

*Richmond County School System
2018 Teacher of the Year Banquet*

Rolling out the Red Carpet

*Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center
November 2, 2017 ~ 7 PM*

Richmond County School System Teachers of the Year

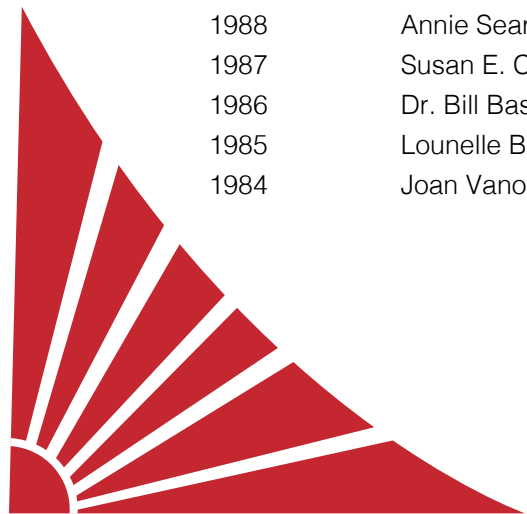
2017	Anna Susan Trulock	Lake Forest Hills Elementary School
2016	Phyllis Johnson-Porter	Jenkins-White Elementary School
2015	JaVonne Jones	Deer Chase Elementary School
2014	Denise Turner	Warren Road Elementary School
2013	Stephanie Ross	Glenn Hills Elementary School
2012	Ladell Fortune	Butler High School
2011	Traci Cooper	Pine Hill Middle School
2010	Steve Galvin`	Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
2009	Heather Davidson	Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
2008	Aletha Snowberger	Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
2007	Mary Frances Howard	Ursula Collins Elementary School
2006	Amy Hillman	Freedom Park Elementary School
2005	Malinda Cobb	T.W. Josey High School
2004	Judith Duke	McBean Elementary School
2003	Fran Brewer	Goshen Elementary School
2002	Vicky Bedell	Southside Elementary School
2001	Judith Mealing	A.R. Johnson Magnet School
2000	Julie Purvis	Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
1999	Melinda Starnes	Garrett Elementary School
1998	Andy Baumgauter	A. Brian Merry Elementary School
1997	Caroline Misklosovic	Hephzibah High School
1996	Sherrri Brunkow	Morgan Road Middle School
1994	Eleanor Willingham	Bungalow Road Elementary School
1993	Marion Kelly Tims	Monte Sano Elementary School
1992	Beverly A. Hite	Sue Reynolds Elementary School
1991	Susan W. Bourbo	Southside Elementary School
1990	Linda M. Johnson	Langford Middle School
1989	Dr. Charles J. Smith, Jr.	T.W. Josey High School
1988	Annie Searles	Southside Elementary School
1987	Susan E. Craig	Glenn Hills High School
1986	Dr. Bill Bass	Glenn Hills Elementary School
1985	Lounelle Beecher	Butler High School
1984	Joan Vanover	A. Brian Merry Elementary School

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2018 Teacher of the Year Program

Welcome Music.....Richmond County High School Chamber Orchestra
Soft Music.....Mr. Lynwood Holmes, Fine Arts Program Specialist
Introduction of Master of Ceremonies.....Dr. Cecil Clark, Director of Human Resources
Master of Ceremonies.....Mr. Kaden Jacobs, Director of Communications
Presentation of Colors.....Marine JROTC Color Guard, Butler High School
Greetings.....Mr. Jimmy Atkins, Vice President, Richmond County Board of Education
Inspirational.....Ms. Anna Susan Trulock, 2017 Richmond County Teacher of the Year
Greetings.....Dr. Angela D. Pringle, Superintendent of Schools
Blessing.....Mr. Gene Spires, Chief Financial Officer

Dinner

Soft Music.....Mr. Lynwood Holmes, Fine Arts Program Specialist
Introduction of Judges.....Mr. Jimmy Atkins, Vice President, Richmond County Board of Education
Recognition of Teachers of the Year.....Dr. Angela D. Pringle & Senior Team
Tribute to the Teachers of the Year.....Mr. Sean McDonald
Presentation of Finalists.....Dr. Angela D. Pringle & Principals
Presentation of RCSS 2018 Teacher of the Year.....Dr. Angela D. Pringle & Ms. Anna Susan Trulock
Remarks.....2018 Teacher of the Year
Closing Remarks.....Mr. Kaden Jacobs, Director of Communications



