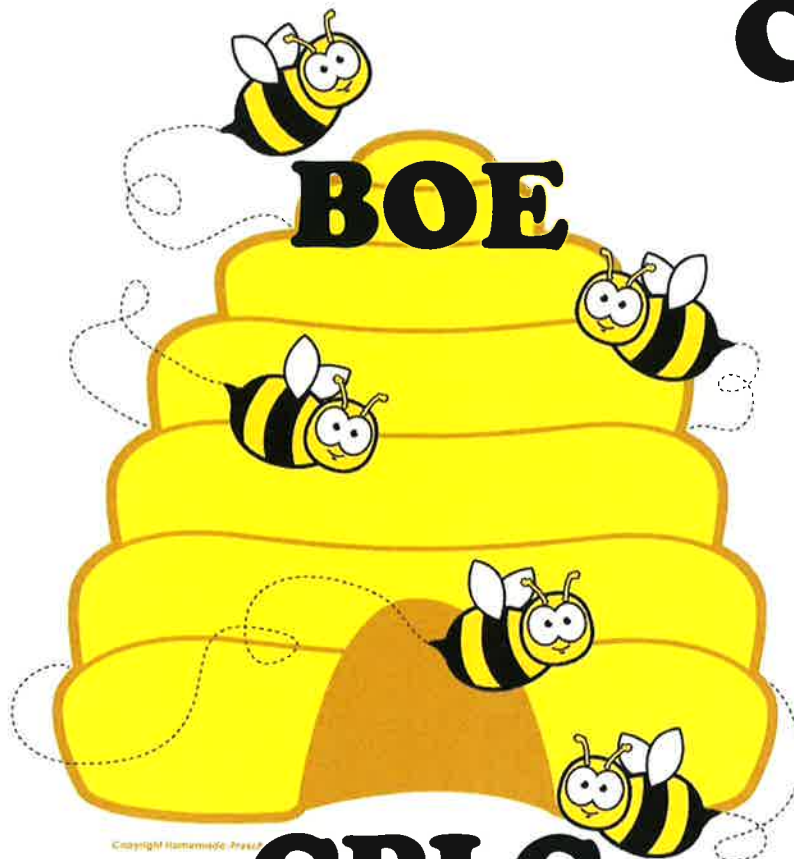
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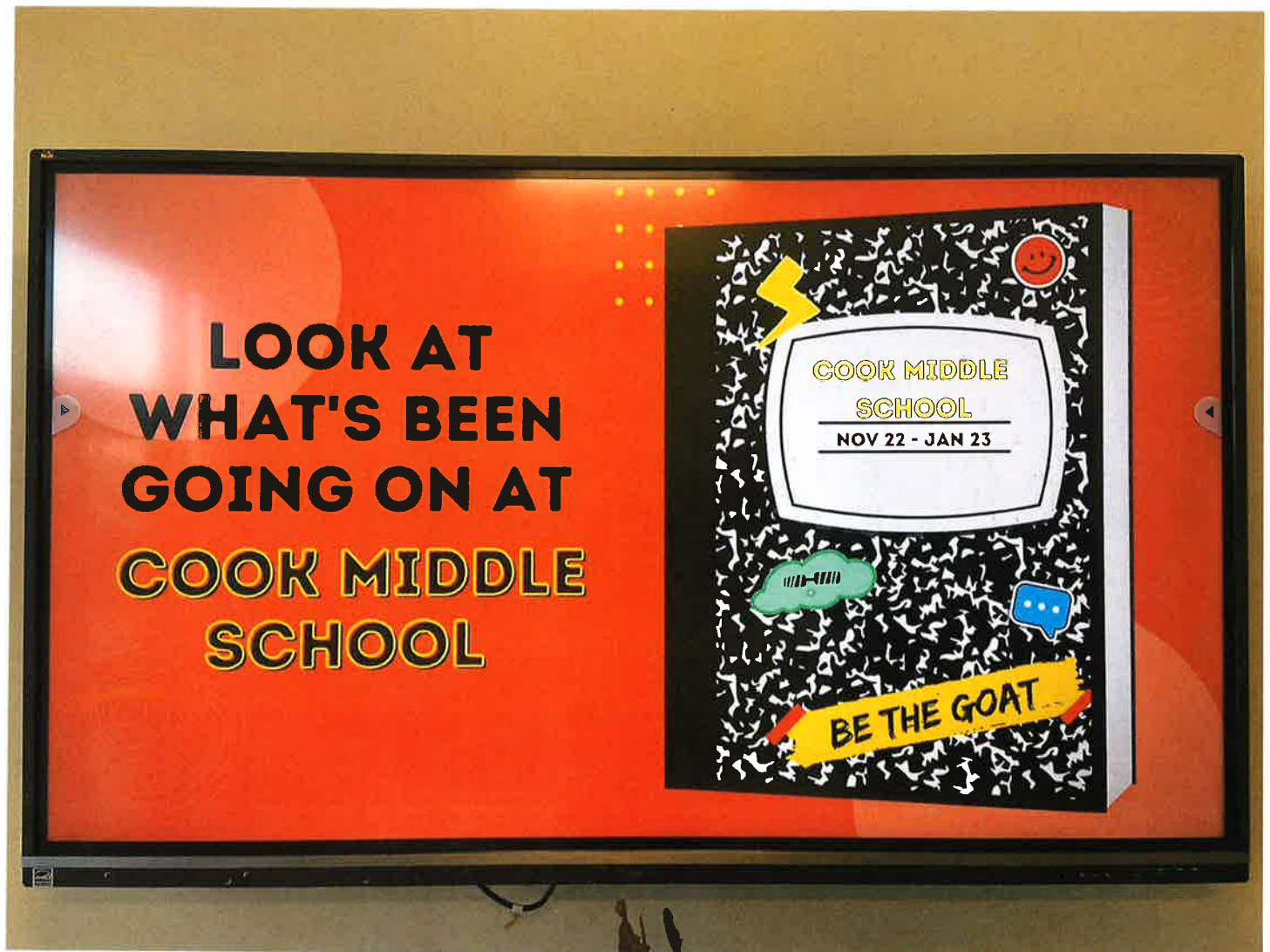
CHS



