

# Proof Positive

January 21, 2020  
Board of Trustees Meeting



*Braden Walker*



*Nicholas Taiste*

## 83rd Annual Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas showcases the best

River Bluff High Senior and Running Back Braden L. Walker and White Knoll High Senior Nicholas “Nick” J. Taiste, an offensive lineman, made the roster for the 83rd Annual Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas, held at Wofford College’s Gibbs Stadium in December.

The Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas is America’s oldest high school football all-star game in the nation, and features 44 of the best high school seniors from North Carolina against 44 of the best high school seniors from South Carolina.

The Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas is played to benefit the Greenville (South Carolina) Unit Shriners Hospital for Children and the 21 other Shriners Hospitals for Children across the nation.

The S.C. Sandlappers bested the N.C. Tar Heels, 28–17, to bring the win home for South Carolina.

## Smith dedicates 20 years to Lexington District One

Cynthia S. Smith, Board Member for Lexington District One and the current Chair, has been recognized by the South Carolina School Boards Association for 20 years of school board service.

SCSBA recognizes that veteran school board members provide vision and valuable leadership for school districts.

Lexington District One is proud of Chair Smith for her dedication to students in our community.







## 'Perilous Beauty' secures first place in South Carolina Wildlife magazine essay contest

Published on SouthCarolinaWild.org, South Carolina Wildlife's digital magazine for college and high school students, Gilbert High School Senior Gracie L. Howard's essay, "Perilous Beauty," was awarded first place in *South Carolina Wildlife* magazine's personal essay contest.

The essay was also published in the September/October edition of *South Carolina Wildlife* magazine. Howard also received a \$250 prize through the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund.

College and high school students from across the state participate in the outdoor writing contest which showcases the Palmetto State's natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities.

## Raising the banner at Meadow Glen Middle School

Meadow Glen Middle, a Special Olympics Unified Champion School, received National Unified Champion School status in recognition of its efforts to provide inclusive sports and activities for students with and without disabilities.

A Special Olympics Unified Champion School creates an inclusive school climate and exudes a sense of collaboration, engagement and respect for all members of the student body and staff.

Receiving a banner of national recognition demonstrates a commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 national standards of excellence developed by a national panel of leaders from Special Olympics and the education community.



## 'Grace, Peace, Sisterhood'

WIS TV recognized Meadow Glen Middle School Counselor Dominique L. Sawyer as a WIS/Mungo Homes Community Builder for her creation of and work with a structured guidance program called GPS, which stands for "Grace, Peace, Sisterhood," a program that helps African American middle school girls navigate their middle school years.

Sawyer has partnered with the University of South Carolina to give these girls experiences with guest speakers, workshops and field trips.



Special Olympics  
**Unified Champion  
Schools**



## Lexington X Athletic Conference Middle School Volleyball Champions

The Beechwood Middle School Volleyball team finished the season with an undefeated record in the first year of the Lexington X Athletic Conference.

Coached by Erica Crawford, team Captains included Halle R. Goodrich and Lillie M. Wrighter.

Other Lady Bengals team members included Emily K. Allred, Peyton M. Baker, Abbigail S. Barnes, Emily K. DeRienzo, Lillian K. Deyo, Alaina C. Harry, Chloe R. Osment, Jazlyn N. Snow, Elizabeth S. Sykes, Sara C. Sykes, Kameron M. Turner, Kendall A. Vinson, Ellison W. Watkins and Megan K. Wesolowski.



## DonorsChoose.org funding strengthens skills and education for staff and students

The online giving platform DonorsChoose.org encourages support from donors to fund specific classroom needs or projects for educators to enhance their students' success.

Beechwood Middle School Seventh Grade English Language Arts Teacher Michelle F. Norris recently received full funding to build her classroom library collection, while addressing the interests and reading abilities of all of her students. Students will be able to check the books out and practice many reading-related skills, while being encouraged to enjoy appropriate books and discover a lifelong passion for reading.

Lead Interventionist Allison P. Jackson at Midway Elementary requested financial support to expand her training and skillset to better serve students with dyslexia, with the aim of sharing the gained knowledge with her team members to help struggling students who learn in different ways.



## Touchdown energy at the Touchstone Energy Bowl

The annual Touchstone Energy Bowl, North vs. South, pits South Carolina's best football players against each other in one of the premier high school all-star games in the country.

The cooperative efforts of the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association, the South Carolina Football Coaches Association and the Touchstone Energy North-South Game Committee make this a memorable experience for every player, coach and fan.

All-star players and seniors from Lexington District One who participated in the 73rd Annual Touchstone Energy Bowl include Gilbert High's D. Alec Holt and Jy'Quez "Jy" K.T. Tolen, Lexington High's Walker R. Anderson, Pelion High's Jacob L. Lucas and White Knoll High's Luis A. Orellana.

The all-star coaching roster drew from the coaching talent in Lexington District One as well, with the inclusion of Gilbert High's Mark Cagle, Pelion High's Dann R. Holland and Lexington High's W. Perry Woolbright.

The 73rd annual game was held at Doug Shaw Stadium in Myrtle Beach this past December. The South Team defeated the North Team 35-13.





## Growing gardens and students

Thanks to grant funding from Walter P. Rawl and Sons, Inc., six schools can expand or sustain their school gardens.

Recipients of School Garden Mini-Grants include Beechwood Middle's Haleigh D. McCartha and Anné M. Peterson, Forts Pond Elementary's Helen E. Siceloff, Pleasant Hill Elementary's Emalee B. Stickney, Red Bank Elementary's Rocky C. Burns, Saxe Gotha Elementary's Ginger M. Hackett and White Knoll High's Jonny Thompson.

W.P. Rawl's financial support — \$500 for a new garden or \$250 to maintain an existing garden — allows teachers to provide outdoor learning opportunities that reinforce concepts such as teamwork and responsibility while demonstrating real-world applications of mathematics and biology.

The \$1,880 in grant funding will impact more than 3,000 student gardeners, as well as hundreds more who enjoy eating the produce, yielded from the school gardens.



## Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant Recipients

Golden Apple Teacher Grants for spring 2020 have been announced by Michelin North America's Lexington site.

Grants have been awarded to Beechwood Middle's Meghan Blackburn, Carolina Springs Elementary's Jessica S. Chandler, Lexington High's Sara E. Beckett and Hailey Martin, Pleasant Hill Elementary's Renae M. Aman, Jennifer H. Farmer and Jennifer E. Jones, Red Bank Elementary's Rocky C. Burns and White Knoll Middle's Suzanne M. Brooks and Angela K. Thom.

This cycle of grants benefits 5,559 students in 6 schools by funding 9 projects and other important classroom needs.





# Lexington District One celebrates School Board Recognition Month

Lexington County School District One joined school districts throughout the state and nation to celebrate School Board Recognition Month in January.

This month we honor the year-round commitment that school board members make to our district. The theme “School Board Strong” highlights the fact that school board members are elected by the people in their local communities to ensure the success of schools and students.

As a part of School Board Recognition Month, board members participated in an official signing of the South Carolina School Board Member Ethical Principles. By signing the principles, school board members vowed to uphold effective governance principles and pledged to improve public education in their community.

The district is grateful for the professional leadership of Chair Cynthia S. Smith, Vice Chair Anne Marie Green, and Secretary Dr. Brent M. Powers and the dedicated service of Members Michael E. Anderson, Jada B. Garriss, Dr. R. Kyle Guyton and Timothy F. Oswald.





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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>.