A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Guests,

On behalf of the Board of Education, staff, and administrators, we thank you for sharing in this Richmond County School System Teacher of the Year Banquet experience this evening. It is with a great deal of pride and joy that we honor some of our remarkable, inspiring, and committed teachers who have been selected to represent their individual schools as "Teacher of the Year." These teachers have gone beyond the call of duty to ensure that success is the only option. Their dedication, energy, and creativity are helping to prepare our students to become college and career ready.

The very focal point of our mission as a school system is our students. By working together, we have an opportunity to build upon our successes to ensure that all students are learning at high levels and every classroom in the district supports classroom efforts. Your presence here tonight demonstrates your partnership and well wishes in a special way. It communicates that we share a common goal of educational excellence as we help our students to soar.

Even as we celebrate the accomplishments of these deserving teachers, I look forward to collaborating with parents and community members on our focus of teaching and learning with an emphasis on learning. Significant academic achievement requires engagement and commitment from families and community. I invite every community member, parent, and all caregivers that touch the lives of children, to be on board with our focus. Thank you for the impact you offer daily to produce a quality-engaging environment for the students of Richmond County.

Yours truly,

Angela D. Pringle

Angela D. Pringle, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools



Meet the 2018 Teacher of the Year Finalists



Tonya Fulton

Dr. Denise Pennywell

Kia Mills

Sandra Owens

Brigitte Holmes

Tonya Fulton

I am honored and humbled that I have been selected for Teacher of the year at Morgan Road Middle School and one of the top five finalists for Richmond County School System. I am a mother of two amazing daughters, Kalin and Kennedy, and a loving wife to MS-G(R) Dereck Fulton. I have an awesome support team which includes my sister, Gennett, my in-laws, and my Morgan Road family. My teaching philosophy is very simple students do not care how much you know, until they know how much you care. Caring is what they need first, after they know I care then they open up their heart and mind and I can teach them. I show my caring by forming relationships with my students and trying to help them find their dreams and strengths so they can believe in themselves the way I believe in them. Either way they are the future and have unlimited value. I was the first generation in my family to attend college and was once a student just like the ones I teach and somebody believed in me. I am paying it forward.

Dr. Denise Pennywell

I believe that, as a teacher, I have an impact on each student's life that I encounter in my classroom as well as the students within my building. I inspire students to want to obtain knowledge, and in doing this, I serve as a model through which this knowledge can be transformed. Students need someone to respect; someone they believe is sympathetic, confident, and reliable. I believe when the instructional environment gives students a sense of security, learning is accomplished. It is my job, as an educator, to provide a safe, positive and creative working environment for every student. I use a variety of research-based instructional strategies to deliver a curriculum that allows all students to learn in the manner in which functions best for them and to make sure they have a chance to succeed. Marva Collins once stated, "There is a brilliant child locked inside every student". I believe that as an effective teacher, I provide opportunities for students to develop higher-level thinking skills and original problem-solving skills, which will equip them with life-learning abilities and allow them to become the best that they could be: that "brilliant child".

Kia Mills

A product from a family with a tradition of educators, my beliefs about teaching were instilled in me at a young age. I believe all children can learn and learning can be fun. I believe it is important to provide a learning environment where all students can learn and turn any situation into a learning experience. I incorporate various learning experiences into lessons where students are able to apply their knowledge to real-world scenarios. This skill allows students to collaborate with one another, develops critical thinking skills, and makes learning relevant. From this belief, I have formed the motto, Each One Teach One: Everybody can learn from each other. I believe a teacher sets the tone of the classroom. I am fair, firm and consistent with all students. I learned this principle my first year of teaching eighth grade. Students appreciate knowing everyone is treated fairly and everyone must follow the rituals and routines established in the classroom. Students like to know their teacher truly cares for their well-being and their learning. My personal beliefs and teaching style allow me to create a learning environment in which every student will have a voice and will experience a variety of ways of learning.