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CPLC

WHO IS BUZZING WITH HORNET PRIDE? COOK MIDDLE SCHOOL



**Come check out the slideshow
in the lobby of the new
Board of Education building.**

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

Highest score on the Winter BEACON test in ELA

6th- Gurkamal Singh

7th- Gracie Betts

8th - Layla Kinsey & Maliq Vickers

Highest Score on the Winter BEACON test in Math

6th- Majorine Felder

7th-Sam Warren

8th- Layla Kinsey



**Highest growth from the Fall BEACON test to the
Winter BEACON test in ELA**

6th – Habib Munir

7th – Kamryn Dorminey

8th – Dakota Gravie

**Highest growth from the Fall BEACON test to the
Winter BEACON test in Math**

6th – Ariyana Joiner

7th – Sam Warren

8th – Payton Furman



2022-2023 District Spelling Bee Champion

Kam'ron Johnson



REACH Scholars



Vinterria Brown, Payton Furman,
Brielle Hodges, Bryan Quintana-Garcia,
Desaray Santiago & Will Staley



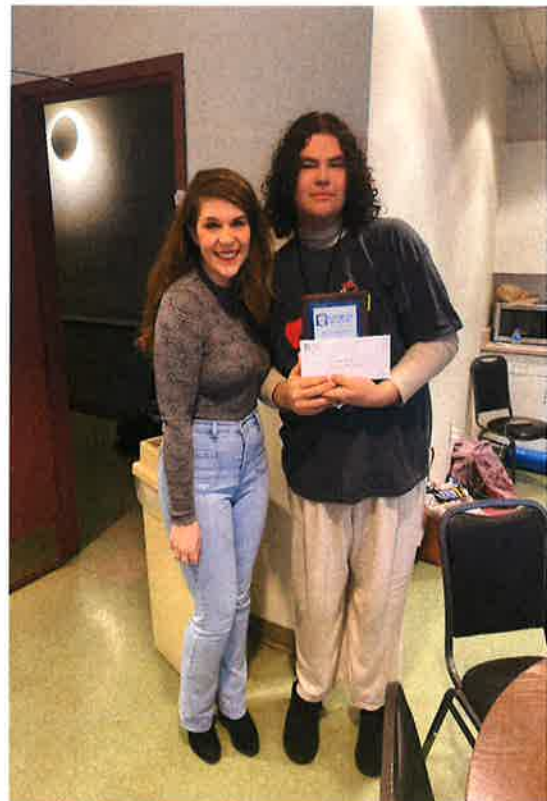
Senior Carter Exum received an Overall Score of Excellent for her performance of "She Used to be Mine ". Carter was selected from over 500 auditionees for a callback and was one of the first students from CHS to pass on to the next round of Thespys.

