



Student Services Board Report

**Together we can...make a
difference with United Way!**



Thanks to YOUR incredible generosity, we've come out on top once again — for the third year in a row! In just five short weeks, our department raised an outstanding \$9,500. This achievement is a powerful reflection of who we are and what we can accomplish together. A special thank you goes to our amazing building coordinators — Mardee Lee, Jennifer Underwood, Maxine Robinson-Bedford, Carol Heilig, and Leslie Broadnax — for their dedication and hard work behind the scenes. Also, heartfelt gratitude to the Transition Academy teachers and students for preparing such a wonderful lunch — it was truly appreciated by all. Of course, we can't forget to thank Melissa Goggins, for leading our campaign this school year. This wouldn't have been possible without each and every one of our Student Services staff members. Thank you!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE

LSSC

Clinic Meet and Greet

On September 9, the Lindsey Student Support Center hosted a meet-and-greet event with the Department of Health staff to highlight the services available at our monthly clinic. This gathering provided the community with valuable insight into LSSC resources. Families were pre-registered for clinic appointments, HCFC literacy classes, and the CGTC English Learning Course. Additionally, the resource room was open to families in need of clothing assistance.



Mobile Mammogram Clinic

The Lindsey Student Support Center will host the Atrium Health Navicent Mobile Mammogram Clinic on Wednesday, October 29, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This on-site event offers free 3D breast cancer screenings for Houston County employees, parents, guardians, and community members. Grant funding is available for uninsured or underinsured individuals. Appointments are required (walk-ins welcome except 12-1 p.m.). Call 478-633-2003 or email Teresa.VanHorne@Atrium-Health.org to schedule.

Morris Bank Donation

We are proud to acknowledge Morris Bank for their generous donation of \$3,288.00 to the Lindsey Student Support Center. This funding will be used to purchase three new washers and dryers for the center's laundry room, providing essential support to families of students enrolled in the Houston County School District. The upgraded laundry facility will play a vital role in meeting basic needs and promoting student well-being throughout the district. This grant was made possible through the efforts of Kim Grizzle, Behavior Support Teacher, who submitted the application on behalf of the Lindsey Student Support Center.



Amazon Backpack Donation

Amazon generously donated 250 backpacks filled with school supplies to the LSSC. Our Social Workers will distribute these backpacks to local schools to ensure they reach students who need them most. This thoughtful donation will help support students and families in the community as they prepare for the school year.

Student Volunteers Make a Difference

On September 26, 11 student volunteers from Middle Georgia State University supported the Lindsey Student Support Center through projects like landscaping, gardening, laundry assistance, and preparing food bags. Their efforts had a meaningful impact and showcased the power of community partnerships in supporting Houston County families.



Community Engagement

The Lindsey Student Support Center was honored to host Northside Elementary's ESOL/Hispanic Heritage Night. Families enjoyed a cultural learning experience where students received passports to "travel" and explore different countries, highlighting the diversity within our community. The evening also featured a special performance by the Northside Elementary Dance Team, showcasing student talent and school pride.

This collaborative event celebrated cultural awareness, encouraged family engagement, and gave students an interactive opportunity to learn more about the world around them.



SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

Step Right Up – Fair Week is Back!

From September 29 to October 3, our cafeterias will once again be transformed into lively fairgrounds for the annual Fair Week celebration!

Get ready for a week full of fun, flavor, and festive vibes as we serve up playful twists on carnival classics—plus a few new surprises! This year's menu features bold newcomers like Loaded Pretzel Bites and Spicy Country Fried Steak Bites with Gravy, alongside returning favorites including:

- Giant Soft Pretzels
- Smoked Turkey Legs
- Cinnamon Rolls
- Fried Funnel Cakes

Expect colorful decorations, cheerful service, and plenty of delightful surprises—because no fair is complete without laughter, treats, and a little magic!

Want to be part of the fun behind the scenes? Contact Meredith Potter and grab your front-row seat to the excitement. Let's bring the fair to life—right in our cafeterias!



Social Services Department News



Throughout September, the Social Services Department launched district-wide initiatives to promote the importance of daily, on-time school attendance. From spirit days and classroom competitions to community outreach and parent events, schools came together to celebrate attendance and its impact on academic success.

A highlight of the month was the annual Attendance Summit, where key stakeholders learned about ongoing efforts to reduce absenteeism. Featured speakers included Magistrate Judge Angela Sammons and Juvenile Court Judge Monica Wilburn, who shared their roles in supporting student attendance.

Dr. Steven Hornyak spoke on chronic absenteeism, recognizing schools with improved attendance and sharing success stories of early intervention. Dr. Rogers opened the event with a powerful message: "Together, we can make a measurable difference in reducing absenteeism and increasing student success across Houston County!"

Transition ACADEMY



September has been a busy and exciting month for the Transition Academy!

We've added several meaningful opportunities to our instructional day, and our students are thriving with every new experience.

Our casserole business is off to a strong start! All classes have been hard at work preparing 13 casseroles (9x13 pans), 8 smaller casseroles (8x8 pans), and 4 delicious 9x13 desserts. Their dedication and teamwork have been truly impressive.

One highlight this month was catering the United Way Luncheon at the Lindsey Center. Our students prepared the casseroles, salads, and desserts—and even served the meal to members of Student Services. It was an incredible hands-on learning opportunity and a rewarding way for them to give back to the community.

We're also thrilled to have expanded our Food & Nutrition Department work sites. In addition to Northside Elementary, our students are now gaining real-world experience at Thompson Middle School, Langston Road Primary, and Matt Arthur Primary School. Working alongside cafeteria staff has been an awesome way for them to build valuable job skills.

We're so excited about these new partnerships and the continued growth of our program!

Hands-On Learning: MID Students Support Our Classrooms



LSSC is thrilled to introduce our new Make 'n' Take Room—a dedicated space where teachers can request ready-to-use academic materials for their classrooms.

Teachers simply submit their requests via a Google Form, and our student team takes it from there! This program not only saves educators valuable time but also provides meaningful, real-world learning opportunities for our students.

Through their involvement, students are gaining essential job skills such as: Following detailed instructions, completing fine motor tasks, receiving feedback from a supervisor, writing and sending professional confirmation emails, and managing spreadsheets to track completed orders

We're thrilled to start fulfilling even more orders and continue building this meaningful partnership between students and staff!



Modified Whale's Tale Day



During the first week of September, our primary-grade MOID classes had the opportunity to participate in a water safety session at the Tommy Stalnaker Aquatic Center. Each student was matched with a lifeguard using a matching bracelet system for safety. Students enjoyed one-on-one time in the pool with friendly staff and lifeguards, who patiently taught them how to float, practice safe swimming techniques, and have fun with pool toys—all while helping them feel confident and comfortable in the water. Their smiles and excitement made the day truly special as they splashed and played.

THANK YOU!



The Knights of Columbus Council 4371 in Warner Robins, GA, proudly joined forces with the dedicated team at Tractor Supply in Byron, GA, to support individuals with special needs in our community. Through their combined efforts, they raised an impressive \$1,860 for the Houston County Special Olympics—funds that will help empower local athletes and promote inclusion through the power of sports.