Sandra Owens

A simple desire to make life-changing differences in the lives of others is what influenced me to become a teacher. This desire first surfaced while I was serving in the military teaching, leading, and influencing soldiers. Education changes lives, and teaching is one of the most powerful tools I have for influencing change in the lives of others. As a military leader, I knew I could never have told my soldiers to perform critical tasks that may have put their lives in danger without first having trained (taught) them for the task. It's no different when teaching my students. I enter the classroom daily with the same philosophy that I had in the military. Students must be taught in order for them to successfully maneuver through the rigors of academics! Using the most effective research-based strategies is what ensures the academic success of my students as they work together day after day in a performance-based, student-centered, and small group environment. All of this supports my philosophy of teaching in order to reach and reaching in order to teach my students to promote them as independent learners who take responsibility for their own learning.

Brigitte Holmes

My first career as a veterinary nurse taught me to see what couldn't be said...to look into the eyes of someone's beloved pet and pair my scientific knowledge with my empathy and discover the source of their discomfort. When I came into education, I used that skill to assist my students in learning about science and life. I am now in my 15th year of teaching young adults. In their eyes, I can see excitement at the marvels of science, wonder at the mysteries of microscopic life, confusion over a test question, sadness in times of regional catastrophes, sorrow during a personal loss, and concern for a friend. You see, teaching isn't just about delivering subject matter facts or teaching skills, it's about seeing the student in their entirety and reaching them, pulling them, and sometimes pushing them to experience the process of learning. It's about meeting them where they are and helping them to reach their potential. I look into the eyes of my students...I see myself and I see the future.

Reflections



Representing our county as the 2017 Teacher of the Year has not only been a joyful honor, but it has also served as a year of reflection in my teaching career. Among many things, this title has challenged me to press pause and enjoy the many aspects that are a part of teaching.

Upon receiving this grand honor, I was immediately reminded of the many “hats” teachers wear throughout their instructional day and how those “hats” are what serve as the guiding light for our students. “Be the Light” has been my personal motto throughout my “Teacher of the Year” experience as it is a constant reminder of how the leadership of a teacher can facilitate many purposes differentiated towards the character and academic success of the children in our care.

While being recognized for hard work and dedication is appreciated, this honor has taught me so much about balance and how being successful in the classroom is a reflection of a leader who can balance all of the components that play a part in teaching students. As teachers, we are charged with multiple duties in addition to teaching and being able to appreciate our extra duties as learning opportunities for ourselves is the sign of a lifelong learner!

I am so grateful for my colleagues that have supported me before and after receiving this award. My work family holds a special place in my heart as they are the ones who have been and continue to be my biggest cheerleaders. This past year has not served as the ultimate goal in my teaching career, but it has served as motivational stepping stone to continue my passion in education!

It is my hope that all of our “Teacher of the Year” honorees, will also find this experience as motivation towards continuing to “Be the Light” in their classrooms!

Anna Susan Trulock

Anna Susan Trulock
First Grade Teacher
Lake Forest Hills Elementary School

In Memoriam



Ms. Diane Collier was beloved by her students and admired by her colleagues, her loss was felt not just across the school system, but across our community.

We would like to honor Ms. Collier by including her thoughts on her greatest passion in life; educating the students of the Richmond County School System.

“My heartfelt passion is to ensure that each child within my reach has the best chance to take successful steps during the earliest part of their life journey. I am not only a leader in education; I am also a leader in technology. In today’s modern and ever-changing society, I believe that technology is one of the most fundamental skills that enables students to become lifelong learners and contribute to society in meaningful ways. My advanced degrees reflect my technical expertise and my passion for integrating technology into every facet of education. I am a highly organized and motivated individual. I am able to manage many different responsibilities at one time. As an innovative leader, I consistently exceed the requirements and goals. Teaching allows me to use my vivid imagination and resourcefulness to bring subjects to life in ways students will always remember. At my core, I am a hardworking and dedicated teacher who believes that students who learn today will become future leaders of tomorrow.”

