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## PRESS RELEASE

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

### Eleven Seniors in Houston County Named as 2026 Georgia Scholars



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Eleven seniors from the Houston County School District were named as 2026 Georgia Scholars by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE). Georgia Scholars exhibit excellence in all phases of school life, community activities, and in the home. They carry rigorous course loads during their four years of high school and perform at the highest levels in all courses.

These students also successfully participated in interscholastic events and have assumed active roles in extracurricular activities. [Click here to view the full criteria for the program.](#)

The following students named as Georgia Scholars will receive a special seal for their diploma and a district designed graduation cord to note this distinguished recognition:

- ★ Andrew Bragg, Houston County High
- ★ Michael Do, Houston County High
- ★ Claire Jefferson, Houston County High
- ★ Nathan Phan, Houston County High
- ★ Roman Smith, Houston County High School
- ★ Mihir Tailor, Northside High School
- ★ Sarah Golden, Perry High School
- ★ Sydney Trainer, Perry High School
- ★ Rabun Perdue, Veterans High School
- ★ Brooke VanDalinda, Veterans High School
- ★ Charlotte White, Veterans High School

**MORE**

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“These students represent the continued excellence of Houston County students,” said Dr. Olethia Calhoun, Director of Gifted Education. “Their efforts in and out of the classroom have earned them this well-deserved recognition, and we are proud of their achievements.”

A total of 162 students statewide were named as a Georgia Scholar. The Georgia Scholar program is coordinated by the GaDOE Excellence Recognition Office and through local coordinators in school systems across the state.

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