

STUDENT SERVICES REPORT

Flint Energies Bright Ideas Grant WINNERS



Congratulations to Houston County High School teacher, Stephanie Justen! She received a \$1000 grant for the third year in a row from Flint Energies. The 'Bright Ideas' grant will provide her students with autism with items for their sensory room. She plans to add an indoor swing and sensory lighting. Ms. Justen is thankful for Flint Energies and their support of education.

Congratulations to Boniare Elementary School teacher, Kelley Rice! She is the winner of one of the Flint Energies Bright Ideas Grants, in the amount of \$820.00! She applied for a mini grant to buy materials for the sensory room. Ms. Rice will purchase weighted blankets and vests, bean bag chairs, tactile manipulatives, adaptive lighting, and mats for the sensory room.





TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

This month we are highlighting a dedicated and caring special education teacher from Mossy Creek Middle School, Mrs. Jessie Gilbert! Mrs. Gilbert is a graduate of Houston County High School. She attended Georgia College for her Bachelor's in Special Education and then received her Master's in Special Education Adaptive Curriculum from Georgia Southern. She has been teaching for four years. Mrs. Gilbert has been married for two years and has a sweet puppy!

Mrs. Gilbert has an amazing ability to differentiate instruction for her students. She creates a nurturing, yet challenging classroom environment for her students. Her favorite quote is, "Do the best you can and never stop," by Stephen Wiltshire. It is evident that she has the same expectations for her students!

When asked what her favorite classroom memory has been, Mrs. Gilbert stated "taking my class to Tabernacle special children's day with our Partners Club and watching their incredible, inclusive friendships. Also getting to see some kids ride on a boat for the first time ever is awesome every time!! They are so happy and joyful." Mrs. Gilbert is an asset to the Special Education Department of Houston County!

MCMS FALL FUN

The Mossy Creek Middle School Special Education ID teachers planned a fall activity for their classes in October. There were several accessible fall themed games that all students could play. Philip Gentry brought animals for the students and Christ Church provided a socially distanced hay ride. The students enjoyed the event!





HAPPY RETIREMENT

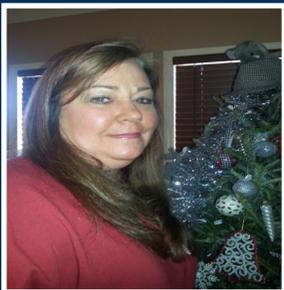
The Houston County School Nutrition Program would like to celebrate several managers that have served this county for many years. Now, they are ready for their next phase of life, retirement! Even though they will be greatly missed, we wish them a very happy and healthy retirement!



Karen Cole, our manager at Feagin Mill Middle, has been with the Houston County Nutrition Program for 27 years. She plans on traveling and enjoying time with her grandchildren after retirement. She said the best part of her job has been seeing the children each day and making sure they had healthy meals to help them be the best they could be!



Darlene Floyd, our manager at Northside Elementary, has been with the Houston County Nutrition Program for 17 years. After retirement, she plans to enjoy life and take some time for herself. She said she is going to miss her school family that she has grown to love dearly and seeing the children each day!



Tammy Roberts, our manager at Mossy Creek Middle, has been with the Houston County Nutrition Program for 21 years. She plans to spend more time with her grandchildren and labrador retrievers after retirement. She feels like feeding the children has been the most important part of her job, and will miss seeing them each day!

Congratulations for a job well done! Thank you for your service to our children and families in Houston County!

Teacher Induction

High leverage practices were introduced to twenty-nine teachers in the latest Special Education Teacher Induction session. These instructional practices are easily applied across content areas and grade levels. Some of the high leverage practices presented included active student engagement, positive feedback, designing instruction toward specific learning goals, and providing scaffolded support. With these practices in place, students will be able to complete tasks with a higher success rate.

Virtual Learning



Houston County High School's MOID teacher, Ms. Vaughn, proudly shares her students working SO hard during their Zoom virtual class meeting! The students have come so far from the beginning of the school year and are now able to work independently, without parental support, during their class time. The students are now able to use the mute/unmute function when it is their turn to speak. They are also able to complete their work with just prompts from the teacher, as if they were in her classroom.

C The Ellen Maltais Chapter for The Council
E for Exceptional Children held a fundraiser
C during the month of November. The organization sold Poinsettias to members of the Houston County community and school district. Profits from the fundraiser will be used to fund classroom mini grants.