Diane Collier

Diane Collier
2017 Teacher of the Year Finalist
Tutt Middle School



Elementary School Teachers of the Year



Riquaya Morrison
Barton Chapel Elementary School



Wondra Burke
Bayvale Elementary School



Catanna King
Blythe Elementary School



Dr. Denise Pennywell
Glenn Hills Elementary School



Jean Taylor
Goshen Elementary School



Brittany Bush
Gracewood Elementary School



Bethany O'Brien
Copeland Elementary School



Neilia Trimmingham
Craig-Houghton Elementary School



Veronica Middleton
Deer Chase Elementary School



Brittany Gaylor
A. Dorothy Hains Elementary School



Kristi Bale
Hephzibah Elementary School



Antoinette Young
Hornsby Elementary School



LaShay McGhee
Diamond Lakes Elementary School



Sandra Owens
Freedom Park K-8 School



Kimberly McCarty
Garrett Elementary School



Tracy Harmon
Jamestown Elementary School



Alysa Larke
Jamestown Elementary School



Brandice Schofe
Jenkins-White Elementary School

Elementary School Teachers of the Year

Elementary School Teachers of the Year



Susan Calkins
Lake Forest Hills Elementary
School



Lashauna Garnett
Lamar-Milledge Elementary School



Russell Neely
McBean Elementary School



Carey Tochterman
Terrace Manor
Elementary School



Stephanie Spencer
Tobacco Road
Elementary School



Deneshia McClendon
C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet
School



