



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

August 21, 2018 • Board of Trustees Meeting
LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

Proof Positive



LHS's Hoda Abdalla, far right, attends a swearing-in ceremony for ALA Girls Nation.

Hoda Abdalla leads the nation

Delegates attending the 72nd American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation in Washington, D.C., elected Hoda Abdalla, a rising senior at Lexington High, as their president.

Abdalla represented ALA Palmetto Girls State and the ALA Department of South Carolina during the week-long event held July 21–28.

Each state selected two delegates to represent them at ALA Girls Nation. Abdalla demonstrated exemplary leadership during an interview process that took place at Palmetto Girls State in June to earn a spot.

Palmetto Girls State delegates first elected Abdalla as mayor of her city, then to the ALA Palmetto Girls State Senate before she represented South Carolina at the national conference. Upon her election as president, Abdalla joined the other national officers at a swearing-in ceremony on Capitol Hill.

ALA Girls Nation and Palmetto Girls State encourage students to take on leadership roles, stay involved in their communities and local government, and educate themselves on issues facing the country.

At LHS, Abdalla is a S.C. HOSA state officer, president of LHS Spanish Honor Society and Million Women Mentors S.C. Student Leader, as well as editor-in-chief of the school's yearbook.



Soccer stars defeat 'rest of the world'

Meadow Glen Elementary's Fulmer J. Bickley, Pleasant Hill Elementary's Ryann A. Robbins and Pleasant Hill Middle's Laurel A. Walls stayed busy during the summer months, competing together on the Lexington-based soccer team, Loco Ocho.

Playing July 28 in Matthews, North Carolina, Loco Ocho won the Coerver National Cup Finals in the Rest of World Division. The Lexington squad defeated teams from North and South Carolina to win the tournament.

Walls scored one point on a penalty kick in the first game, giving Loco Ocho their first win of the tournament. Bickley scored one goal in Game 2, followed by two goals in Game 3. In the final game, Robbins scored two points on a long distance shot, clinching Loco Ocho's victory.

FFA 'star' students recognized

Gilbert High's Kimberly A. Rauch and Pelion High's Savannah R. Poole culminated their high school FFA careers with "star" awards.

Poole received the Star Award in Agricultural Placement, while Rauch received the FFA Star Farmer award, some of the highest honors presented by the South Carolina FFA Association.

The association recognized Poole and Rauch for outstanding agricultural work experience and leadership. Poole managed the PHS Agribusiness Center farm as part of her co-op experience, in addition to serving as the 2017–2018 PHS FFA chapter president.

Rauch also held the office of president for GHS's FFA chapter during the 2017–2018 school year.



Mills aims high

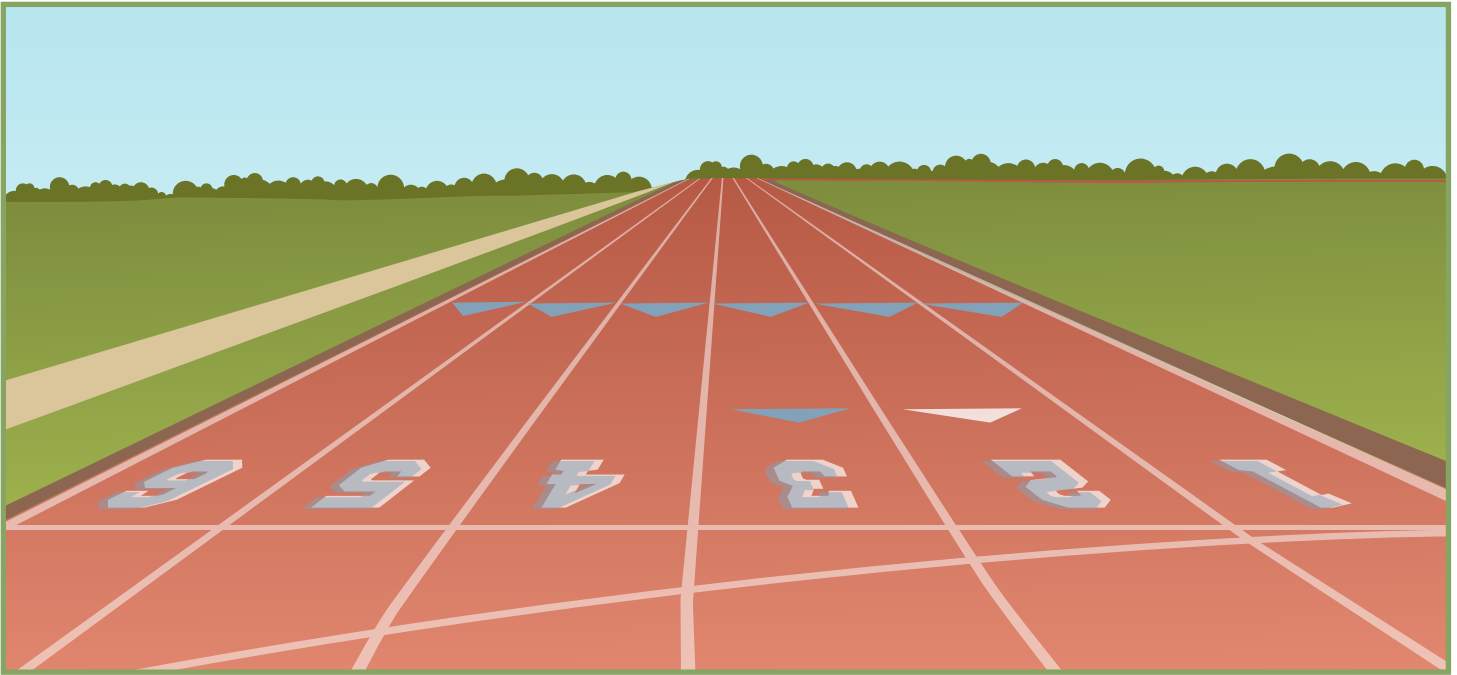
River Bluff High's Conner L. Mills' impressive marksmanship and academics earned him a spot on the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation and NRA Competitive Shooting Sports All-Scholastic Team. He competes as part of the Mid-Carolina Youth Shooting team.