CONGRATULATIONS CARTER!

CONGRATULATIONS LUCAS WARD!!!



for winning the
Georgia Thespians' High School
Outstanding Student
Achievement Award
And
GHSA Heart of the Arts Award



CONGRATULATIONS!



CHS theatre department had six students audition for potential college and scholarship offers. Between the six, CHS received 26 callbacks! The students who auditioned are:

Megan Lawrence

Lucas Ward

Carter Exum

Anzleigh Peacock

Emily Smith

Matthew Sermons



Golden Bus Driver Award

Venicia
Cervantes

Golden Daylily Award

Cindy Crosby





**School Business Administrator Award from the Southeastern
Association of School Business Officials (SASBO)**

CONGRATULATIONS!

JACKIE SPARKS



The CHS Wrestling Team
competed and won their
2nd Traditional Area
Championship in a row!

106 lbs - 2nd - Caden Davis
113 lbs - 1st - Tristin Carter
120 lbs - 2nd - Ja'Shad Wallace
126 lbs - 3rd - Hampton Carnine
132 lbs - 1st - Jaylen Thomas
138 lbs - 2nd - Logan Kennedy
150 lbs - 2nd - Keigan Duke
157 lbs - 1st - Jed Rountree
165 lbs - 3rd - Will Oblisk
175 lbs - 3rd - Koby Palmore
190 lbs - 2nd - TJ Jones
215 lbs - 2nd - J'Sun Covington
285 lbs - 3rd - Kyle Terrell

**All-Area
Academic Wrestlers:**

Hampton Carnine
Kyle Terrell
Ian Giddens
Kyle Cross
Ja'Shad Wallace
Caden Davis
TJ Jones
Eduardo Nunez
Keigan Duke
Eli Fender
Sam Patton
Jay Patel
Jed Rountree

CONGRATULATIONS!



CONGRATULATIONS



CHS WRESTLING AND COACH DESTRY WALKER FOR A GREAT YEAR!

Cook finishes 9th in team standings!

We are bringing home two State Runner-ups and three placers!

130 Samantha Patton - Sophomore Runner Up

157 Jed Rountree - Sophomore Runner up

132 Jaylen Thomas - Senior 4th place

120 Ja'Shad Wallace - Sophomore 5th place (2-time placer)

215 J'Sun Covington - Sophomore 5th place

Also, SHOUT OUT to our other qualifiers!

