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PRESS RELEASE

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Houston County School District to Host Teacher Recruitment Fair on February 26

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – The Houston County School District will host its annual Teacher Recruitment Fair on Saturday, February 26 from 9 a.m. until noon at Veterans High School. Teachers interested in employment are invited to participate in mini-interviews and learn more about each of Houston County's schools. Twenty-three elementary schools, eight middle schools, and five high schools will be on site, as well as three specialty programs to include Houston Virtual, WIN Academy, and the Houston County Career Academy.

While the recruitment fair mostly attracts certified teachers, individuals with degrees in other fields who are interested in teaching may also attend and obtain information about alternative routes to educator certification. This includes the Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy (GaTAPP) Program and a Master of Arts in Teaching Program.

The District offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Houston County's current salary for a first-year teacher with a bachelor's degree is \$44,455. Adding benefits of approximately \$23,501 provides a total compensation package of \$67,956. First-year teachers with a master's degree currently earn a salary of \$50,464; adding benefits increases the total compensation package to approximately \$73,965.

Benefits include medical, dental, disability, paid sick leave and retirement. Two types of Flexible Spending Accounts - healthcare and dependent care – are also offered, which allow paying out-of-pocket costs with pre-tax dollars. All employees receive free gym membership and access to an Employee Assistance Program to include counseling, financial information and resources, legal support resources and free online will preparation.

Teacher candidates are encouraged to arrive before the fair starts to allow time to check-in and attend a brief information session in the auditorium. Doors open at 8 a.m. Veterans High is located at 340 Piney Grove Road in Kathleen. For more information, contact Human Resources at 478-988-6244 or visit <u>www.hcbe.net/teachhouston</u>.

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