Recognizing student-athletes from 25 states, the team includes those competitors with a 3.0 or better grade point average and top scores in competitions including skeet and sporting clays.

Mills competed in the American Trap, American Skeet and Sporting Clays events, saying that participating in Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation competitions helped him develop leadership skills and form friendships with many positive role models.

Shooting a 97 in the 100-target sporting clay event, Mills helped the Mid-Carolina Youth Shooting team win the first-ever Governor's Cup on March 3. The S.C. Department of Natural Resources awards the cup to the team with the highest cumulative score in the skeet open, trap open and sporting clays open tournaments.

Mills also won the S.C. Youth Shooting Foundation State Championship this season with the highest score among seniors.



A speedy summer

Students compete at track and field championship

Gilbert Elementary's William C. Smith, Midway Elementary's Caroline A. Near, Pleasant Hill Elementary's Ryann A. Robbins, Pleasant Hill Middle's Gabriel A. Barahona, Red Bank Elementary's Asher R. Owens, White Knoll Elementary's Alayna G. Bush and White Knoll Middle's Trevion J. Harris spent their summer speeding around the track, ultimately representing South Carolina at a regional track and field championship.

Students competing as part of the Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission's Youth Track Club, the Lexington County Wildcats, raced at the state level

this summer, earning a trip in July to the 2018 USA Track and Field Region 4 Junior Olympic Track and Field Championship held in Georgia.

The seven Lexington District One students qualified in multiple events, from long jump to the 100-meter dash.

Competing against youth athletes from throughout the Southeast, members of the Lexington County Wildcats ran and jumped to personal bests at the Region 4 Junior Olympic Track and Field Championship.

Teachers celebrate donations

Carolina Springs Elementary's Drew H. Luangxay, Brittany Talwin and Bianca I. Warder; Gilbert Middle's David Chestnut; LynnMarie Heelan and Kristen F. Kirby; and Gilbert Primary's Kayla S. Megill recently received funding for classroom projects and materials through DonorsChoose.org.

Through the online giving platform, educators can post funding requests for specific items such as books, storage containers and even musical instruments.

Recently funded projects submitted by CSES, GMS and GPS teachers included a 3D printer and coding robots for STEM projects, sewing materials for a textiles project and ukuleles to allow students to explore the world of music.



DonorsChoose.org

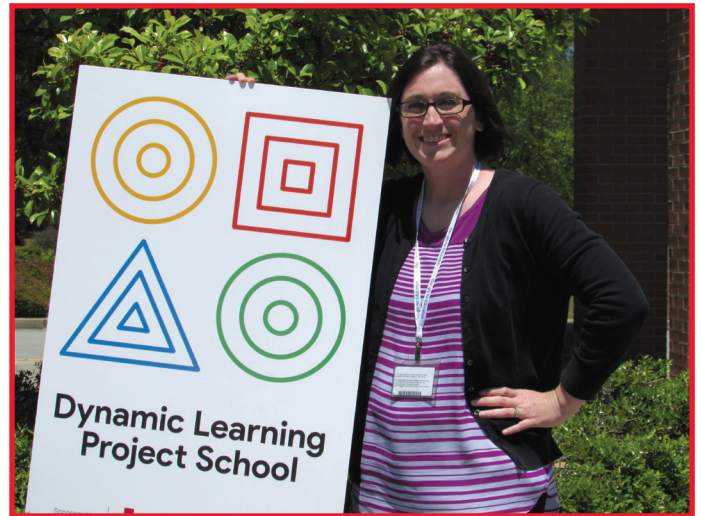
Byrd becomes Google guru

As part of Gilbert Middle's participation in Google for Education's Dynamic Learning Project pilot program, Jennifer L. Byrd completed certification to become a Google Certified Trainer.

