

Proof Positive

December 17, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting



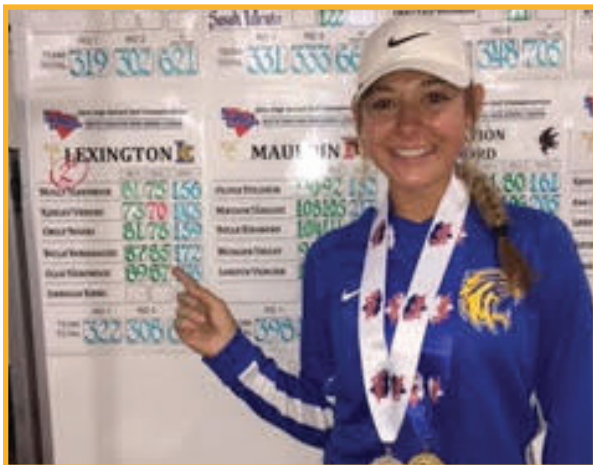
Vardas drives for the gold

Lexington High School Junior Karlee M. Vardas, ranked second as a South Carolina Junior Female Golfer, recently committed to play golf and further her education at Georgia Southern University.

Since Vardas joined the Lexington Wildcat Girls Varsity Golf Team in the seventh grade, she made the All-Region Team five times and the All-State Team four times. The team took three Team State Championships.

This year she won the 2019 South Carolina Class 5A Girls Individual Golf State Championship, shooting 3 under par. After a playoff round with a Blythewood golfer, she birdied on the second playoff hole to clinch the title.

During the 2019 High School Fall golf season, Vardas had five wins and five second-place finishes in 11 tournaments with a cumulative score of 10 under par for the entire season.



Kelly rides to victory

Lexington High School Senior Caroline S. Kelly recently competed in the Kentucky National Horse Show with her lease horse, Hopscotch.

On Friday, she won the over fences portion of her division and took fourth place on the flat portion.

On Saturday, she took third place in over fences.

The Lexington 4-H Horse Club's cumulative points earned the team the title of Champion of the 16- to 17-year-old equitation division. This was Caroline's first AA-rated horse show and national horse show.

District receives South Carolina Community Block Grant

On December 2, the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee announced that Lexington County School District One received one of six grants designed to focus on improving children's readiness for kindergarten by enhancing the quality of pre-kindergarten programs for 4-year-olds.

Academic Assistance, Early Childhood and Title I Coordinator Jessica Buzhardt and her team (Parent Engagement Specialist Melissa Martin and Preschool Coordinator Diana Smith, Ph.D.) wrote the \$74,222 grant they will implement at Pelion Elementary School with Debbie R. Poole.

The grant funds will increase opportunities for play and language and literacy development. It will also expand targeted professional learning for 4K teachers and staff.

PHMS Cougars take first middle-school football championship

This year for the first time, Lexington District One partnered with other districts to create the Lexington X Middle School Football competition.

The middle school football championship game came down to two Lexington District One teams; Pleasant Hill Middle School and Gilbert Middle School. The Pleasant Hill Middle Cougars won the game (26 to 0) and the trophy after Jayden Bradford scored four touchdowns.

The Cougars gave up only six points all season and finished undefeated 8-0.

Coached by Matthew Hornsby, the team included Eighth Graders Roshaud Bennett, Dylan Bolin, Chace Bond, Jayden Bradford, Micah Bridges, Daniel Bryan, Montell Byrd, Duke Cleary, Jack Cooper, Johnathan Coyne, Charles DiMarco, Dominic Feraci, Jordan Fryer, Garrett Gallaher, Jacob Gepfert, Jaylen Green, Shane Hanna, Graceson Hudgins, Cam Lott, Ryan McFarland, Taiden Mines, Gracie Moulton, Seth Reynolds, Evan Rothery, Nicholas Rowe, Christian Sexton, Cameron Scott, Kamron Spencer, Keegan Spencer, Cameron Sutton, and Weldon Williamson, and Seventh Graders Brenton Baker, Christen Becerra, Jaxon Broyles, Jacob Byrd, Stephen Crawford, D'Aundre Dennis, Deacon DiMarco, Maddox Free, Abram Golder, Griffin Harris, Shane Heller, Sam Hiller, MJ Hornsby, Torie Jones, Artem Kalinkin, Hayden Lawlor, John Marcum, Madison Moore, Antuan Morris, Jerron Sanders, Lionel Seago, David Taylor, and Bradley Vest.

