



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

January 15, 2019 • Board of Trustees Meeting  
LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

# Proof Positive

## Students represent S.C. at United Nations International Day of the Girl Child

A group of Lexington District One students, led by Lexington Middle Counselor Stacy Clarke and Meadow Glen Middle Counselor Dominique Sawyer, traveled to the United Nations International Day of the Girl Child's Girls Speak Out summit. The International Day of the Girl Child highlights and addresses the needs and challenges that girls face, while promoting the empowerment of girls and the fulfillment of their human rights.



Members of the Grace Peace and Sisterhood group included LMS's Jamesey L. Davis and Jaeme T. Johnson; MGMS's Sara A. Bennett, Jasmine L. Clarke, Alona P. Singleton, Sydney N. Smith and Leila A. Trapp; and River Bluff High's Tymesha L. Young.

Toby Jenkins-Henry, Ph.D., associate professor of Instruction and Teacher Education at the University of South Carolina's College of Education, selected Grace Peace and Sisterhood for this life-changing experience.

Founded in 2013, the Grace Peace and Sisterhood group (60 students) provides extra support for teen girls, who each receive help working toward graduation.



## Sing their praises!

A record number of Lexington District One elementary students received an invitation to a prestigious state honor choir.

Sixteen students — Deerfield Elementary's Maddyn S. Campbell and Chloe C. Esbensen; Lexington Elementary's M. Gavin Boozer, Olivia I. Ketcham and Ava G. King; Meadow Glen Elementary's Alena J. Goveas; Midway Elementary's Taylor A. Glover and E. Morgan Nesmith; New Providence Elementary's Sophia G. Bates and Camila Urresta; Pleasant Hill Elementary's Roman I. Evans; Rocky Creek Elementary's Olivia A. Reddin; and White Knoll Elementary's T. Alexandria "Ally" Kitt, Grace E. Kouakou, W. Alan Moore and Kate M. Schnabel — successfully auditioned for the South Carolina Music Educators Association Elementary Division Honor Choir.

A testament to their hard work, these students will sing with other talented students from across the state at the South Carolina Music Education Association Professional Development Conference, Feb. 7–9, 2019.



## Celebrating champions of the robotics circuit

Two Meadow Glen Middle robotics teams returned to the winners' circle, with both teams earning accolades for their ingenuity and engineering skills. This season's FIRST LEGO League theme, Into Orbit, challenged students to apply innovation to the world of space travel by solving real-world problems and completing missions.

MGMS's all-girls team, "Gator Gears," earned a trip to international competition by finishing second in the race for the South Carolina FIRST LEGO League Champion's Award and will represent South Carolina at the FIRST LEGO League Razorback Open Invitational in May 2019.

The Gator Gears include Sydney C. Davis, Sachi Lal, Hir D. Panchal, Sarina Y. Patel, Anuska Sharma, Celeste C. Sullivan and Rebecca L. Yu.

Knowing they needed to complete a variety of missions during competition, the Gator Gears built their robot with a front-loading attachment system. This design allowed the students to easily switch attachments and complete each mission efficiently.

MGMS's "Robo Gators" also scored big with the judges. At the same state competition, Team Members Sam J. Cancilla, Drew B. Carter, Aodhan F. Keenan, Ratish S. Korrapati, Ritvik S. Korrapati, Ryan J. Paraday and Arav Rastogi won first place for South Carolina FIRST LEGO League Best Mechanical Design.

The team did not rest until their robot operated at a high level and made multiple revisions along the way. Mission accomplished! Their winning robot balanced speed, accuracy and power.

## Lexington senior takes Miss South Carolina Teen USA 2019

Lexington High Senior Allie P. Richardson competes nationally this spring in the Miss Teen USA pageant after winning the Miss South Carolina Teen USA 2019 pageant on Dec. 1, 2018.

One of 27 contestants from across the state, Richardson is not only honored to represent South Carolina in national competition, she also plans to work hard to bring awareness to issues surrounding depression, a cause dear to her.

She will spend this year volunteering with various community organizations.

Richardson serves as LHS student body vice president and is a National Honor Society chapter officer.



