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NEWS RELEASE

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Teachers Welcomed Back July 25 at Big Event



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – The Houston County Board of Education will hold a district-wide Opening Session on July 25, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at Southside Baptist Church. This annual kickoff event takes place on the teachers' first day of pre-planning for the new school year. Opening Session is the one time during the year that employees from all the schools gather in one place. Approximately 2,500 employees and guests attend.

During this event, 38 Teachers of the Year, one from each school in the district, and 6 Employees of the Year are honored for their dedication and commitment to serving our students and our community. The system-wide Teacher of the Year and four finalists will be announced for the first time. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mark Scott will celebrate last year and share his vision for the new school year. Other highlights include performances by music teachers and a video by the Top 10 Teachers of the Year. This year's theme is, "All Means All."

Sponsors provide gifts and cash awards for the Teachers and Employees of the Year, as well as cover the full cost of district events. Sponsor funds pay for event expenses, years of service pins, plaques, framed certificates, professional photographs, a retirement banquet and more to support the service of our educators, administrators and staff. In 2018, sponsors contributed approximately \$140,000 to support events and the employee recognition program, with gifts and cash awards for the honorees valued at more than \$96,000.

The event will end around 11:30 a.m. Southside Baptist is located at 1040 S. Houston Lake Road in Warner Robins.

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