The certification allows Byrd to train her fellow educators in how to implement Google for Education tools and resources, ultimately transforming their classrooms with technology.

During the course of several weeks, Byrd completed multiple online courses, training sessions, assessments and videos demonstrating how she would train her peers. The videos she produced showcased strategies and tools to teach others.

Joining the ranks of Google Certified Trainers, she will conduct coaching sessions at Lexington District One in order to share ideas and resources.



Cockrell inspires others with unique summer camp

Carolina Springs Elementary's Karissa B. Cockrell and her husband, David, made headlines this summer for their work with children on the autism spectrum.

WIS-TV's Mungo Community Builder segment honors members of the community who go out of their way to make a positive difference. Nominated by a family friend, the Cockrells earned praise for Camp T.A.L.K., a social skills camp they founded 10 years ago.

The inclusive day camp, designed for children ages 10 and up, encourages campers to focus on social skills, build friendships

and try new experiences. Each activity, from field trips to team-building games to music, allows them to spend time with children similar to them in an environment tailored to their needs.

Volunteers at the camp include multiple teachers from Lexington District One who care for children from the Midlands, Orangeburg, Newberry and Charlotte.

The Cockrells hold the camp each June and July. They received a \$1,000 donation for Camp T.A.L.K. as the newest Mungo Community Builders.



(L to R) Tiffany Miller, Elizabeth Lott, Dee Pulk

Sharing their success stories

White Knoll High's Elizabeth A. Lott, Tiffany R. Miller and Dee Pulk submitted an article to a national educational magazine, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development's "Educational Leadership", landing a spot in the July 2018 issue.

In "Reclaiming Your Time," the authors share how they leveraged technology, utilized the flipped classroom model and efficiently monitored student comprehension through small group instruction to manage limited classroom time. Much as how they combined forces at WKHS to improve instruction, they also collaborated on the article.

Educators from all levels, preK-12, and from many different disciplines and job positions, subscribe to "Educational Leadership" each month. Instead of articles from researchers or journalists, the magazine features articles by teachers for teachers.

With a circulation of approximately 135,000, "Educational Leadership" reaches educators across the country.

Take a bow! CSMS drama teacher wins grant

Sixth-graders at Carolina Springs Middle enjoyed a special performance of "Stone Soup" this spring thanks to grant funding.

CSMS Theatre Arts Teacher Jennifer Simmons won \$500 from the S.C. State Federal Credit Union Teacher Grant program, utilizing the funds to give students additional artistic experiences.

Eligible for the grant as a member of the credit union, Simmons wrote the grant request with the intention of exposing her students to a professional theatre production. The entire sixth grade later enjoyed a performance by Columbia Children's Theatre.



MGES, RBHS praised for preservation efforts



Students and staff at Meadow Glen Elementary and River Bluff High do their part to keep their schools “green,” earning them awards from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

MGES won Outstanding School Recycling Program for 2017–2018, by showcasing an ongoing collaboration between students and staff, exemplified by STEM Coach Jeanne K. McKinney and the school’s art teachers. MGES’s Green Recycling Crew, made up of students, takes an active role in training fellow students and supporting school-wide recycling efforts.

Students at MGES recycle a broad range of materials, including paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, book bags, cell telephones and wooden stakes from political posters. Last year, they recycled 75 pairs of shoes and 1,850 markers, as well as soda bottles and cardboard tubes to create displays of students’ high-quality expeditionary learning.

Over at RBHS, the school received DHEC’s 2018 Spare the Air Outstanding School award for voluntarily improving air quality through its “Breathe Better” Anti-Idling Campaign and Air Quality Flag Program. The initiatives have been in place for three years.

Science Teacher Amy P. Price directs students in checking the Air Quality Index every morning to announce the air quality forecast. They raise a colored flag at the school to indicate the air quality for that day.

To improve indoor air quality, students use recycled cans as containers for “air quality purifying plants,” providing plants so that every classroom can participate.

RBHS also has an active school recycling program, including a group of students who recycle plastic bags, weaving them to create mats for homeless individuals.



Foundation awards Bucks for Books grant

Using its LEAP education funds, the Lexington One Educational Foundation recently awarded its second Bucks for Books grant.

The Office of Instruction, represented by Erica K. Bissell, Ed.D., and Gloria J. Talley, Ed.D., received \$25,000 to assist teachers in building their classroom libraries and support literacy standards set by the South Carolina Department of Education.

Each Lexington District One elementary school received \$1,500 of the funding to purchase new reading materials.