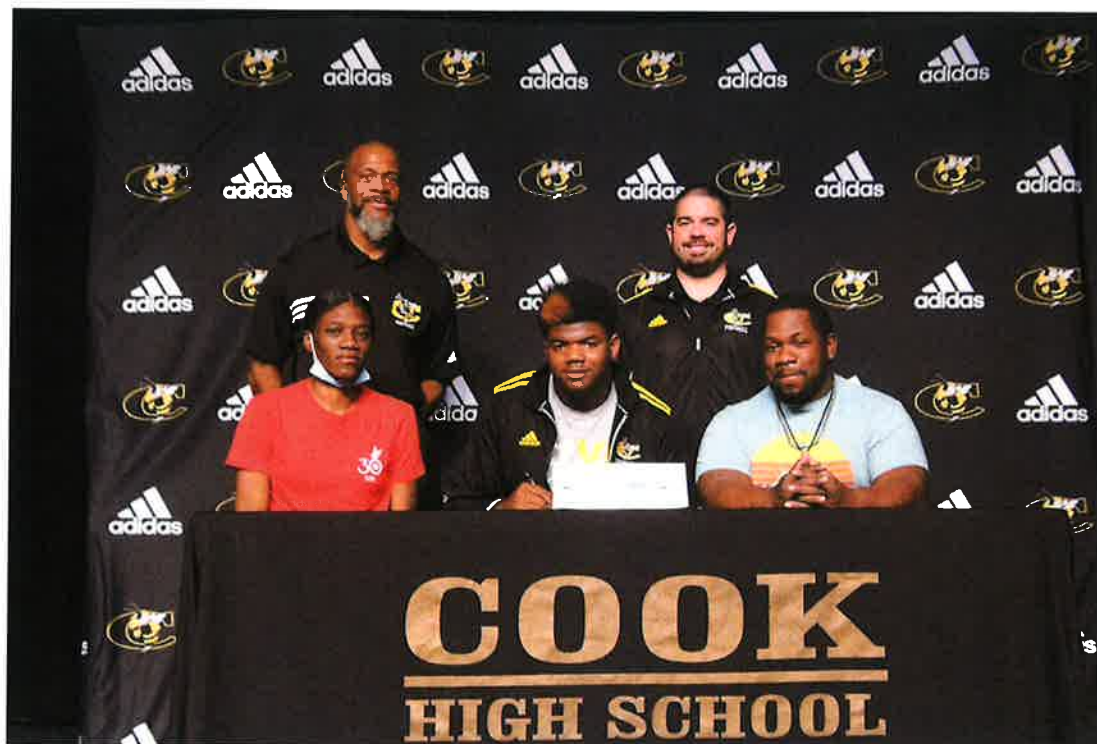
113 Triston Carter - Junior qualifier

138 Logan Kennedy - Freshman qualifier

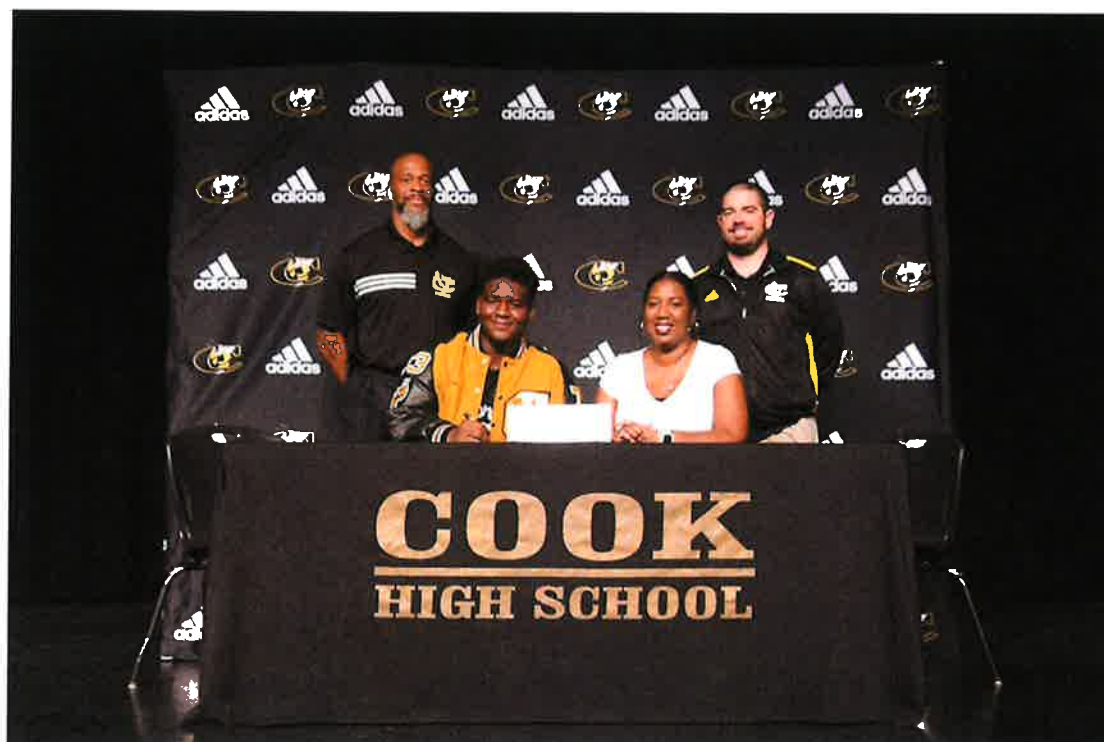
150 Keigan Duke - Sophomore qualifier



CONGRATULATIONS!!



Vonquez Burton – Football signing for Thomas University



Bryson Wilson – Football signing for University of West Georgia



Happy National School
Counseling Week to these
great people who help our
students every day!



THANK YOU
for everything you do
for our students!!