Janean Griffin
Meadowbrook Elementary School



Linda Roosevelt
A. Brian Merry Elementary
School



Jasvenus Cobb
Monte Sano Elementary School



Erica Peek
Warren Road Elementary School



Melanie White
Wheless Road Elementary
School



Jamie Davis
Wilkinson-Gardens Elementary
School



Susan Gullede
Sue Reynolds Elementary School



Anastacia Shaffer
Rollins Elementary School



Jennifer Donaldson
Southside Elementary School



Simone Furse
Willis Foreman Elementary School



Harriet Veasy
Windsor Spring Elementary School

Middle School Teachers of the Year



Rebecca Felton
Glenn Hills Middle School



Jason Bailey
Hephzibah Middle School



Wilella Richelle Mohler
Langford Middle School



Tonya Fulton
Morgan Road Middle School



Tavius Bennett
Murphey Middle School



Rebecca Freeman
Pine Hill Middle School



Kathy Lott
Sego Middle School



Shirley Harrington
Spirit Creek Middle School



Fran Boseman
Tutt Middle School

Middle School Teachers of the Year

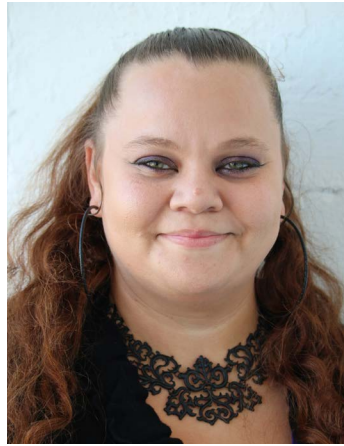


Shahona Cobb
W.S. Hornsby Middle School



Marie Gunter-Blindauer
Intermediate Literacy and Math
Center

High School Teachers of the Year



Melody Spires-Howe
Academy of Richmond County



Leah Carlton
Butler High School



Becky Cole
Cross Creek High School



Frank Jefferson
Richmond County Technical
Career Magnet School



Felicia Tuff
Westside High School



Amy Harriman
Davidson Fine Arts Magnet
School



Alice Hickman
Glenn Hills High School



Brigitte Holmes
Hephzibah High School



Kia Mills
A.R. Johnson Health Science and
Engineering Magnet School



Kelly Winstead
T.W. Josey High School



Dwayne Dubose, Jr.
Lucy C. Laney High School

High School Teachers of the Year

Special School Teachers of the Year



Nichelle Chapman
Alternative Education



Frehiwot Gebrehiwot
Performance Learning Center

Not pictured: Sand Hills Program, Tara Wilkes Cooper

Judges

Dr. Dana Harris

Dr. Dana Harris of Evans has successfully completed 37 years of dedicated service in the educational arena. She started her professional career immediately after completing her undergraduate studies at Delaware State College and subsequently receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education in the spring of 1976. She earned her Master's Degree in Ed. Leadership from Augusta State College, an Educational Specialist Degree from South Carolina State University and was awarded her doctorate in Educational Leadership from Georgia Southern University. Dr. Harris was afforded an opportunity to work in a variety of demographic settings during her tenure with RCS. She worked as an elementary school teacher at Warren Road Elementary, a staff development consultant with the Curriculum Department, assistant principal at both at Willis Foreman Elementary & Sego Middle School and ultimately served as a visionary leader and principal at Bayvale and Wheelless Road Elementary Schools. Dr. Harris retired from the RCSS in June 2016 after serving 30 devoted and fulfilling years. She describes her professional journey with RCS as a humbling, rewarding, and empowering learning experience. She has been married for 38 years, has a daughter, and two beautiful grandchildren; London & Bryce. Her mission in life is quite simple; "To be so busy loving my life that I have no time for hate, regret, worry, fret, or fear."

Mr. Tim Spivey

Mr. Spivey is a product of the RCSS attending John Milledge, Tubman and graduating from The Academy of Richmond County in 1975. He attended South Georgia College and West Georgia College receiving his BS in 1980. He also earned his M.Ed. from Augusta College and Ed.S. from the University of South Carolina. He began his career in education in 1981 as a Physical Education teacher at Joseph Lamar with teaching stints at Windsor Spring Elementary, East Augusta Middle, Sue Reynolds and Richmond Academy. In reference to administration, Mr. Spivey was an AP at Westside High School from 1996 - 1999, Principal at Tutt Middle School from 1999-2002, Principal at Westside High School from 2002-2009, Principal at ARC from 2009-2012 and Deputy Superintendent from 2012 until his retirement on October 31, 2014. He is married to Marybeth and they have two daughters and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Deborah M. Walker of Hephzibah

Mrs. Deborah M. Walker of Hephzibah is a retired high school principal who worked in the Richmond County School System for 34 years, including 24 years in the classroom and 10 years of administrative experience. She served as a mathematics teacher, department chairperson, assistant principal, and principal. She has also taught in the Upward Bound Program at Paine College and the Adult Education Program held at Lucy C. Laney High School. Mrs. Walker received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics Education from the Fort Valley State College and Masters in Mathematics Education from South Carolina State University. A second Masters' Degree and her Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership and Instructional Supervision were earned from Augusta College. While she was principal, A. R. Johnson Health Science and Engineering Magnet School received numerous local, State and National recognitions. In December, Mrs. Walker will celebrate 45 years of marriage to her husband, Larry, and they have over 25 God-children and God-grandchildren. She is a member of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Augusta, Georgia, where she has served continuously as musician and Music Coordinator for over 41 years.

Dr. Jacqueline Fason

Dr. Jacqueline Fason retired from the Richmond County School System in 2011. Dr. Fason really climbed up the ladder. Having first been hired as a Paraprofessional with a bachelor's degree in the first semester of that school year. At the end of that school year, she was hired as a teacher. Later, she was promoted to Lead Teacher/ Assistant Principal. Finally, 33 years later she retired from the Jamestown Elementary School as the Principal. Dr. Fason is a product of the Richmond County School System having graduated from George P. Butler High School. Dr. Fason matriculated through The Fort Valley State University with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Health and Physical Education. She continued her education earning a Master's Degree in Individual and Family Developmental Studies and Master's in Rehabilitative Counseling both from South Carolina State University. She later obtained the Education Certification in Early Childhood Education from Augusta College, a Specialist degree in Curriculum and Instruction and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership both from the University of Sarasota. Dr. Fason has taught in many schools in the district and has worked under the leadership of many great administrators. Currently Dr. Fason is an Adjunct Professor at Paine College where she serves as the Coordinator of Field and Clinical Experiences. Dr. Fason is member of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church where she is Chief of the Usher's Ministry and is also active in numerous other ministries and community organizations. Dr. Fason is the proud mother of one son; Tremell (Shameka) and two very lively grandchildren; Ethan and London.