*Photo courtesy of Sage Media Group*





# Nuts, Bolts and Thingamajigs returns

Thanks to additional grant funding, a popular summer camp returns to Lexington Technology Center this summer. The funding provides project materials, field trips and food for the campers.

Led by District Career Specialist Julie O. Rojek, Lexington District One received a \$1,500 grant from the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, International, to support a second year of the Nuts, Bolts and Thingamajigs summer camp.

Last year, the camp provided students with opportunities to learn how much manufacturing jobs have changed, and featured guest speakers from the manufacturing world, a 3D printer demonstration and field trips to local industries.

## LMES receives Special Olympics Unified Champion School grant

Lake Murray Elementary Teacher Aletha P. Corley helped her school obtain Special Olympics activities funding through a \$400 Special Olympics South Carolina Unified Champion School grant.

As a Unified Champion School, LMES provides opportunities for students with and without disabilities to play sports together and build friendships.

LMES uses the funding for transportation and sports equipment, as well as resources to help them further advocate for Unified Champion participants.



## Deerfield "lighthouses" the way!

Deerfield Elementary earned FranklinCovey Leader in Me Lighthouse School status in December after three years of self-evaluation and implementation of a proven leadership model.

Both students and teachers played key roles during the school's journey.

Members of the Student Lighthouse Team include Taiwan L. Alston, Layla J. Bateman, Caleb N. Leakey, Ansley R. McClendon and Maleah L. Price.

The Staff Lighthouse Team includes Olga L. Brown, Brian A. French, Lacy B. Hinson, Kelly A. McElwain, Bethany B. Paetow, Haley C. Prickett, Beth S. Tester, Shenika T. Waring and Alice M. Wilson, as well as Principal Jan H. Malone and Assistant Principals Adam D. Dymond and Kelly R. Middleton.

Approximately 250 schools worldwide hold Lighthouse Status, including five other Lexington District One schools.

To achieve this impressive goal, DES organized Student and Staff Lighthouse teams, crafted a leadership environment to challenge and support student growth, taught and reinforced the 7 Habits, invited students to take on meaningful leadership roles, and hosted leadership events.

Using student data, leadership notebooks and other leadership tools, the school demonstrated measurable results as students put the 7 Habits into daily practice.

## Target grant provides 'sweet' field trip

Forts Pond Elementary First-Grade Teacher Leslie S. Burnett continues an annual spring tradition with students thanks to a Target Field Trip grant.

The \$700 grant covers the cost of a field trip to the Patch at Sease Strawberry Farm, which gives all 92 FPES first-graders the opportunity to experience firsthand from retired educators the life cycle of a strawberry.

Students also enjoy a hayride out to the fields, where they pick a bucket of berries to take home.

In 2007, as schools found it increasingly difficult to fund learning opportunities outside the classroom, Target began offering field trip grants, which continue to fund field trips for millions of students.

## ABC grants fund the arts

Two Lexington District One middle schools, Pleasant Hill Middle and White Knoll Middle, earned another round of grant funding to support arts education. The Arts in Basic Curriculum Advancement Grant funding allows them to continue offering students excellent arts opportunities.

PHMS received \$11,097, while WKMS received \$8,539. Both schools also successfully applied for ABC Advancement grants in previous years.

The South Carolina Arts Commission's Arts in Education Grant program supports schools, school districts, or Gifted and Talented programs committed to implementing standards-based arts curricula, and to making the arts an integral part of the basic curriculum and daily classroom instruction.

Using this funding dedicated to the arts, schools have invited artists-in-residence to show students career opportunities and woven arts education into core subject areas, as well as provided professional learning opportunities for teachers.

The grant writers included Pleasant Hill Middle's Shannon B. Canady, Lori L. McKelvey, Jessica I.M. Robbins and A. Mickey Summerall, and White Knoll Middle's Debra C. Adams and Jolene K. Walter.

**NATIONAL  
BOARD**  
for Professional  
Teaching Standards®

## Educators earn National Board Certification

Forty-one Lexington District One educators earned for the first time or renewed their National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Created by teachers, the certification process uses National Board standards, allows peers to review applications and takes into account multiple factors of effective instruction. Candidates must reflect on their classroom methods and measure their mastery of subject material. They must also submit an extensive portfolio with videos of teaching, lesson plans and student work samples.