PES SRO Odell Glenn builds community

Pelion Elementary School Resource Officer Odell Glenn plays a vital part in the education process. In fact, WIS-TV and Mungo Homes recently honored him with a WIS/Mungo Homes' Community Builder Award.

A member of the Pelion Police Department, Glenn talks to students about the dangers of drugs and the importance of making good and healthy choices. He establishes personal relationships with the students.

He knows what it takes to keep elementary students engaged. For instance, during the school's homecoming week, he dressed up for the various theme days and played music through speakers, complete with lights, during morning drop-off car duty.

Glenn said his \$1,000 prize money would go to an organization called Sole Stepping. Sole Stepping buys shoes and socks for needy children in Pelion.





Tennis brings honors to RBHS

Winning its second Class 5A state championship as a tennis team in three years, the River Bluff High School Girls Tennis Team became the school's first two-time state champion.

The team, coached by Brian J. Lim, consists of Meadow Glen Middle School Eighth Grader Patricia I. Silva Salvador and RBHS Seniors JaKobia A. Abraham, Shelby C. Byers, M. Claire Floyd, Jesse L. Hollins, Riley L. Mitchell and Kiana M. Thatcher, Sophomore E. Liyin Zhu and Freshman Jordan L. Schaberg.

Senior Kiana Thatcher and Sophomore Liyin Zhu rallied from first set losses to win their matches just as Senior Claire Floyd completed her victory.

RBHS Senior Jesse Hollins led the team to a comeback win over J.L. Mann High School.

In fact, RBHS Senior Jesse Hollins made school history by winning her semifinal and final tennis matches. This is the school's first individual girls' tennis title, the 2019 Class 4A/5A Girls Individual Tennis State Championship.

She completed the season undefeated 27-0 and signed with Coastal Carolina to play next year.

Hollins was named an All American Player of the Year.

As if that wasn't enough, Claire Floyd and Jesse Hollins capped off the year by being named to the 2019 All-State Players. And, Coach Brian Lim became the 2019 Region Tennis Coach of the Year.



Sikirzhytskaya places in National German Olympiad

River Bluff High School Junior Maryia V. Sikirzhytskaya took third place at the German Olympia National Competition held in Chicago.

Because she became a Top 14 German Olympiad Finalists in the Nation in the German Olympiad Goethe Institut Internationale Deutsch Olympiad earlier, with 270 students from 86 schools and 29 states competing, she was flown to Chicago to compete in the two-day, four-part German assessment.

Students grab wins at the State Fair!

Students showed off their range of talents and artistic skills during the annual S.C. State Fair by winning many first-place awards.



Three Lexington Middle School students — Sixth Grader Rosalie E. Jaramillo, Seventh Grader Hailee E. Thomas and Sixth Grader Taryn L. Thomas — took home eight first-place awards and one Best in Class award.

Jaramillo won Novice Western Horsemanship and Novice Western Champion awards.

Hailee Thomas won Equitation Over Fences 18 inches, Western Horsemanship 12 and Under, Western Pleasure 12 and Under, and 12 and Under Western Champion awards.

Taryn Thomas scored first-place awards in Food Candy and Food Pie, then took Good Pie Best in Class.

Lexington High School Freshman Ethan R. Willie won the 13 to 15 Western Reserve Champion award.

Five Pleasant Hill Elementary School students received first-place recognition for their art and photography: Fifth Grader Ella P. Copeland in 3D Art; First Grader Isabella K. Mezzina in 2D Art; First Grader Logan V. Sayers in Photography; and Fifth Grader Charlotte D. Spencer in 2D Art.

Fifth Grader Annika G. Schweiger took home the Best of Show Award in 2D Art.

Pleasant Hill Middle School sixth grade students also took home first place art and photography awards. S. Elizabeth Kolb took first place in Photography, while E. Tate Welch took first place in 3D Art.



Oxner 'hatches' first prize

South Carolina recently recognized the winners of its 4-H Golden Egg Contest, which assesses 4-H members' ability to raise chickens that produce high-quality eggs.

Gilbert Elementary School Fourth-Grader Mary Rae Oxner won first prize in the Junior Division.

Open to South Carolina 4-H members who participated in a 4-H poultry project this past year and have a flock of chickens currently laying eggs. Participants submitted one dozen eggs.

Using the same testing measures applied in commercial poultry production, judges considered uniform appearance and consistent interior quality.

Based on their exterior, interior, weight, uniform size and shell thickness, Oxner's chicken eggs graded out as AA based on USDA standards.