Dr. Peter Paige of Lincolnton

Dr. Peter Paige has 37 years of experience in public education, including 11 years in the classroom and 26 years as a principal. Dr. Paige earned his Bachelor's Degree at the University of Minnesota, Master's Degree at Georgia Southern University and Doctorate at Georgia State University. Dr. Paige is a past President of the Georgia Elementary Principals Association and former member of GAEL's board of directors. While he was Principal, Warren Road Elementary School was recognized as a Georgia School of Excellence, GA PTA School of the Year and NEA Regional Winner. Dr. Paige is an active member of his church in Lincolnton, Georgia where he also plays the saxophone and sings in the choir. Dr. Paige retired as Assistant Professor at Troy University, Augusta in July, 2012.

Planning Committee

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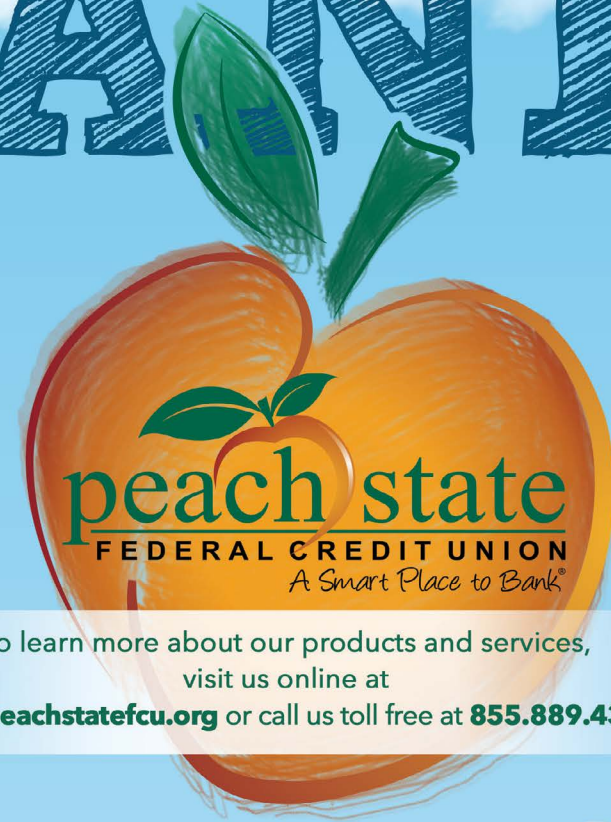
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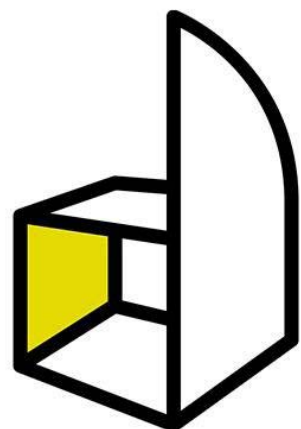
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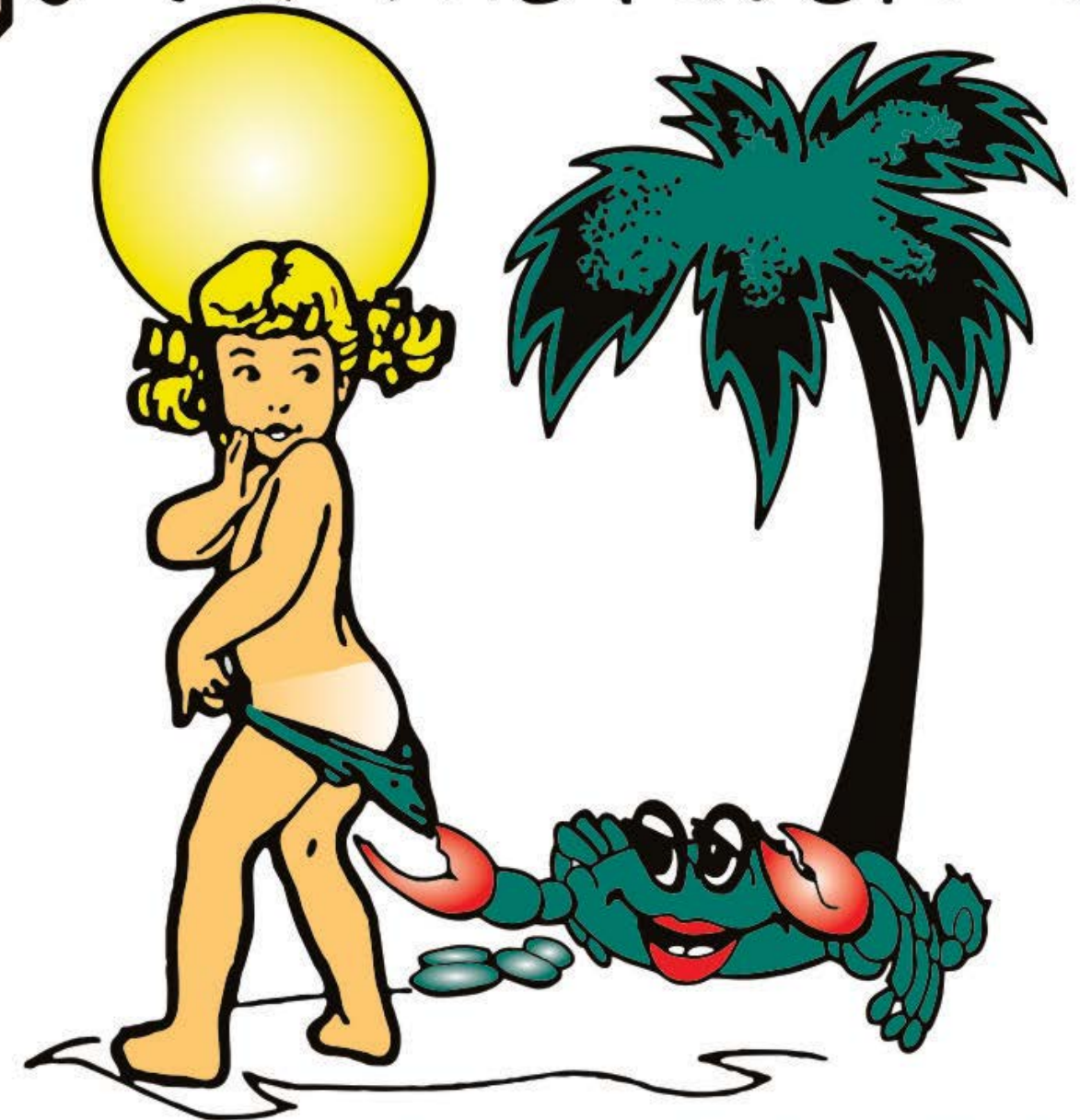