CONGRATULATIONS

Cook High School
for being named a 2023 AP Honor School



#itsagreatdaytobeahornet



BABY HORNETS NIGHT

February 7, 2023

STEM Stations for Kids
in the Media Center

Music & Movement for Kids
in Room 713

Literacy Lesson for Parents
in Room 710



Literacy Lesson for Parents

Instruction provided by Pre-K teachers
Felicia Allen, Cindy Norman, and Hanna Sumner



Teachers shared the importance of talking with babies and young children, and parents made conversation starter bags to take home.

Music & Movement for Kids

Activity provided by Music teacher
Ki Golson and student worker Aaron Eunice



STEM Stations for Kids

Activity provided by Kindergarten teacher Katie Eunice, STEM Lab teacher Mandy Ward, and CPS Academic Coach Tanya McDaniel



The kids loved playing with Indy robots!

Free Community Resources for Families



Cook County Family Connection



CASA and The Haven



Cook County Health Department



Life After Birth (LAB)



Candy Cane's Daycare



Cook County HeadStart

We love our community partners!

*Free Books for Baby Hornets & Siblings
provided through L4GA Grant Funds*



Thank you to everyone who came!
~Becky Ratts, Assistant Superintendent,
Melissa Betts, L4GA Birth to 5 Coordinator,
and Joy Folsom, Assistant Superintendent

MEMORY LANE MONDAYS

Spotlighting employees that have been in the Cook County School System for more than 30 years!

Angela Williams

My name is Angela Williams and this is my 30th year teaching in Cook County. I grew up in Cook County and graduated from Cook High in 1987. I have been married to my husband, Scotty, for thirty two years. We have two daughters, who both attended Cook County Schools, one son in law, and two beautiful granddaughters. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, working in my yards, traveling, and taking pictures.

I first began my teaching career in 1993 at Lenox Elementary School. I taught there two years until the schools were consolidated. Since then, I have been teaching at Cook Primary School. I have taught a total of 25 years in kindergarten and have taught my last five years in first grade. I was also named Teacher of the Year for the 2020-2021 school year.

I truly enjoy watching children learn and grow. I strongly encourage my students to work hard and that with determination they can reach the goals they set for themselves. One of my favorite quotes is by Maya Angelou, "They may forget what you said, but they will never forget the way you made them feel." I value that statement and only pray that my students know how much I love them and long for their successes. I have always told each student that has walked into my classroom that they are one of "my kids" now, and I truly mean that from the bottom of my heart. I love to keep in touch with my former students and see how far they have come in life. Teaching has forever been a passion of mine, and I have truly been blessed to have completed my entire teaching career right here at home in Cook County.



Deena Griffin

My name is Deena Griffin, and this is my 30th year teaching with all of my years at Cook Middle School. I graduated from Cook High School in 1984, as an honor graduate. I attended Valdosta State College for a year and then got married and moved to Germany to be with my husband while he served in the U. S. Army until 1988. At that time, we moved back to the United States where I returned to Valdosta State College and received my BS in Middle Grades Education (Math and Science) in 1993, my MS in Middle Grades Education in 1995, and my Education Specialist degree in Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development in 2012.

In 1993, I started teaching at Cook Middle School. I taught 6th grade math for six years, 7th grade math for 3 years, and 8th grade math for 21 years. Math has always been my favorite subject, and I enjoy teaching and sharing the knowledge, skills, and strategies that are associated with math. I was honored with being selected Teacher of the Year twice by my colleagues in 1999 and 2004. I have a love for my students that never gets old. I am so moved to see my students grow up and become great productive citizens of the community. I am even more grateful for my former students that have received their educational degree and come back to teach with me! What a blessing!

I have been married to Mike Griffin for 37 years. We have two children, Seth and Shelby Griffin, and one daughter-in-law, Julie Griffin. My family means the world to me and I love spending time with them. I am a longtime member of Lenox Baptist Church where I serve as the Music Director. I believe in loving and caring for my students and colleagues just like Jesus loves and cares for us.



