

PROOF POSITIVE

Honoring Lexington County School District One students and staff receiving state, national and international awards

August 18, 2015

2015 Palmetto Girls State Officers

Two Lexington County School District One high-school students were elected to constitutional offices during the 2015 Palmetto Girls State.

Palmetto Girls State participants elected Gilbert High Senior **Allison Harman** to serve as commissioner of agriculture and White Knoll High Senior **Kendall Weaver** to serve as governor.

Both students joined the Palmetto Boys State officers for an inauguration ceremony and walked down the State House steps with their official South Carolina constitutional officer counterparts.

Meadow Glen Elementary Resource Teacher **Sabra Denny** is the assistant director of Palmetto Girls State.

American Junior Golf Association's Preseason Junior at Château Élan Golf Tournament winner

Lexington High Sophomore **Gracyn Burgess** tied for first at the American Junior Golf Association's (AJGA) Preseason Junior at Château Élan Golf Tournament in Braselton, Georgia.

During round two, Burgess birdied two of the first three holes. She finished the tournament with a two-over-par 144.

Burgess is a member of the LHS Girls Golf Team, which is coached by **Brandon Smith**.

South Carolina Junior Golf Association's The Blade Junior Golf Classic winner

Gilbert High Senior **Caleb Proveaux** won the South Carolina Junior Golf Association's The Blade Junior Golf Classic in the Boys 13- to 18-year-old division.

Proveaux shot a 67 and a 71 to finish four under par during the two-day event.

The Blade Junior Classic, held in Greer, South Carolina, is one of the top junior events in the state. The tournament pairs junior golfers from around the state in friendly competition.

Proveaux is a member of the Gilbert High Boys Golf Team. **Dawn Fairy** coaches the team.

2015 ExxonMobile/AGI Middle School Earth Science/STEM Teacher Leadership Academy participants

ExxonMobile and the American Geosciences Institute selected Lexington Middle Science Teacher **Cindy Crawford** and White Knoll Middle Science Teacher **Laurie Jordan** to participate in the 2015 Middle School Earth Science/STEM Teacher Leadership Academy.

Only 28 teachers from across the nation were invited to attend the four-day workshop, held in Houston, Texas.

Crawford and Jordan took part in hands-on activities and received resources and field experiences to use with students or for professional development settings.

Association for Career and Technical Education Carl Perkins Community Service Award

The South Carolina Association for Career and Technical Education presented White Knoll High Health Science Teacher **Katrina Haynes** with an Association for Career and Technical Education Carl Perkins Community Service Award.

Haynes received the award for her dedication to the improvement of Career and Technical Education's impact on the lives of individuals and communities, and for outreach to colleagues, students and the community. The award is named in honor of the late Congressman Perkins of Kentucky.

As a state-level recipient of this award, Haynes is now under consideration for the 2016 ACTE Region II Carl Perkins Community Service Award. The winner will be named during the 2016 ACTE Region II Conference.



Digital Public Library of America 2015–2016 Education Advisory Committee member

The Digital Public Library of America selected Meadow Glen Middle Social Studies Teacher and House Leader **Albert Robertson** to serve on the 2015–2016 Education Advisory Committee.

DPLA received more than 300 applications for the committee. The 10 educators selected will work on accomplishing the goals of the “Putting Digital Collections to Work in Education Through Community Curation” grant funded by the Whiting Foundation.

Robertson recently joined other committee members in Boston to create and review primary source sets curated using content accessible through DPLA, which provides audiovisual materials, books, images and historic records to anyone with Internet access. The primary source sets will be used by students and teachers across the nation.

DonorsChoose.Org Project Funding recipient

Pelion High Occupational Credentials Teacher **Kiri Rawson** thought of a creative way to help her students connect academics and effort to life after high school.

Rawson used DonorsChoose.Org to secure funding for her project titled “Motivation with Monograms: Creating a Desire to Learn.” The funding provided Rawson with several items to start a school-based monogramming business run by students in her class.

She received an electronic vinyl cutting machine and other items for students to start the business this fall. They will learn to pay attention to details while working with the vinyl, completing paper work and fulfilling orders. The money earned will be used for community-learning experiences and field trips.

South Carolina Association of Agricultural Educators Clark Woods Distinguished Teacher Award

The South Carolina Association of Agricultural Educators recently gave Pelion High Agricultural Education Instructor **Frank Stover** the 2015 Clark Woods Distinguished Teacher Award.

Stover’s peers nominated him for the lifetime achievement award, which recognizes excellence in the classroom.

He has taught agriculture courses at PHS and served as the Future Farmers of America adviser for 34 years. PHS FFA students have won numerous awards under his leadership.

SCAAE also honored Stover with the organization’s Mentor Teacher of the Year Award. One of Stover’s former student teachers nominated him for the award.

South Carolina School Boards Association’s Boardmanship Institute Recognition

Lexington County School District One Board Member **Dr. Brad Pitts** earned recognition from the South Carolina School Boards Association for achievement in the association’s 2014–2015 Boardmanship Institute.

SCSBA Boardmanship Institute offers workshops that focus on school law, advocacy and legislation, improving board operations, leadership for improving student achievement and other timely topics.

Board members can achieve up to six levels of recognition by participating in statewide conferences and training provided onsite in their district.

Dr. Pitts reached Level Two by earning 40 points within one year, and received a certificate and silver pin.

“Dream Big—Making Dreams Reality in Lexington One” participants

Lexington One produces a video series called “Dream Big—Making Dreams Reality in Lexington One.” The series showcases Lexington One and highlights the importance of public school education.

The fifth video in the series features Pleasant Hill Elementary Third-Grader **Jordan Grant** and Lexington County Sheriff’s Department **Capt. Mark Jones**.

In the video, Jordan talks about his dream to become a police officer. Jones explains how graduating from Lexington One helped him realize the importance of serving others.



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