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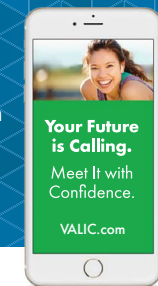
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Thank you!

The Richmond County Association of Educators and the Georgia Association of Education would like to congratulate all the nominees for Teacher of the Year!

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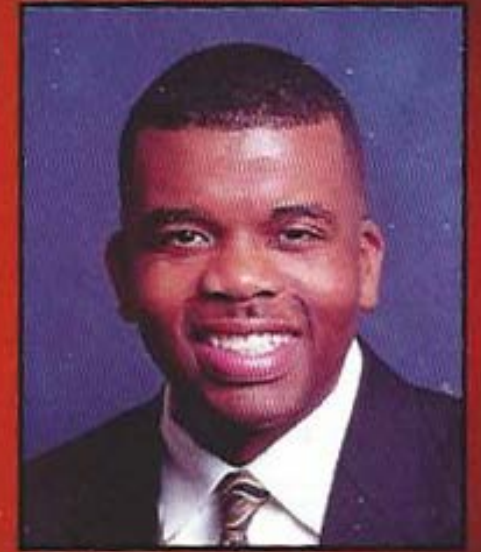
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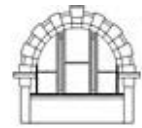
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