

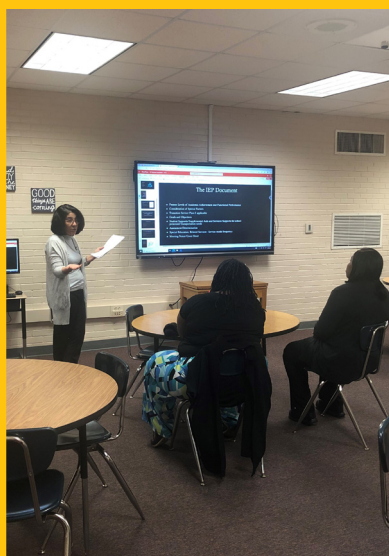
# STUDENT SERVICES REPORT

## ***HOUSTON COUNTY IS ON FIRE FOR ASPIRE!!***

**A**shlee Nipper from Tucker Elementary, Gillian Furby from Feagin Mill Middle, and Devin Vaughn from Houston County High School presented at the ASPIRE Showcase for the state of Georgia. The showcase was held at Central Georgia Technical College on Wednesday, February 15th. Participants included representatives from the GaDOE and other districts throughout the state. Our teachers showcased all the wonderful ways students participate in their IEP meetings and how they prepare for transition into their adult lives. We are so proud of these teachers, and their efforts to keep Houston County on Fire for ASPIRE!

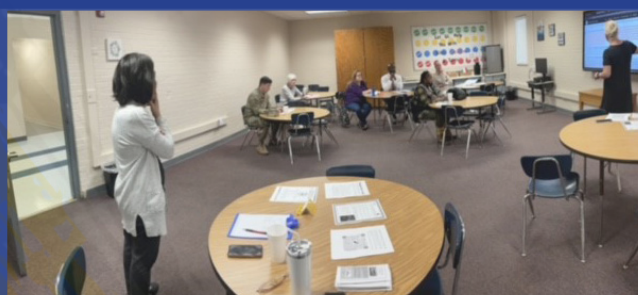
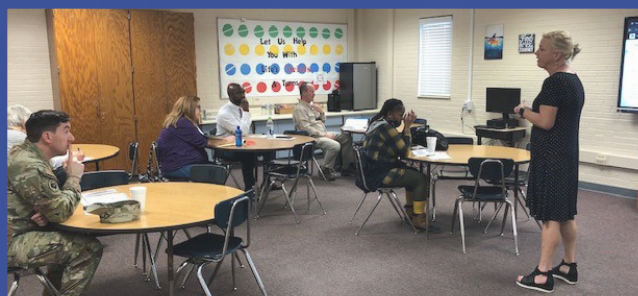


## PARENT AND GUARDIAN WORKSHOPS HOSTED AT LINDSEY STUDENT SUPPORT CENTER



**M**arina Jones, District Parent Mentor, presented 2 sessions on "Understanding Your Child's IEP" on January 31st. Participants were provided valuable information on all sections of an Individualized Education Program. The workshop was well received by all parents and guardians in attendance.

