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PRESS RELEASE

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Houston County STAR Students and Teachers Honored *Houston County High Student Wins County Honors*



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – The Robins Regional Chamber of Commerce and Perry Area Chamber of Commerce hosted the annual Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) ceremony on February 5. The ceremony recognized STAR Students and Teachers from each high school, and the county winner was announced for the first time.

The 2024 STAR Students and Teachers from the Houston County School District are:

- Houston County High: Shiva Soundappan and teacher Daryl Leslie
- Northside High: Sahaj Patel and teacher Joi Wright
- Perry High: Charlie Golden and teacher Blake Dunbar
- Veterans High: Zorayah Menefee and teacher Lindsay Lambert
- Warner Robins High: Taryn Long and teacher Louis Leskosky

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Shiva Soundappan from Houston County High School earned the highest honor and will be recognized at the Regional STAR event in Macon next month.

The Chambers presented each STAR Student a certificate and \$100. Their STAR Teacher also received a certificate and gift. As the county STAR Student, Soundappan received an additional \$400, and his STAR Teacher received \$100.

“I am incredibly proud of each of our STAR Students and Teachers for this well-deserved honor,” said Dr. Mark Scott, Superintendent of Schools for the Houston County School District. “Earning this designation is quite an accomplishment. A special congratulations goes to our winner, Shiva Soundappan for this outstanding achievement.”

The Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) Foundation sponsors, administers and promotes the STAR Program, which began in 1958 to focus attention on Georgia's outstanding students and teachers. To obtain the nomination, high school seniors must have the highest score on a single test date on the SAT. Students must also be in the top 10 percent or top 10 students of their class based on grade point average. Each STAR student selects a STAR teacher who has been the most influential to their academic success.

More information on the STAR Students can be found at [2024 Star Students - Robins Regional Chamber](#). For more information on the STAR Student and Teacher program, contact your local Chamber of Commerce.

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