Food Service wins three national awards

The Food Service and Nutrition staff won not one, but three awards for excellence in social media marketing and nutrition standards.

Led by Field Supervisor Kathy S. Moss, the office received the 2017 USDA Turnip the Beet Award — Bronze Level. This award recognizes outstanding summer meal programs across the nation offering high-quality meals that are appetizing, appealing and nutritious.

Lexington District One offered a summer food program at six sites around the district. This program ensures students with limited access to healthy food receive balanced meals even when school is out.

Marketing Coordinator Ashley H. Summers received the 2018 Best Practice Award for “Use of Social Marketing for School Nutrition Programs.” A recognition from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Lexington District One won the Southeast region for best social media posts.

The district also won the 2018 School Breakfast Week Contest, sponsored by the School Nutrition Association and Kellogg’s. As one of eight grand prize winners, Director of Food Service and Nutrition Sally B. Nicholson received a complimentary registration to attend SNA’s annual conference.

A panel of six judges, three on behalf of SNA and three on behalf of Kellogg’s, selected the eight winners from 124 contest entries. They judged entries submitted during National School Breakfast Week on creativity and originality, as well as enthusiasm and encouragement for school breakfast participation.

All entries included photographs and/or video, plus a 500-word description that demonstrated how the social media interaction increased school breakfast participation.



Michelin shows support for ‘Golden’ teachers

Michelin North America’s Lexington site continues its support of Lexington District One by awarding Golden Apple Teacher Grants for fall 2018.

This cycle of grants benefits 1,684 students in seven schools by funding \$2,330 in STEM projects, flexible seating for classrooms and multilingual resources.

Fall 2018 grant recipients include Forts Pond Elementary’s H. Lizzy Siceloff and Matt D. Weber; Lexington Middle’s Elizabeth E. Carter and Vicki L. Gadecki; Meadow Glen Elementary’s Shannon B. Frye; Oak Grove Elementary’s Sarah M. Avila; Saxe Gotha Elementary’s Haylee G. Boltjes, Ginger M. Hackett and Catie Hooker; White Knoll Elementary’s Beth W. Banco; and White Knoll High’s Danielle N. Tarvin.

With their projects funded by a Golden Apple Teacher Grant, educators will lead students on explorations into coding, recycling materials into art pieces, the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and the world of podcasting.





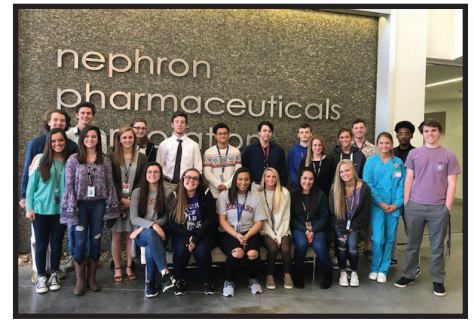
School gardens flourish

Seven schools will expand or sustain their school gardens thanks to grant funding from Walter P. Rawl and Sons, Inc.

Recipients of a School Garden Mini-Grants include Forts Pond Elementary's J. Haley Cribb, Gilbert Primary's Debbie F. Oswald, Meadow Glen Elementary's Jeanne K. McKinney, Pelion Elementary's Dana C. Boozer and Heather A. Bradwell, Pleasant Hill Middle's Anne M. Peterson, River Bluff High's Amy P. Price and White Knoll High's Sarah J. Fisher.

Financial support from W.P. Rawl — \$500 for a new garden or \$250 to maintain an existing garden — allows teachers to provide outdoor learning opportunities that reinforce concepts such as mathematics and measurement, teamwork and responsibility.

Projects funded this fall include a raised-bed garden for PES first-graders, a hydroponic garden for RBHS marine science students and a new greenhouse for WKHS's Occupational Credential Program to help them build career skills.



Nephron supports LTC students

Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation and CEO Lou Kennedy continued their support of the next generation with a donation to the Lexington One Educational Foundation.

Kennedy recently presented a \$9,000 check to the Foundation for Lexington Technology Center.

Funds will cover the required student fees for 30 students to take the Pharmacology for Medical Careers course at offered LTC during the 2018–2019 school year.



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The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints. Chief Human Resources Officer Michael L. Stacey handles inquiries/complaints regarding Title IX, inquiries/complaints regarding Title II with respect to employees and/or public access to buildings and grounds, and inquiries/complaints involving the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Inquiries/complaints regarding IDEA for students K–12 go to Director of Special Services Wendy Balough, Ed.D. Inquiries/complaints regarding Section 504 for students K–12 go to 504 Coordinator Ann O'Cain. Inquiries/complaints regarding Title II implementation go to Coordinator of ESSA Title II Part A Hilary Morgan.

If you have questions regarding these issues, contact these people by mail at 100 Tarrar Springs Road, Lexington, SC 29072 or by telephone at 803-821-1000.