

September 12, 2011

**Newton County School System Announces
2010-2011 School Teachers of the Year**

The Newton County School System and the Newton County Chamber of Commerce are pleased to announce the 2010-2011 school level Teachers of the Year. Each teacher was selected by his or her peers as their school's Teacher of the Year at the end of the 2010-2011 school year. (Teachers represent schools in existence last year; therefore, Ficquett and Palmer-Stone are included and Flint Hill and the Newton College and Career Academy are not.) These teachers will now participate in the county program with the winner serving as the Newton County School System's 2012 Teacher of the Year.



(Seated L-R): Jennifer Harper, Amy Rains, Lisa Ciuffetelli, Tracy Keil, Charnese Phillips, Patrice Peek, Judy Smith, and Audrey Butler.
(Standing L-R): Holli McEwen, Aaron Robinson, Donna Harris, Tiffany McWaters, Jennifer Bowman, Sue Standridge, Karen Greene, Tracy Clay, Jessica Allred, Kimberly Porterfield, Rothell Lewis, Jr., Lauran Shannon, Kathleen Dunn, and Mike Johnston.

Over the summer, each of the nominees worked on the district essay packet, which required each teacher to answer a number of questions concerning their educational background, philosophy, and style of teaching. On Tuesday, September 13 and Wednesday, September 14 each teacher will sit for a 20-minute interview to be conducted by a panel of volunteer judges representing Newton County Schools, the Newton County Chamber of Commerce, and local businesses and civic organizations.

Once scores from the essays and interviews are tallied, the names of the top three finalists (the teachers with the three highest combined scores) will be announced on Monday, September 19. The following Monday, September 26, the Teacher of the Year selection committee will observe each of the three finalists in his or her classroom. The teacher with the highest combined score on the essay, interview,

and observation will be announced as the Newton County School System’s 2012 Teacher of the Year during a special ceremony at Newton High School on Thursday, October 6 at 4:45 p.m.

The Newton County School System would like to congratulate each of the school Teachers of the Year, as they are all worthy of this special honor. As such, all 22 Teachers of the Year will be recognized at the reception at Newton High School, with the two runners-up each receiving a crystal vase. The 2011 Newton County Teacher of the Year will also receive a crystal vase, a Teacher of the Year ring from Herff-Jones, and a check for \$1,000. In addition, this year’s winner will also represent Newton County School System in the Georgia Teacher of the Year competition.

Newton County’s Teacher of the Year program would not be possible if it were not for the support of our community. As a result, the Newton County School System and the Newton County Chamber of Commerce would like to extend special thanks to the Chamber Champions, sponsors of the 2012 Teacher of the Year program: Honda of Conyers, Bank of North Georgia, General Mills, Snapping Shoals EMC, BB&T, Capes Property Management, Integrated Power Solutions, Pattillo Construction, United Bank, Antiques & Stuff, AT&T, Beaver Manufacturing Company, Bizzy Bee Exterminators, DeKalb Technical College, Georgia Perimeter College. Georgia Power, Ginn Motor Company, Newton Citizen, Newton Federal Bank, Pinnacle Bank, Sunbelt Builders, and Tread Technologies.

2010-2011 Teachers of the Year

School	TOTY
East Newton Elementary	Karen Greene
Fairview Theme School	Tracy Keil
Ficquett Elementary	Donna Harris
Heard-Mixon Elementary	Amy Rains
Livingston Elementary	Sue Standridge
Live Oak Elementary	Rothell Lewis, Jr.
Mansfield Elementary	Lauran Shannon
Middle Ridge Elementary	Lisa Ciuffetelli
Oak Hill Elementary	Holli McEwen
Palmer-Stone Elementary	Jennifer Harper
Porterdale Elementary	Kimberly Porterfield
Rocky Plains Elementary	Jessica Allred

South Salem Elementary	Tiffany McWaters
West Newton Elementary	Tracy Clay
Clements Middle	Patrice Peek
Cousins Middle	Michael Johnston
Indian Creek Middle	Charnese Phillips
Liberty Middle	Dr. Audrey Butler
Veterans Memorial Middle	Kathleen Dunn
Alcovy High	Jennifer Bowman
Eastside High	Judy Smith
Newton High	Aaron Robinson

For more information on the Newton County School System Teacher of the Year program, contact Ms. Sherri Viniard, Director of Public Relations for Newton County Schools at 770-784-2908.