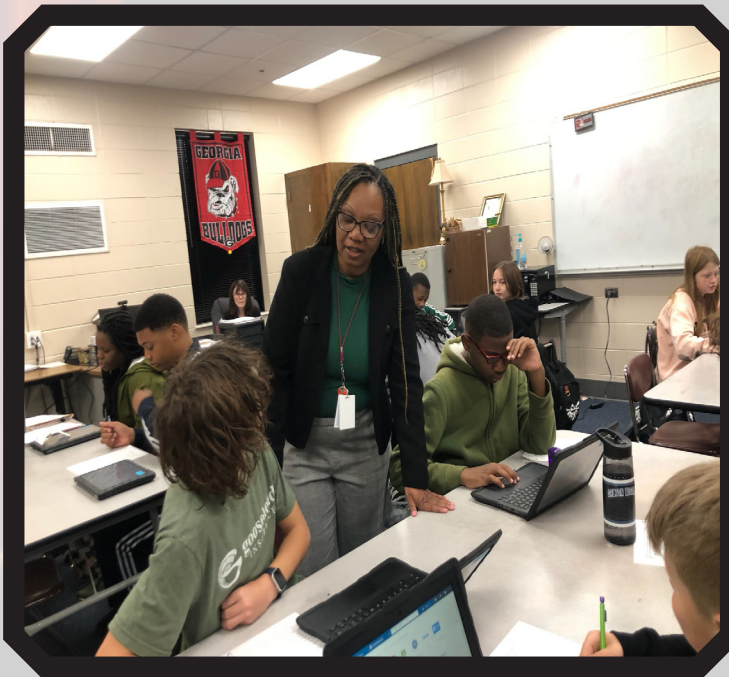
**D**r. Brandi Mauney, Transition Support Teacher, presented "Planning for Your Future: Transition Basics for Your Student with a Disability" on February 16th. This workshop provided participants with informative transition resources for planning life after high school. Post-secondary options were presented which led to an open forum for families to ask questions. Hosting this training increased our opportunity to network with families and collaboratively plan for our students to have a successful transition into adulthood.





# TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

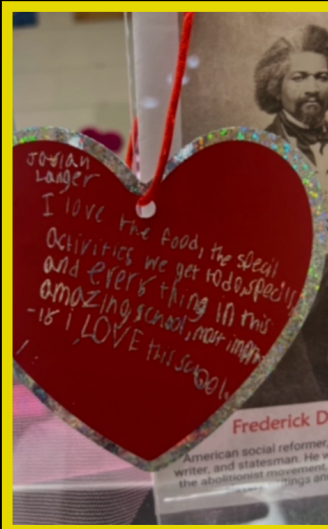
**O**ur teacher in the spotlight this month is Sonja Franklin from Feagin Mill Middle School. Mrs. Franklin has taught for 22 years. Born and raised in New York City, she relocated to Perry, Georgia in 2007. When asked why she chose to teach, Mrs. Franklin shared the following, “The love, laughter, mischief, creativity, and imagination of children is an eternal fountain of joy. Seeing a student change their habits, from having trouble completing assignments to completing them early or from not speaking in class to openly sharing opinions, provides amazing satisfaction. Observing students making connections and grasping topics they’ve struggled with, is evidence that what I do is meaningful. It’s rewarding to know I have been able to reach them and help them on their way to future independence.” Mrs. Franklin enjoys white water rafting, cycling, and attending her children’s soccer and volleyball games. She is also a member of Second Baptist Church where she serves in the children’s ministry. Ms. Franklin is the proud mother of three children; Jesse (18), Sophia (17), and Jasmine (12). Thank you Mrs. Franklin for enriching the lives of students in Houston County!



## Quail Run Elementary Celebrating Valentine's Day

"Roses are red, violets are blue. Chocolate covered strawberries were made just for you!" The School Nutrition (SNP) Team at Quail Run Elementary wanted to ensure students felt all the love this Valentine's Day. Hundreds of strawberries were hand dipped to create a special experience for their students! Amy Twigg, SNP manager at QRE states, "I truly care for each and every child here at Quail Run. Every child deserves to smile and have happy memories. If I can play a small part in that, then no amount of work is too much!"

Students also wrote the SNP Team a few "love notes" to show their appreciation! Everyone agrees that this was a Sweet Valentine's Day event! School nutrition loves being a part of the Houston County School District! We are grateful our program has many exceptional managers, like Amy and her team, who strive to ensure that school is a supportive, happy, and fun place for our students!