Her flock, raised by Oxner since they were less than a week old, now lay their prize-winning eggs daily.



Buckliew becomes Goethe Institut Nationally Certified German Coach

River Bluff High School's Sarah E. Buckliew is one of only 12 German teachers selected and professionally trained for the role of German Coach. In this role, highly experienced educators of German, carefully selected and trained by the Goethe Institut support German teachers across the United States and teach best practices.

German teachers are provided a coach for individual or group training with a focus on lesson planning and classroom practices. The German full-immersion coaching complies with Common Core Standards and takes place over several weeks, including online preparation, classroom observations and targeted feedback.

Buckliew serves as the current South Carolina American Association of Teachers of German vice president and has received a Goethe Teacher Certificate of Merit.



Gute Neuigkeiten!

German Center of Excellence

Lexington County School District One's German program received German Center of Excellence designation, a national designation presented by the American Association of Teachers of German.

The award application process, led by Sarah E. Buckliew and Myriam I. Grandjean, included a website built by the district's German teachers and much hard work.

The award letter stated that there was clear evidence that the program had strong support from administration, professional colleagues, parents, students and the community.

The district has 11 schools offering German courses from the novice low to intermediate high levels with 17 German teachers and 1,342 students currently enrolled in German classes this year.

Teachers take a variety of tests ranging from the Praxis ETS to an Oral Proficiency Interview to qualify to teach German in South Carolina.

The district boasts 12 active AATG members, including the current South Carolina Chapter vice president and the current AATG secretary.

All the district's German teachers spent time abroad to hone their language skills, and many still travel to German-speaking countries to stay in-tune.

Thanks to World Language Coordinator Lauren "Liza" E. Speece, Ph.D., and the district's German teachers: Beechwood Middle School's Rebecca A. Cornett-Schnitzer, Carolina Springs Middle School's Nicole Matthews; Deerfield Elementary School's Callison W. Coggins, Jutta W. Kassatly, Sandra E. Shillington-Lopez and Medine Yigit; Gilbert High School's Anita J. Lambert; Gilbert Middle School's Iryna Kalinkina; Lexington High School's Christopher L. Godwin and John Clay Hendrix; Lexington Middle School's Kasarah M. Boiter; Pelion High School's J. Victoria Connelly; Pleasant Hill Middle School's Myriam I. Grandjean; River Bluff High School's Sarah E. Buckliew; and White Knoll High School's Caroline R. Oates.

Two teachers benefit from DonorsChoose

The online giving platform DonorsChoose.org continues to allow educators to post funding requests. Since July 1, the district received 929 items, with a monetary value of \$21,203.36, from DonorsChoose.

Our most recent educators with fully funded projects include White Knoll Middle School Teachers Leigh Anne Cogdill and Joan B. Conger.

Sixth Grade Social Studies Teacher Leigh Anne Cogdill received a grant of \$330 to purchase 25 copies of *Everything You Need To Ace World History*, which supports the new sixth grade Social Studies standards, for her classroom.

Sixth Grade Mathematics Teacher Joan B. Conger received a \$514 DonorsChoose grant for a wobble stool and charging station for her classroom. These will help her students.



DonorsChoose.org

All Means All

Red Bank Elementary School continues to seek funding support for its Special Olympics projects successfully.

Physical Education Teacher Pattie P. Corley received a \$450 grant from the Unified Champion Schools program.

This grant guarantees that the program continues to flourish and provide opportunities that lead to the creation of socially inclusive schools that support and engage all learners.



**Special Olympics
Unified Champion
Schools**

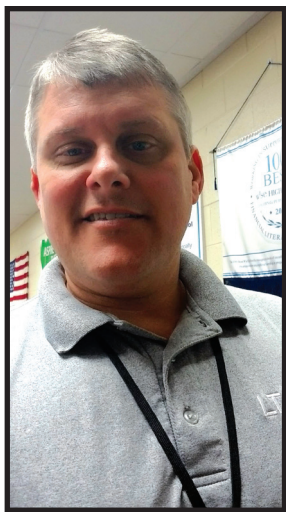
How W!se is he?

Working in Support of Education, also known as W!se, named Lexington Technology Center Business Teacher Randy D. Scott a recipient of the Gold Star Teacher Award.

This is his eighth consecutive year to be considered for the Gold Star Teacher Award.

A teacher must achieve a 93 percent pass rate in at least one of his/her classes on either the Fall or Spring W!se Financial Literacy Certification Test.

