



Casey Art News



Casey Parent Chosen As JPS Parent of the Year



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Casey Elementary grandparent Cheryl Lynne Smith is the 2019 JPS Parent of the

Year. The surprise announcement was made at the school Wednesday, April 24.

Smith's grandson Dedrek Walker, a fifth-grader at Casey, introduced her as the Casey Parent of the Year.

"I would like to introduce you to someone special, my grandmother Mrs. Cheryl Lynne Smith," said Dedrek. "She is someone who is always there for me



and my two sisters. Last year, when my mother passed, my grandmother and my grandfather stepped in to take care of us. She picks me up when I'm down, and she has carried me through some rough times. My grandmother is also special to the whole school. She does art with us. She paints murals. She volunteers many days a week. She acts like she works here."

To her amazement, JPS Superintendent Dr. Errick L. Greene stepped in to announce Smith had also been selected for the Districtwide honor.

"Mrs. Cheryl Lynne Smith was chosen from candidates submitted from across our entire district," said Dr. Greene. "I am so proud to make this award to Mrs. Smith. She embodies what it means to be part of this JPS family. She embodies what it means to provide an entire village in support of our young people,

not only to her grandchildren but to all of the children in this loving community."

Casey Elementary is the first school ever in the history of the JPS District to have the District Parent of the Year two years in a row. Casey parent Willis Barker was named the 2018 JPS Parent of the Year and currently serves as the President of the Casey PTA..



Casey has been designated as a Model Whole School and receives support from the Mississippi Arts Commission, which in turn is supported by funding from the Mississippi State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.





The Casey Open Doors students sponsored a food drive to provide needed supplies to the Wingard House shelter for the homeless.



On April 13, Arts on the Green 2019 hosted the first ever "Together We Art" contest for elementary-aged students from the metro area. Casey students Justice Collins (2nd grade) and Hallie Teague (4th grade) were among the finalists; and fourth graders Keiley Straughter and Jaida Scott won 3rd and 1st place respectively in the entire fourth grade division! The "Together We Art" contest aims to demonstrate how art brings us together, and how important the arts are for the betterment of our children and our society.



Dance teacher Ms. Marcell (seen here demonstrating some moves with Ms. Taylor) is working with kindergarten teachers and Ms. Davis to prepare kindergarten students for *Getting' Down With Mama Goose*, the last program of the school year, to be performed at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 22.



Kathryn and Emile Wilson's dance group, Kinetic Etchings, performed once again for our K-2 students in May. This time they brought an interactive version of the *Peter and the Wolf* ballet, which fascinated and delighted the students.



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