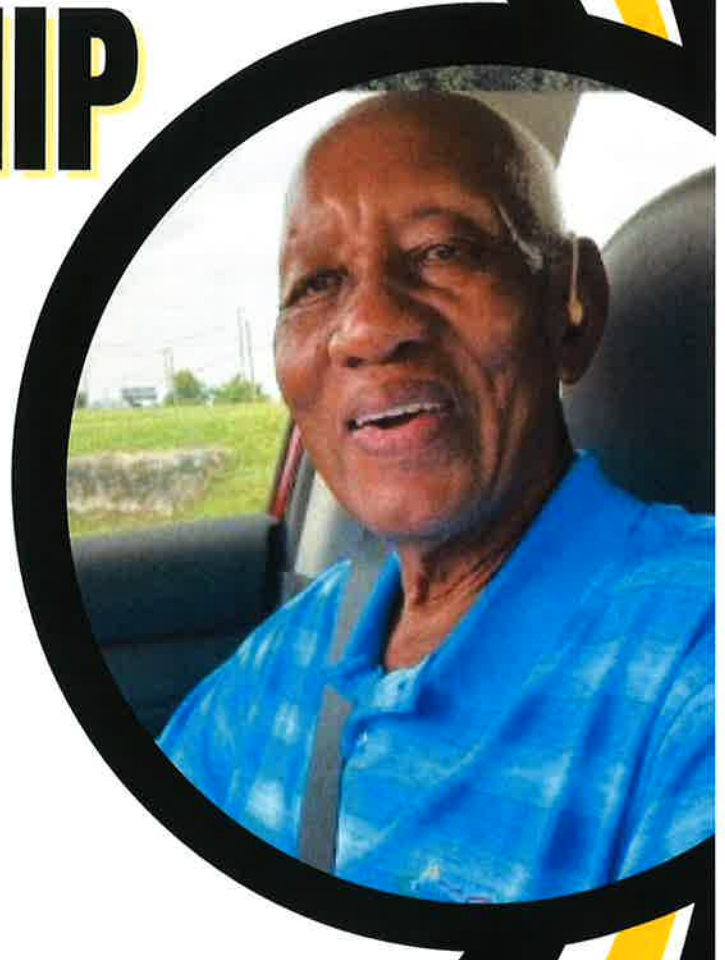
Beth Willis

My name is Beth Willis, and I have worked for the Cook County School System for 33 years. I was born and raised in Cook County and graduated from Cook High School in 1970. My husband, Chuck and I will be married for fifty years next month. Recently, Chuck has begun substituting at Cook High School and enjoying his time with the students there. I spent twenty-two years supporting my husband during his service in the US Air Force and caring for our growing family. Upon his retirement, we moved back to Cook County to continue to raise our family. We have three daughters, three son-in-laws, and eight grandchildren. My hobbies include going camping with family and friends at many state parks in Georgia and Florida. Spending time with family and friends is very important to me, and I value the many friendships that I have made while working for Cook County Schools. Cheering on my grandchildren as they play Hornet softball, volleyball and soccer brings me great joy as they play the sports that they love. Go Hornets!



LUCHUS MCMILLAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Please consider contributing to the Luchus McMillan Memorial Scholarship. Mr. Luchus' humility, servant's heart, and infectious smiles touched the lives of generations of students in the Cook County School System. He was kind, compassionate, and always willing to lend a helping hand.

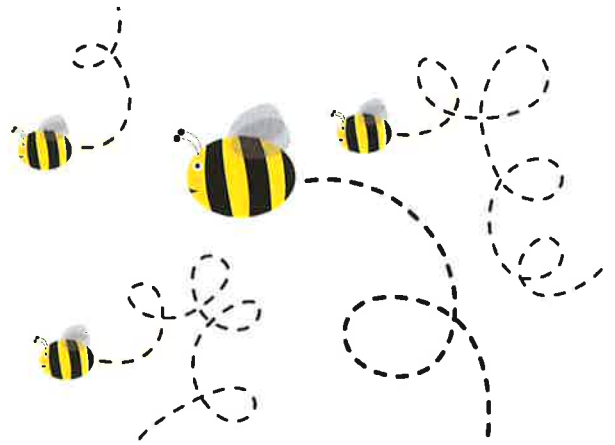


**DONATIONS CAN BE MADE
TO THE FOLLOWING:**

Cook County Educational Foundation
37 Josey Road
Adel, GA 31620

*Please designate on your check
that you are donating in memory of
Mr. Luchus McMillan.

What's BUZZING around the HIVE?



