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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 11, 2022

Release #2021/22 – 071

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Kings Chapel Student Wins Elementary Oratorical Contest

Lake Joy 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 11, 2022, at the central office in Perry. The topic this year was, "Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times."

The 2022 top orators are:

- ★ 1st place – Jillian Dumas, Kings Chapel Elementary, Coach Mary Kratz;
- ★ 2nd place – Nicholas Flammia, Lake Joy Elementary, Coach Christina Voigt; and
- ★ 3rd place – Sara O'Hearn, David Perdue Elementary, Coach Hayley Sikes.



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 April 12 Board of Education meeting.

Two honorable mentions were also announced:

- ★ Sincere Young, Morningside Elementary, Coach Amy Hutchinson; and
- ★ Ava Green, Hilltop Elementary, Coach Dara Seamans.

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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“I am so proud of all of the students who competed today,” said Olethia Thomas, the Director of Gifted Education for the Houston County School District. “This competition is an excellent way for our students to develop public speaking skills that will benefit them throughout their life.”

Photo: The top five winners are pictured (from left): Sara O’Hearn, Nicholas Flammia, Jillian Dumas, Sincere Young, and Ava Green.

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