



# Viking utures

Lowndes County Schools  
Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education

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"What I am to be, I am becoming"

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## PROGRAMMING The new Foreign Language at LHS

### IN THIS ISSUE

**FFA Dominates  
National Fair!**

**FBLA Attend  
Motivational Rally**

**81st Air Vikings  
Hand Out Flags at  
Honey Bee Parade**

**FBLA & Y Club  
Make A  
Difference Day**

**Meet the new  
teachers at HMS!**



The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) has approved computer courses that will fulfill the foreign language requirement for high school graduates enrolling in a university. Lowndes High School is one of the first schools in Georgia to implement these courses.

Computer programmers and software developers are in demand in Georgia. High school students need to learn the skills to be able to compete in today's workforce. Lowndes County Schools will be preparing students with STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, as well as, implementing new computer courses.

LHS is currently offering Introduction to Digital Design and Computer Science Principles. These courses are designed for high school students to understand, communicate, and adapt to a digital world as it impacts their personal life, society, and the business world. Business teachers have been attending professional training in Macon, Cumming and Statesboro to prepare for these new classes. The third class in the pathway, Programming, Games, Apps & Society will be implemented next year. The completion of all three classes will be equivalent to two

foreign language classes. Students entering a university right out of high school are required to have a foreign language credit on their transcript. Programming classes will meet this requirement. All the teachers in the business department are very excited about the new courses being offered and hope that it will increase enrollment. Students also have positive things to say about the class:

“As a student who enjoys technology education, I was thrilled to hear that computer programming classes are now offered at Lowndes High School. I was soon notified that the Georgia DOE is now accepting select programming courses to count as a foreign language in lieu of your typical world based languages. I am now currently taking Computer Science Principles, and I am excited to see an increasing interest in this area of expertise. I recommend this course to all students who have a passion for coding, or express an interest in the area of computer science.” – Christopher Bellflowers, Sophomore



# LOWNDES FFA DOMINATES NATIONAL AGRISCIENCE FAIR

## Herring, Warren, and Corbett Win Proficiencies



Indianapolis, IN - Members of Lowndes County FFA excelled in competition at the National FFA Convention held October 18-22. Lowndes FFA had the largest number of National Winners in the National Agriscience Fair. Landon Herring, Callie Warren, and Hunter Corbett won agricultural proficiencies.

The Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through their SAEs or home agricultural projects, have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers. Students can compete for awards in 49 areas covering everything from Agricultural Communications to Wildlife Management.

Herring won the Specialty Crop Production proficiency. Over the course of five years, he worked on his family farm producing flue-cured tobacco. Herring is the son of Joey and Lisa Herring.

Warren was named the winner of the Fruit Production proficiency. She developed her blueberry project over five years on her family farm. Her parents are Kevin and Amy Coggins.

Corbett won the Agriscience Research – Integrated Systems proficiency. He performed multiple research projects over the five years of his FFA experience, focusing on using cotton gin trash to clean up oil spills. Corbett is the son of Dr. James and Tracy Corbett.

Also competing in the proficiency competition were Chandler Kudyk, Outdoor Recreation, and Bailey Anderson, Equine Science. They both earned the distinction of National Proficiency Finalists – 1 of 4 in the nation in their category.

The National FFA Agriscience Fair is a competition for FFA members who are interested in the science and technology of agriculture. It is held each year during the National FFA Convention & Expo. Ten Lowndes FFA members won six of the twenty four divisions of the agriscience fair. These national winners are as follows: Environmental Systems – Division II, Charity Brown; Division III, Zach Gay and Cedric Montgomery. Food Systems – Division IV, Levi Herring and Conway McNeil. Plant Systems – Division II, Courtney Cameron; Division IV, Hunter Corbett and Chandler Kudyk. Power Systems – Division IV, Frank Balmer and Jackson Sumner. Also competing were: Ellison Pitchford, 7th place Animal Systems Division I; Clay Parker, 7th place Animal Systems Division II; Elizabeth Fisher and Gabriella Daughtry, 2nd place Animal Systems Division III; Brianna Matheny, 10th place Food Systems Division II; Ty Parks, 2nd place Plant Systems Division I; Kayla Hall, 3rd place Social Systems Division IV; Joe Corbett and Levi Brown, 2nd place 2nd place Social Systems Division III; and, Trevor Ross, 3rd place Power Systems Division II.

Ian Bennett was a candidate for the position of National FFA Officer. He represented the Georgia FFA Association in this activity at the National Convention. Bennett is the son of Dr. Marshall and Marybeth Bennett.

The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. FFA membership today is comprised of 629,327 student members in grades six through 12 who belong to one of 7,757 local FFA chapters throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

# LOWNDES HIGH FBLA ATTENDS MOTIVATIONAL RALLY



Thirteen members of Lowndes High School's Future Business Leaders of America attended the Georgia FBLA Fall Motivational Rally at the National Fair in Perry, Georgia on Thursday, October 13. The purpose of the rally is to provide a launching pad for a successful and active year for the local chapters. By participating in the rally, students may be more willing to get involved in their local FBLA chapter activities such as community service and competition at the region, state, and national levels. The rally began with a general session where state officers were introduced and conducted the session. The region officers were introduced. The top three middle school and high school chapters were recognized for the number of members in their chapters. All presidents

for schools in attendance were sworn in to their position.

The motivational speaker was Alex Sheen, founder of "because I said I would" which is the international social movement and nonprofit dedicated to the betterment of humanity through promises made and kept. Students were given a packet of promise cards and the challenge to make a difference in the world by keeping their promises. After the general session, members were encouraged to take advantage of the open testing sessions to prepare for the upcoming 13 region conferences which are scheduled for January 2017 across the state. Members spent the remainder of the day on the fair rides, networking with friends and members from other schools, and eating funnel cakes, turkey legs, candy apples, ice cream, etc.

Also in attendance with LHS FBLA members were chaperone, Shanika Hezekiah, co-adviser, Carol Ann Logan, and adviser, Stephanie Hezekiah.



## GEORGIA 81ST AIR VIKINGS Hand out Flags in the Honey Bee Parade

On Saturday, October 1st, the Aerospace Science Department, the Georgia 81st Air Vikings were out in great force at the Hahira Honey Bee Festival. 58 cadets in total showed up to carry all the state flags as well as the American, Georgia, armed services flags and the POW/MIA flag. The Air Vikings led off the parade and handed out small American flags as well as candy to children among the spectators.



# FBLA & Y CLUB Make a Difference Day



Pine Grove Middle FBLA and Y Club Volunteers for Community Service: Make A Difference Day on Oct 22, 2106 at the Second Harvest Food Bank of South Georgia. FBLA ML State President Blake Robinson lead over 25 students in an assembly line process of packing canned and dry goods to prep for the food bank holiday season.



## MEET OUR NEW TEACHERS Hahira Middle Sschool!!



**Kailee Bennett (FFA) and  
Laila Taylor (Business and Computer Science)**



**VIKING FUTURES**, a publication of the Lowndes County Schools Career, Technical and Agricultural Education programs, is designed to inform parents, teachers, students, community leaders and administrators of current programs and events. The Lowndes County Career & Technical Educators see every student as “career bound” and aim at helping every student reach his or her fullest potential in life.