

March 15, 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting

2016 South Carolina State Swimming Champion

Pleasant Hill Middle Eighth-Grade Student **Jackson "J.J." Hardy** won five individual events at the 2016 South Carolina State Swimming Championships, held in Greenville from February 12 through 15.

In the boys ages 13–14 competitions, Hardy won the 100 freestyle, 200 freestyle, 500 freestyle, 100 butterfly and 200 butterfly.

Hardy will represent South Carolina later this year in the 2016 Eastern Southern Section Zone Age Group Sectional Championship in Atlanta, Georgia, and in the 2016 YMCA Short Course National Championships in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The South Carolina Wrestling Coaches Association's South Carolina Senior All-Stars in the Best Western North-South All-Star Classic

The Wrestling Coaches Association selected six wrestlers from Lexington District One to participate in the North-South All-Star Classic, held on March 4 and 5 in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Nathen Hilley, a Gilbert High senior who wrestled in the 285-pound weight class, was selected for the 3A South Team. **Aaron Austin**, a Lexington High senior who wrestled in the 220-pound weight class, was selected for the 4A North Team. **Preston Painter**, an LHS senior who wrestled in the 152-pound weight class, was selected for the 4A South Team. **Thomas Painter**, an LHS senior who wrestled in the 160-pound weight class, was selected for the 4A South Team. **Hunter Forsyth**, a River Bluff High senior who wrestled in the 182-pound weight class, was selected for the 4A South Team. **Rian Burris**, a White Knoll High senior who wrestled in the 152-pound weight class, was selected for the 4A South Team.

Hilley is coached by GHS Head Wrestling Coach Steven McLeod. Austin, Preston Painter and Thomas Painter are coached by LHS Head Wrestling Coach Derek Strobel. Forsyth is coached by RBHS Head Wrestling Coach Evan Moxie. Burris is coached by WKHS Head Wrestling Coach Jon Kendrick.

Southern Division American Choral Directors Association 2016 Honor Choir

Two Gilbert Middle students were selected to perform in the Southern Division American Choral Directors Association 2016 Honor Choir.

GMS Eighth-Grade Students **Madison Berry** and **Sammie Browning** successfully auditioned to perform in one of the four honor choirs.

Each choir is comprised of about 150 singers. Students from 11 states submitted audition recordings for the Honor Choir, which performed from March 9 through 11 in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

GMS Choral Director Camille Jones helped prepare Berry and Browning to audition for the Honor Choir.

Miss Jr. Teen South Carolina United States 2016

Lexington Middle Eighth-Grader **Laney Quickel** was crowned Miss Jr. Teen South Carolina United States 2016 during a Miss United States National Pageant competition that was held on January 30 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Quickel will represent South Carolina in August at the Miss United States National Pageant national competition.

The Miss United States National Pageant emphasizes community service and volunteerism.

Quickel volunteers with Lexington Interfaith Community Services, supports cancer patients, helped individuals who experienced loss during major flooding in October 2015, and raised money for Samaritan's Feet, which provides new shoes to children in need.

2016 National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists

Three high school students from Lexington District One attained finalist standing in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program competition.

The Lexington One National Merit Scholarship finalists are **Rosemary Coskrey** and **Ashley Whitworth Fellers** from Lexington High and **Elizabeth Farrar** from River Bluff High.

Coskrey, Farrar and Fellers will compete against other students who attained finalist standing in an effort to win one of 2,500 National Merit Scholarships worth \$2,500. Students who attained finalist standing will also be considered for about 1,000 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards and an approximate 3,900 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards that will be presented by a potential 190 colleges and universities. The 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program winners will be announced later this year, beginning in April.

2016 South Carolina Music Educators Association Elementary Honor Choir

Twelve students from Lexington District One performed in the Elementary Honor Choir as part of the 2016 South Carolina Music Educators Association's conference, held February 4 through 6 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

The Lexington One Elementary Honor Choir performers are **Jocelyn Belec**, **Zoe Cockrell**, **Drew Mahoney**, **Ashley Teeter** and **Jenna Tunison** from Carolina Springs Elementary; **Kennedy George**, **Blair Hutchins** and **Sarah Williams** from Deerfield Elementary; **Lillie Gardner** and **Tess Arnold** from Lexington Elementary; and **Ashley Mayer** and **Eliza Mills** from Pleasant Hill Elementary. Students submitted audition recordings for the Honor Choir.

CSES Music Teacher **Barbara Burns**, DES Music Teacher **Kellie Barrier**, LES Music Teacher **Tricia Hood** and PHES Music Teacher **Rachel Moore** worked with their students to prepare musical selections prior to the Honor Choir's performance during the state Music Educators Association's annual conference.

Milken Educator Award

Lexington Middle World Languages Educator **Kimberly Freeman** on February 9 won a Milken Educator Award from the Milken Family Foundation, which included a \$25,000 cash prize. Freeman teaches Latin to students in grades 6–8.

Freeman frames her lessons and assessment practices around collaboration and critical thinking, and has helped guide the district to a shift in performance-based curriculum for world languages. She developed a new system of proficiency assessment using a scaled model based on performance rubrics, self-assessments, external assessments and Socratic seminars.

Freeman propelled the school's once-struggling Latin program to high enrollment and expanded its reach to 23,000 students districtwide through virtual courses. She has opened the door for learners to discover an ancient language and culture through a blended curriculum that links to modern tools and learning goals. In addition, Freeman designed and instructs a new project-based learning course called 702 North Lake (the address of LMS), in which students use social media tools to confront local and global issues.

This is only the second time a Lexington One teacher has won a Milken Educator award. Freeman has received many honors, including winning the Lexington One District Teacher of the Year.

The South Carolina Wrestling Coaches Association's South Carolina Senior All-Stars in the Best Western North-South All-Star Classic Coach

The Wrestling Coaches Association selected River Bluff High Head Wrestling Coach **Evan Moxie** to serve as one of four coaches for the South Team at the North-South All-Star Classic. Moxie coached one of his own athletes, RBHS Senior Hunter Forsyth, during the all-star wrestling competition.

Moxie is in his first year as the head wrestling coach at RBHS, although he has worked as a head wrestling coach at the high-school level for a total of seven seasons.

DonorsChoose.org Project Funding

Gilbert High ISS Monitor **Renee Padgett** received funding through DonorsChoose.org to buy a Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus Graphing Calculator that will be used by students Padgett is monitoring as they complete assignments received from math teachers. Many of the students receive assignments that require the use of a graphing calculator in order to complete their work, and the students do not always bring graphing calculators with them when they report to Padgett's room.

The funding that Padgett received will ensure that students who are assigned to Padgett for monitoring can complete their academic assignments.

The John Philip Sousa Foundation 2015 Legion of Honor Award

River Bluff High Director of Bands **Kenneth Turner** received The John Philip Sousa Foundation Legion of Honor Award on December 18, 2015, at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, Illinois.

The Legion of Honor Award was established to honor eight of the finest band directors in the United States. Recipients must have at least 15 years of teaching experience, including the development of a superior concert band program. They must also contribute significantly to their profession by demonstrating dedication to concert bands and concert band music.

Turner began his teaching career in 1992 and has served as director of bands at RBHS for more than two years. Turner serves as president of the Palmetto Concert Band and has held various offices with the South Carolina Band Directors Association. Concert bands that Turner directs consistently develop reputations for superior performance.

The National Society of High School Scholars Educator of Distinction

White Knoll High World Languages Department Chair and French Teacher **Jill Hnat** received The National Society of High School Scholars Educator of Distinction award on March 12. Hnat has worked as a teacher for 38 years, including 26 years with Lexington District One.

Teachers who receive the Educator of Distinction award serve as outstanding role models and exemplary practitioners who have made a lasting difference in students' lives by encouraging students to strive for excellence in their academic pursuits and in all other aspects of their lives.

The South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers' Association 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award

Gilbert Primary Kindergarten Spanish Partial Immersion Teacher **Gloria Quave** received the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award in February during the state Foreign Language Teachers' Association's annual conference. Quave has worked as a teacher for 31 years, including 10 years with Lexington District One.

Quave experienced the challenge of learning a second language after she moved to the United States from Cuba at age 13 and had to learn English without the benefit of services that schools now provide for students who do not speak English. Quave learned the importance of modifying content so that it is understandable, meaningful and relevant for students who are learning English as a second language.

Quave has served as one of the pioneering Spanish immersion teachers in South Carolina, training and mentoring many teachers who have followed in her footsteps.

The South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers' Association 2016 Teacher of Promise Award

Meadow Glen Middle French Teacher **Shannon Gowe** received the 2016 Teacher of Promise Award in February during the state Foreign Language Teachers' Association's annual conference. Gowe is in her second year of teaching.

Colleagues describe Gowe as a teacher who has "a drive to excel academically and professionally, and acknowledges that we have a greater duty in life, which is to serve by being vessels of positive change." Gowe, who studied in Paris and helped teach English at a French high school, hopes to inspire her MGMS students to love French and French culture as much as she does.

RCES PTA Donation to Flood Relief Victims

The **Rocky Creek Elementary PTA** had scheduled a Boosterthon Fun Run fundraiser for the week just after October's major floods in Lexington County. After much discussion, the PTA determined that proceeding with the fundraiser would help in the healing process for RCES families and the community.

Rocky Creek Elementary's PTA and Boosterthon's corporate office announced prior to the fundraiser that they would each donate 10 percent of any proceeds from the RCES Boosterthon fundraiser to the Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation for aid to flood victims.

As luck would have it, the fundraiser was one of the most successful fundraisers the PTA had ever conducted.

Rocky Creek Elementary PTA President Carolyn Beck presented a check in the amount of \$6,690.19 to the Lexington One Foundation.