Teachers earning National Board Certified Teacher status for the first time include Lake Murray Elementary's Kristen K. Bodmer and Jillian M. Stratton; Meadow Glen Middle's Cliff J. Roberts; Pelion High's Ashton C. Padgett; Pelion Middle's Shelly A. Martin; Pleasant Hill Elementary's Donna B. Spivey and Erica S. Sweatman; and River Bluff High's Emmaline H. Lewis and Andrea M. Moore.

Teachers renewing their certification include Carolina Springs Elementary's Misty M. Johnson; Gilbert Elementary's Heather M. Gresham; Gilbert Primary's April M. Mendenhall and Debbie F. Oswald; Lexington Elementary's Mary Ashley Rodriguez; Lexington High's Sherri S. Corley, Dana B. Crowley and Kimberly P. Watson; Lexington Middle's Patricia H. Lampl; Lexington Technology Center's Esther H. Abney; Meadow Glen Elementary's Jamie K. Sox; Meadow Glen Middle's Lyuda Hutcheson; Midway Elementary's Tammy E. Sharpe; New Providence Elementary's Gregory P. Blashka and Haley H. LaMarche; Pelion Elementary's Kris A. Pratt and Ruth Ann Treaster; Pelion High's Traci D. Holcomb and Gwyndolyn F. Wingard; Pleasant Hill Middle's Shannon B. Canady, Lori L. McKelvey and Steve E. Woodyard; River Bluff High's Carlee M. Myers, Kinsi J. Near and Carol Lynn Nute; White Knoll Elementary's Katie Harmon and Jennifer B. McPherson; and White Knoll Middle's Debra C. Adams, Stephanie S. Blackmon, Deidre D. Foote, Candace A. Lett and Marlene K. Neal.





## Walmart grant brings stories to the stage

Carolina Springs Middle Theater Arts Teacher Jennifer S. Simmons recently received a Walmart Foundation Community Grant, allowing students to bring stories to life on stage.

This funding directly benefits more than 200 theater students, as well as students, parents and community members who attend the shows.

The \$1,000 grant covers production costs for upcoming theatrical performances, including materials for sets and props, costumes, fabric and more. Simmons says she often employs reusable materials so students can use costumes, props and set pieces for years to come.



## Learning blooms in school gardens

Seven schools' teachers will expand or sustain their school gardens thanks to mini-grants from Walter P. Rawl and Sons, Inc.

School Garden Mini-Grants went to Alternative Educational Services' Barbara M. Johnson, Carolina Springs Middle's Anna D. Faust, Forts Pond Elementary's H. Lizzy Siceloff, Meadow Glen Elementary's M. Casey Davis and Jeanne K. McKinney, New Providence Elementary's Erica M. Schumpert, Pelion Middle's Christopher K. Johnson and Saxe Gotha Elementary's Leigh A. Toste.

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

Projects funded this spring include an afterschool beautification project at PMS, a courtyard garden at AES and a gardening research project at MGES. Activities encompass 1,314 students across the district through \$2,440 in funding.



# Michelin supports 'Golden' teachers

Michelin North America's Lexington site continues supporting Lexington District One educators with its Golden Apple Teacher Grants.

Spring 2019 grant teacher recipients include Alternative Educational Services' Amber L. Bible, Lexington Elementary's Deborah M. Marcolini, Meadow Glen Elementary's Katherine E. Agudelo Soto, Oak Grove Elementary's Jamie L. Blakely, Pelion Elementary's Katie E. Alexander, Pleasant Hill Elementary's Leigh O. Johnson, Red Bank Elementary's Rocky C. Burns, Rocky Creek Elementary's Paige Jergenson, Saxe Gotha Elementary's Kim A. Lewis, White Knoll Elementary's Don N. Sarazen, and White Knoll Middle's Jamie Bowen, Suzanne Brooks, Joan B. Conger, Russ A. Conrath and Candace A. Lett.

This cycle of grants benefits 1,504 students in 11 schools with \$2,849 in funding. With their projects funded by a Golden Apple Teacher Grant, educators will teach mathematics with balloons, enhance language with authentic cultural materials, use Legos to increase engagement in the classroom and purchase "just right" non-fiction books.



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 [lexington1.net/contact-us](http://lexington1.net/contact-us).