****Board Meetings – 5:00 and 6:30**

Monday, March 13 & April 10

****Daylight Savings Time begins - March 12**

****Board Member Appreciation Week**

March 13-17

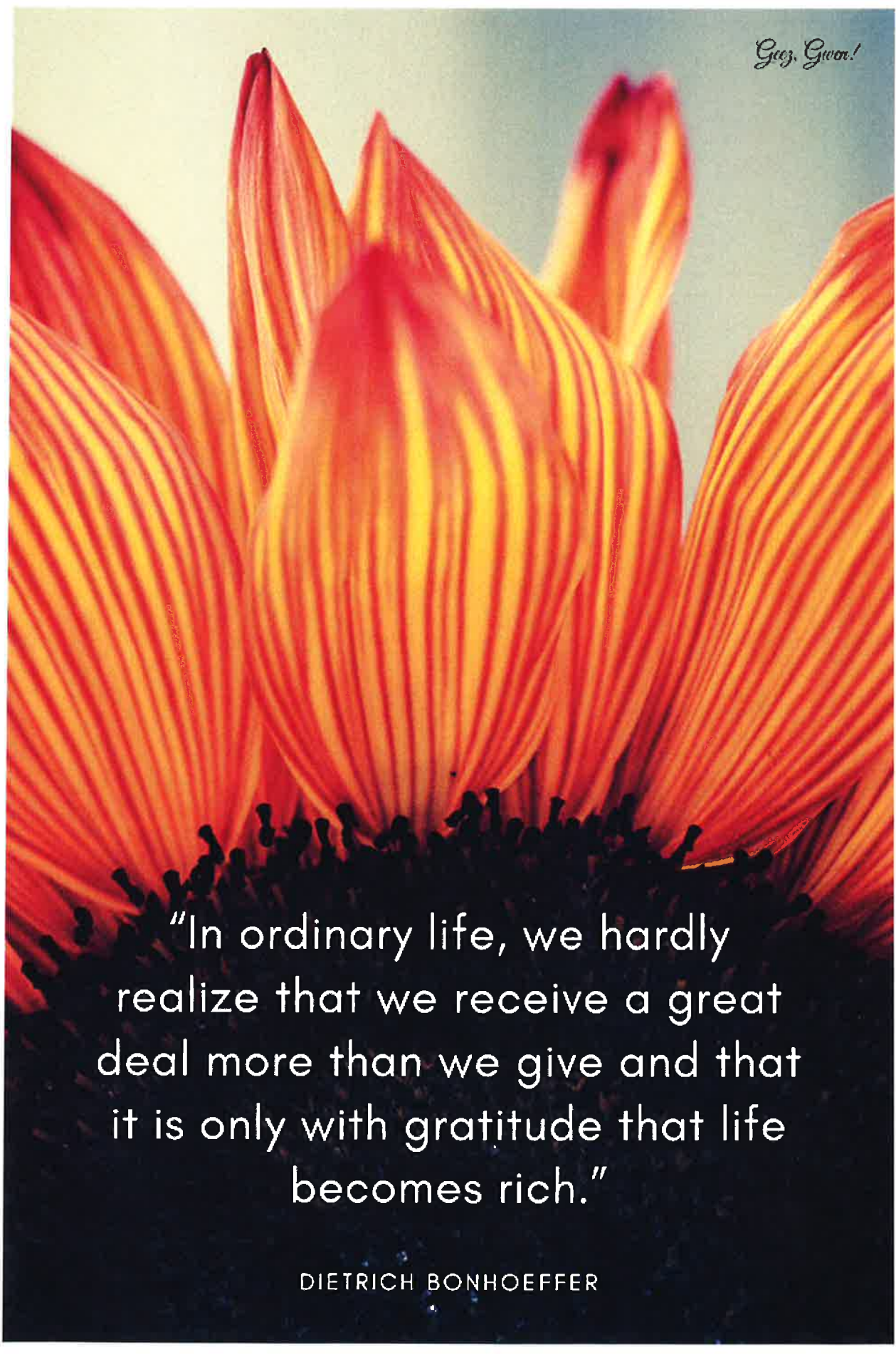
****March Holiday – 17 & 20 (Students)**

20 (Faculty & Staff)

****Retired Educators Luncheon – March 28**

****Teacher of the Year Banquet - TBD**

**** Retirement Banquet - TBD**



Geez, Given!

"In ordinary life, we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich."

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER