

Proof Positive

February 18, 2020
Board of Trustees Meeting



Soil Judging Team wins state competition

Pelion High School's FFA Soil Judging Team landed a win in the recent S.C. State FFA Soil Judging Contest, a two-part competition that culminates in recognition, trips and prizes.

Advisers Frank Stover and Jesse Zeaser coached Thomas Corley, Michael Fields, Savanna Pennington and Bryson Shumpert in the classification of soils by characteristics — surface texture, subsoil permeability, rooting depth, erosion, drainage and slope, as well as land class and subclass.

This in-depth knowledge is assessed for points, which are then supplemented by the team selecting the appropriate recommended land treatments.

White Knoll senior named Scholar Athlete of the Week

On February 3, White Knoll High School basketball player Bria Singleton was named the Scholar Athlete of the Week by WACH FOX and Atkins Law Firm.

In addition to serving as team captain for the Timberwolves basketball team, the senior guard is also a member of the National Honor Society and Beta Club, with a 4.21 GPA.

Singleton plans to continue her education at the University of South Carolina, where she wants to major in nursing and eventually pursue a career as a physician assistant.

Along with the other Scholar Athlete honorees, Singleton is now eligible to win a \$2,500 scholarship to be presented by Atkins Law Firm at the end of the basketball season.





L to r: Anedra Wilson, Brandy Ludlam, Amie Sanders

School counseling program earns national designation

Carolina Springs Middle School is one of only 39 schools to receive Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) designation this year from the American School Counselor Association. CSMS counselors Anedra Wilson, Brandy Ludlam and Amie Saunders will be honored during the organization's annual conference in Seattle, Washington, in June.

RAMP designation is awarded to schools that align their counseling criteria to the ASCA's national model and demonstrate a commitment to delivering a comprehensive, data-informed school counseling program.

"This year's RAMP honorees have shown their commitment to students and the school counseling profession," said Jill Cook, ASCA assistant director. "These schools used data to drive their program development and implementation so all students can achieve success. RAMP designation distinguishes these schools and encourages school counselors nationwide to strive for excellence."

RAMP-designated schools are now in 46 states across the country. RAMP designation is good for five years, after which time schools must reapply to maintain their status.

Making internet safety Common Sense for students

Lake Murray Elementary School was honored for its efforts to prepare students to use technology responsibly. Common Sense, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children and families thrive in a world of media and technology, recognized LMES as a Common Sense School.

According to the organization, LMES demonstrated its commitment to taking a whole-community approach to preparing its students to think critically and use technology responsibly to learn, create and participate, while warning about online risks such as cyberbullying, plagiarism and privacy issues.

LMES uses Common Sense Education's research-based digital citizenship resources, which were created in collaboration with researchers from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and are grounded in the real issues students and teachers face. The resources teach students, educators and parents tangible skills related to internet safety, protecting online reputations and personal privacy, media literacy and managing online relationships.

"LMES deserves high praise for giving its students the foundational skills they need to compete and succeed in the 21st-century workplace and participate ethically in society at large," said Liz Kline, vice president of education programs at Common Sense Education.

The free K-12 curriculum is used in more than 65,000 schools nationwide.

common sense SCHOOL



common
sense
education*

2019-2021

Committed to creating a culture of digital learning and citizenship.

International accreditation awarded to Midway Elementary School

Midway Elementary School recently received international recognition of its French immersion program. The school earned the “LabelFrancÉducation” seal which is awarded by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Established in 2012, the seal is granted to schools promoting French language and culture as part of the curriculum.

Currently, 395 schools from across the world have received the “LabelFrancÉducation” seal. MES is the only school in South Carolina to receive this award and one of just five schools in the Southeast.

Immersion students and staff received the exciting news during a surprise assembly on Jan. 22. Various district and community leaders attended the program. MES Principal Jan Fickling and Lexington County School District One Superintendent Dr. Greg Little gave remarks which highlighted the importance of learning a second language, and the opportunities it provides in education and the workplace.

MES was presented with the diploma by Anne-Lise Gallay from the Consulate General of France in Atlanta. This accreditation gives immersion teachers access to authentic educational resources such as books and lesson plans.

“What makes the French immersion program so special are the highly qualified and outstanding teachers. Our teachers at Midway Elementary, and throughout the district’s immersion programs, work hard to make immersion an incredible experience for students,” said Liza Speece, coordinator of World Language and Dual Language Immersion.

MES is one of seven dual language immersion elementary schools in the district. Beginning in kindergarten, students receive language and literacy, science and mathematics instruction in a world language. They receive instruction in all other subject areas in English. Opened in 1994, MES also celebrates its 25th anniversary this year.



Athletic Trainer recognized for dedication to students and the profession

White Knoll High School Head Athletic Trainer Sheila C. Gordon recently received the Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award from the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers’ Association (MAATA). The prestigious honor recognizes qualified MAATA members for their exceptional contributions to the athletic training profession. Honorees must be leaders in their fields with at least 20 years of service to the MAATA district.

“I became an athletic trainer because I was very active in sports in high school and always had an interest in medicine. Athletic training was a great way to mesh the two together,” said Gordon.