Scott challenges his students to become financially capable by emphasizing and providing instruction on relevant personal finance topics.



Fair recognition includes teachers

Since Pleasant Hill Elementary School students won the most ribbons for art entries at the S.C. State Fair, they earned special recognition for Art Teachers Anya S. Degtyareva and Patricia M. Green.

Degtyareva and Green received the S.C. State Fair Elementary Art Teacher Award for shaping and supporting their students' artistic talents.

Fifteen PHES students won first-, second- or third-place ribbons and multiple merit awards in the 2D and 3D student art competitions.

Green and Degtyareva lead their students with a combined 39 years of



MGMS Cheerleading Team "nails it" — State Champions

The Meadow Glen Middle School cheerleading team competed in six competitions this season. They took home four first-place finishes, one second-place finish and one third-place finish.

Best of all they finished the season strong as they won the 2019–2020 State Champion Class 5A Middle School Competitive Cheer — the first time in school history that cheerleading earned the state title.

This competition took place at the Debbie Rogers Cheer Classic held at Colonial Life Arena.

The team of 17 eighth-graders and 10 seventh-graders consisted of Keelyn Barnes, Gabby Bragg, Ellis Anne Bruzzi, Lilly Bryant, Ady Canady, Micaela Clampitt, Corley Collins, Caroline Cresswell, Jasmine Clarke, Hailey David, Rylie Dean, Grace Hair, Kaitlyn Haynesworth, Ava Huffstetler, Alexandria Mack, Bella Grace McWatty, Emily Nickles, Kyrstin Peebles, Karsyn Ann Pioreschi, Payton Ritchie, Ella Robertson, Brooklyn Sloan, Kendra Tanner, Leila Trapp, Sydney Williams, Madison Zuniga, and Zoe Woody and Coach Kiki H. Wooley and her assistants, Amber M. Chavis and Savannah Pettit.



Thank you for voting for us *The State's* Best Public School District

Readers of *The State* newspaper voted Lexington District One the Best Public School District for the fifth year running. The district also received the award in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.

The State's annual "Best Of" contest allows residents to vote on their favorite restaurants, services, schools and more. The newspaper announced the winners on October 27 in a special supplement to the paper.

One of the fastest-growing school districts in the state, ranking sixth in total enrollment, we are proud of our excellent academic reputation, our students' academics, arts and athletic accomplishments, and the accomplishments of our teachers and professional staff. You fill us with pride.

Lexington District One now serves almost 27,500 students from Pre-kindergarten to Grade 12 with nearly 4,000 employees (not including substitutes) and 31 schools (17 elementary schools, eight middle schools, five high schools, and one technology center).



LEAP

Lexington Emergency/Education Assistance Plan

Thanks for your generosity!

The 2019 Lexington Emergency/Education Assistance Plan, a Lexington District One Educational Foundation annual campaign funded solely through employee donations, runs during the first few weeks of the school year.

Thanks to the generosity of our Lexington District One family members, the results enable the Foundation to assist the district and its families in a number of important ways.

The Emergency fund helps families experiencing a crisis who need temporary help to survive, while the Education fund helps the district with important educational programs and initiatives.

During the LEAP Campaign, 2,584 employees donated \$164,671.88.

Elementary schools recognized for having the highest giving increase over last year include Pelion Elementary School represented by Principal Debbie R. Poole and LEAP Representatives Susan D. Harmon and Ruth J. Spence; Red Bank Elementary School represented by Principal Janet B. Ricard and LEAP Representatives Britani A. Magargle and Liddy Carpenter Parrish; and Saxe Gotha Elementary School represented by Principal Beth A. Houck and LEAP Representatives Andrea T. Slice and Deanna L. Thacker.

Gilbert Middle School, represented by Principal Benji D. Ricard, Ed.D., and LEAP Representatives Courtney P. Harrell and Molly E. Sutcliffe, increased their giving more than any other middle school.

Lexington Technology Center, represented by Principal B. Bryce Myers and LEAP Representatives Sarah E. Gillespie and Robert T. Zeigler, increased their giving more than any other high school.

Food Service and Nutrition showed the highest giving increase in support offices outside of schools. They were represented by Director Sally Nicholson and LEAP Representatives Polly Peyinghaus and L. Ashley Summers.

The 100% Participation award went to Lake Murray Elementary School, represented by Principal Jennifer A. Stanley and LEAP Representatives Kimberly T. Nunnery and Christina J. Reed.



Educational Foundation
Lexington County School District One



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>.