*The full message for the big heart picture reads... "I love the food, the special activities we get to do specially and everything in this amazing school, most importantly, I love this school."*

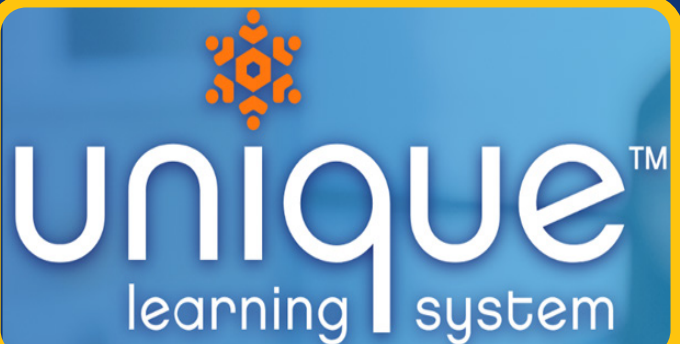


lead into  
quality teaching  
beginning teachers  
process  
sustained  
knowledgeableness  
initial experience  
support  
rites  
induction  
guidance  
initiation  
instructions  
information, understanding, skills  
professional learning  
coherent, collaboration  
teaching profession  
reflection experiences

Program Specialists Kanisha Tripp and Natalie Preston conducted professional learning for thirty-four participants on January 24th. Attendees were new special education teachers from across the District who have been participating in the New Teacher Induction Series. Presentation topics included Co-Teaching Strategies and Techniques. Six different models of co-teaching were discussed. Participants had the opportunity to share their personal co-teaching experiences which made for an enjoyable experience for all.



Alternate Access Support Teacher, Melanie Duncan, led a session on the Unique Learning Curriculum. Unique Learning is a curriculum designed around the state's extended standards for students with disabilities. The District has purchased this resource to provide teachers with access to differentiated lessons and assessments to aid in making instruction meaningful for all students. It was exciting to see teachers collaborating to maximize instructional experiences for students.





# GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

**T**he Georgia Trauma Commission embarked on a campaign in 2017 to provide bleeding control kits to every public school system in Georgia. Houston County School District participated in this training two years ago and received a Stop the Bleed Kit for every bus in the district. Our School Nurses, in collaboration with Middle Georgia Trauma Commission, recently provided a refresher course on Stop the Bleed. Over 200 bus drivers and bus monitors participated in this training during the district-wide professional learning day on February 21st. Topics included the appropriate use of pressure and how to make a tourniquet to control bleeding. All participants worked hard to learn these important skills to ensure the safety of students, staff, and visitors to Houston County Schools.





# Positive BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS of Georgia

The Georgia Department of Education recognizes districts and schools for supporting positive school climate through the implementation of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework. The purpose of the recognition system is to identify schools that exemplify best practices in the implementation of PBIS. To qualify for state recognition, system schools must be in an LEA with active support through a District Leadership Team, District Coordinator, and a District Action Plan. The LEA must be actively supported by the GaDOE Team and local RESA.

Anthony Feldman (GaDOE), Lara Sims (MGRESA), and PBIS District Coordinator, Jason Pinkney support our district. Our District Leadership Team meets twice per year. The District Leadership Team met in January at Hilltop Elementary School to discuss the data from the first semester. Christa Franz, (PBIS Coach, HES), Dustin Rainey (PBIS Coach, FMMS), and Tami Temmis (PBIS Coach, CBWPS) shared at the meeting. Levels of Recognition were shared for the first time since the 2018-2019 school year. Congratulations to the three schools identified as Distinguished for the 2021-2022 school year, and the nine schools recognized as Operational. The Remaining 27 schools were listed as Emerging or Installing. We are so proud of the hard work our PBIS teams are doing to strengthen their implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports!

## DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS

Hilltop Elementary  
Kings Chapel Elementary  
Lindsey Elementary

WAY TO GO!

## OPERATIONAL SCHOOLS

CB Watson Primary  
Feagin Mill Middle  
Langston Road Elementary  
Matt Arthur Elementary  
Mossy Creek Middle  
Pearl Stephens Elementary  
Perry High  
Tucker Elementary  
Westside Elementary School