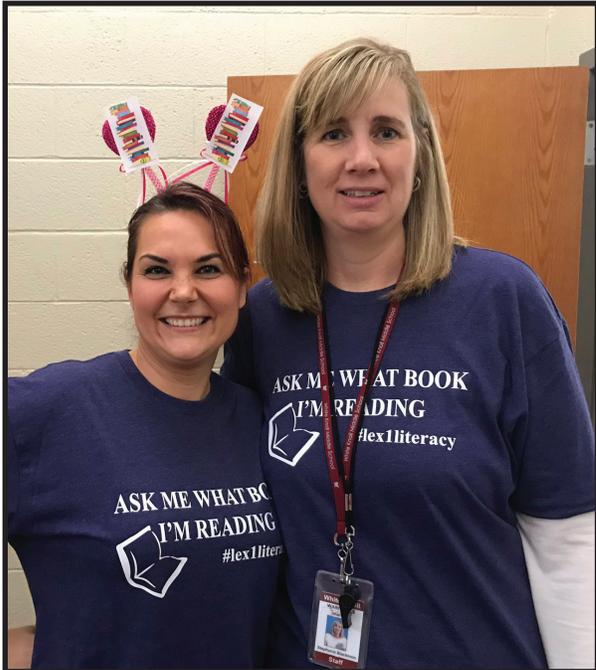
Gordon, who is also the high school’s assistant athletic director, has served the school and its athletes since January 2005. Before coming to Lexington County School District One, she worked at James F. Byrnes High School in Duncan, South Carolina, for seven years. She is also a past-president of the South Carolina Athletic Trainers’ Association.

DonorsChoose.org funds school efforts from reading to broadcasting

The online giving platform DonorsChoose.org encourages support from donors to fund specific classroom needs or projects used to enhance student success.

Candace Lett, literacy coach at White Knoll Middle School, received funding to purchase young adult novels written by popular authors such as Nic Stone, Angie Thomas, Rory Powers and Veronica Roth. These books will be given as prizes to students who participate in an upcoming reading challenge hosted by the South Carolina Association of School Librarians. Lett also attended YALLFest, a young adult book event, and was able to get the authors to sign cards which will be given to the challenge winners along with the new books.

Lexington High School Educator Ashley Miller received funding to buy film production equipment needed to produce Wildcat TV. Broadcasting students at LHS create segments on various current events and topics from sports to art, producing a daily show which is viewed by the student body. The funding purchased tripods and SD cards.



Lexington High nurse named South Carolina's LPN of the Year

Lexington High School Nurse Heather Jackson was named the Licensed Practical Nurse of the Year by the South Carolina Department of Education. Jackson has worked for Lexington County School District One since 1999, first serving as the health room assistant at Pelion Elementary School, then as a nurse at Pelion Middle School before moving to LHS.

Jackson mentors newly hired LPNs to help foster relationships with the onsite or supervising registered nurse at their school. In fact, all new LPNs shadow her for at least a day to learn from her effective procedures. She also leads the district's Team Morale group, which is made up of the system's 50 school nurses at 32 locations. The purpose of the group is to open communication and improve connections among the nurses. In keeping with this mission, Jackson created a monthly newsletter, called *The Pulse*, for the school nursing staff.

"It is evident that Heather has a servant's heart," said Amy Wood, director of nursing and health services for Lexington District One. "Serving others, whether students, staff, the community or her nursing colleagues, is a gift she continues to share with us."

Jackson works to improve the health and wellness of staff, as well. She facilitates wellness initiatives such as flu shot clinics, mammograms and health screenings. She also trains staff in emergency preparedness and student health procedures.

"I chose to become a nurse to help and serve others who are in need," said Jackson. "The most rewarding part of being a school nurse is knowing that a difference can be made in a student's life at any time."



Kimberly Freeman



Devona Price

Central Services professionals earn prestigious certification

Lexington County School District One Human Resources staff Kimberly E. Freeman and Devona M. Price recently earned a respected professional certification. Freeman and Price completed more than 60 hours of training and passed an extensive test to become certified as Professional Human Capital Leaders in Education (pHCLE) by Battelle for Kids. They are two of only four professionals in South Carolina who have earned this certification.

Battelle For Kids, in partnership with the American Association of School Personnel Administrators, recognizes professionals who master a set of knowledge and skills at the intersection of education and human resources, designed to facilitate effective leadership and management in schools, districts and other education organizations.

“Today, it is critical that school districts are able to recruit and retain top talent to ensure equitable

access to excellent educators. To do that, schools need knowledgeable and skilled human capital professionals,” said Tony Bagshaw, chief improvement officer at Battelle for Kids. “The pHCLE certification program is rooted in professional standards that outline the competencies that human capital leaders must master to recruit, grow and retain top talent.”

Battelle for Kids is a national not-for-profit organization which collaborates

with school systems and communities to improve learning for all students. AASPA is the only organization that specifically targets and represents school personnel professionals, serving about 1,800 members around the world.

Freeman has served as the district’s employee development facilitator for three years. Before that, she taught middle school Latin for 13 years. Price is in her fourth year as the district’s director of

Human Resources. She served as principal of Oak Grove Elementary School and Lake Murray Elementary School before moving to Central Services.



References to trademark and brand ownership have been removed for ease of reading, but in all cases should be taken as read and respected.

Lexington County School District One is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all students, parents/legal guardians, staff, visitors, personnel and community members who participate or seek to participate in its programs or activities. Therefore, the district does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth or any related medical conditions), color, disability, age, genetic information, national origin or any other applicable status protected by local, state or federal law.

The district will use the grievance procedures set forth in policy to process complaints based on alleged violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; the Equal Pay Act of 1963; the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; and Titles I and II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The district designates specific individuals to handle inquiries or complaints. To find out whom to contact and how to contact them, please go to our website at <http://www.lexington1.net/contact-us>.