

# HURRICANE WINDS

## BEN HILL COUNTY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

### CLEMENTS NAMED SUPERINTENDENT OF BHCS

*Clements began her official role as Ben Hill County Schools Superintendent effective March 1, 2023.*

*Clements has been the Interim position since June 2022. We are so excited to have Mrs. Clements leading our schools daily. Clements has held many positions within our system from teacher, instructional coach, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Financial Office, Interim Superintendent to now Superintendent. We look forward to awesome things to come for our students and staff at BHCS.*



### *Chatting with Clements*

- The Board voted to finalize the of bonds that in April to help finance the new sports complex.
- \*The K-5 reading teachers had an introduction to LETTERS this morning. We will begin PL with a core group this summer to implement these reading instructional strategies. Our goal is to have 75% of our students reading on grade level by 3rd grade in 2 years. We can keep saying we have a literacy problem and not change the way we are addressing the problem.
- Thanks to Kim Minshew, school social worker, for all the work she does for our students in the system.
- Thank you to all our gifted certified staff members who serve our gifted students and challenge them with high levels of instruction. Happy Gifted Education Month!
- Congratulations to Clint Wixson on being named the Region 10 Star Student and Mr. Rob Garber, Star Teacher. They will represent FHSCCA at the state STAR student banquet in Atlanta in April.
- Congratulations to the FHSCCA Show Choir and Mrs. Padgett for a 4th place finish at the Peach State Show Choir Invitation in Tifton last weekend.
- Congratulations to the FHSCCA Literary Team and Blane Jacobs who placed 2nd at Region last Saturday. We had 5 first place winners who will move on to the state literary competition on March 25th: Lailai Johnson, Caroline Spivey, Allie Braddy, and Macee Burnam and Destinee Kelly.
- Congratulations to the Concert Band and Mr. Thurston on receiving Excellent overall on stage and a Superior for sight reading at the Large Group Performance Evaluation in Douglas this week.

# Literary Team at FHSCCA comes home with high honors

Congratulations to our Literary Team who placed 2nd today at Region! All first place finishers will advance to the state competition on March 25th in Milledgeville. Lexi Martin: 4th place dramatic interpretation; Laila Johnson: 1st place comedic interpretation; Caroline Spivey: 1st place girls solo; Allie Braddy: 1st place extemporaneous speaking: domestic; Olivia Jenner: 2nd place personal essay; Taysean Crook: 2nd place argument essay; Nandini Patel: 3rd place extemporaneous speaking: international Macee Burnam and Destini Kelly: 1st place duo dramatic interpretation Lexi Martin is not pictured



## Encore Unlimited: FHSCCA Show Choir

The FHSCCA Show Choir, Encore Unlimited, placed 4th at the Peach State Show Choir Invitational in Tifton, this past weekend. This follows a second place finish at the Lakeside Georgia Vocal Invitational in Evans, GA the weekend prior.



# Dorminy Medical Center is GSBA Partner of the Year



Congratulations to Dorminy Medical Center for being awarded the GSBA Partner of the Year. Dorminy Medical Center is a partner of BHCS working closely with FHSCCA providing assistance and support to our healthcare programs. They also come out to the schools through Communities in Schools programs to teach students about healthcare issues and illnesses. They are always available to help us in any way and we are thrilled that they partner with us to work closely with our students. Thank you to Paige Wynn, CEO of Dorminy Medical Center, for your support of our schools.

## CIS raises over \$50,000 during Celebrity Dinner event 2023

BHCS represented well at Communities in Schools Dinner last night. Our Spice Girls from BHP won the BEST costumes. The rockers Aerosmith from BHMS did a fantastic job. Aerosmith won the Diner's Choice award for collecting the most in tips for the night. The Hurricane Rockers were awesome with songs performed by Hal Wiley, Emcee of the event; Angel Kelly, Chrys Milner and Abby Holt with the Cat band lead by Jonathan Thurston. The night was awesome with over \$50,000 unofficially raised. Way to go Canes!! Thank you for supporting these schools and Communities in Schools. All donations go to support students in our system.



# Ashley Coleman's Class Pet gets a lot of reading time

Mrs. Coleman's Gecko gets lots of attention. The students love to take care of him along with read to him. Way to go Little Canes!!



# Dr. Seuss Day was held at BHPK, BHP and BHES



**"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You." — Dr. Seuss, "Happy Birthday to You!" Mar 1, 2019**

# Young Authors presented at BOE meeting



BHCS Young Authors were honored at the Board of Education meeting this month. Ben Webb, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, presented the students to the Board of Education and staff. Each Reading/ELA teacher in the district has been really focusing on reading and writing this year with their students. These students were the 1st place writers in their grades.

The winners were:

(5th grade) Kimberly Araiza, "What We Need to Know"

(4th grade) Holly Ferguson "My Buddy"

(3rd grade) Somaya Walton "A Special Day Spent with my Family"

(2nd grade) Roman Handley "The Little Caveman"

(1st grade) Sladen Johnson "All About Giganatosarus"

(K) Erin Andrews "My Winter Break"

Congratulations to all of these amazing writers. Keep up the great work!!!

## BOE Appreciation Month

It is School Board Appreciation Week~ March 13-17, 2023. We are so thankful to have the following board members who work diligently to support our schools daily. Thank you so much for all you do for our schools and community. Go Canes!!!

Shirley Brooks, Chairman

Andy Johnson, Vice Chairman

Theresa Davis

Tyler Clemons

Jeremy Cox

David Garrison

Kenneth Palmer



# Life Skills Day was held at Wiregrass



# Happenings in Events



**FLEX FINALS: March 30, 2023**

**BHP Book Parade: March 31, 2023**

**AG Day for BHES: March 31, 2023**

**Spring Break: April 3rd-7th, 2023**

**FLEX State Finals: April 13, 2023**

**Top Ten Banquet: April 25, 2023**

**Senior Signing Day: April 27, 2023**

**Teacher Appreciation Week: May 8-12, 2023**

**Senior Recognition Night : May 16, 2023**

**Honors Night: May 18, 2023**

**BHES Academic Awards: May 19, 2023**

**BHMS Honors Night: May 22, 2023**

**BHCS Crossover Ceremony: May 23, 2023**

**Graduation: May 26, 2023**



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