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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 27, 2023

Release #2022/23 – 068

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Bonaire Elementary School Student Wins Elementary Oratorical Contest *Russell Elementary and David Perdue Elementary Students Place Second and Third*

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Sixteen fifth graders from the Houston County School District's Gifted and Talented Education classes competed in the Elementary School Oratorical Contest on March 3 at the Central Office in Perry. During their speeches, students were asked to discuss which historical event required people to be the most optimistic and how their optimism impacts our lives today.

The 2023 top orators were:

- 1st place - Julianne Young, Bonaire Elementary, Coach Maggie Angel;
- 2nd place - Jayvian Broaddus, Russell Elementary, Coach Amy Materne; and
- 3rd place - Finn Edwards III, David Perdue Elementary, Coaches Hayley Sikes and Priscilla Woodard.



Cash awards of \$20, \$30, and \$50 were awarded to the first through third place winners. The top three orators will also present their speeches at the Houston County Board of Education meeting on April 18.

Two students were selected for Honorable Mention.

- Marcus Taylor, Matt Arthur Elementary, Coach Peaches Tankersley; and
- Declan Phelps, Langston Road Elementary, Coach Staci Miller.

District competitors included the top orators from each school represented. The top District orators were chosen based on poise, speech content and depth, delivery, presentation, and overall effectiveness.

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