

Randolph County School System "RCSS STAR Employees" for December 2016



Archdale Elementary School - Lisa Garrison

Lisa Garrison is the lead teacher for Archdale Elementary. Mrs. Garrison goes above and beyond on a daily basis. She keeps our staff up to date on new curriculum policies and procedures, assists teachers in planning and gathering resources while always looking for innovative ideas, and helps with assessing and data analysis. She has a positive attitude and is willing to help in any way she can. She coordinates our school Safety Patrols and the GEMS Club, which focuses on girls excelling in math and science. She is a cheerleader for our staff and always puts the needs of children first. Lisa is an invaluable member of the AES team and is the epitome of a master teacher. Congratulations to Lisa Garrison, Archdale Elementary School's STAR Employee for December.

Archdale-Trinity Middle School - Karon Johnson

When someone talks about a teacher's passion for teaching, the love for seeing students succeed, and longevity in the business, there is not a teacher more dedicated than Karon Johnson. Ms. Johnson is the chairperson of the school's hospitality committee, where she is responsible for staff meals, incentives, and overall positive vibes. She can be found spending her money on decorations to make her classroom look exceptional for students and she can be found after school planning for the success of her students. Ms. Johnson is one of the most caring individuals that anyone could ever meet. She loves Archdale-Trinity Middle and will tell you that it is her life! She has helped many teachers along the way in her career, and she continues to strive each day to be the best she can be for her students. So, after 37 years in this business, Karon Johnson is getting better with age! Archdale-Trinity Middle School is proud to congratulate Karon Johnson on being our STAR Employee for December.

Braxton Craven School - Chris Ferguson

Chris Ferguson teaches beginning band at Braxton Craven. He uses a variety of engaging strategies to help his students learn. More importantly, he builds a culture of trust in which beginning musicians feel safe to stand up independently in front of their teacher and their entire class to play a line of music to have their progress assessed. Mr. Ferguson employs music software which students use at school and home to practice and receive individual feedback. It is difficult to put into words the atmosphere of learning in Mr. Ferguson's classroom. He makes band class seem like an epic adventure fit for a movie screen. In addition to serving the school as band teacher, Mr. Ferguson also produces the school yearbook. He stays involved in everything going on at the school. He is always willing to step in and assist whenever needed. Mr. Ferguson is a true example of excellence in teaching and this is why Braxton Craven is proud to honor him as STAR Employee for December.

Hopewell Elementary School - Laura Leonard

Laura Leonard is Hopewell's lead teacher. Laura continuously provides teachers with suggestions, support, and resources they need to meet the needs of our students. Her love for data is evident as she assists teachers with tracking data, interpreting it, and using it to drive instruction that facilitates student learning. Ms. Leonard serves on several committees and offers her expertise and support. It is evident by the support she continuously offers other staff members that she has a vested interest in helping ALL of our students become successful learners. Congratulations to Laura Leonard, Hopewell Elementary School's STAR Employee for December.

John Lawrence Elementary School - Mickey Johnson

Mickey Johnson's official title at John Lawrence Elementary School is lead teacher. However, she is much more to our staff than just the lead teacher. Staff members were asked to describe Mrs. Johnson, and here are the words used: genuine, energetic, ambitious, timely, compassionate, spicy, helpful, patient, perky, resourceful, kind, smiley, and invaluable. Mickey Johnson goes above and beyond for the students and staff of John Lawrence Elementary School, and we are proud to recognize her as our STAR Employee for December.

New Market Elementary School - Lorraine Thomas

Lorraine Thomas is the physical education teacher for New Market Elementary. She goes above and beyond in working with our students and staff. Students get really truly excited when it is their physical education day, because they know that Mrs. Thomas will have something fun for them to do. She has a positive attitude and is willing to help any out in any that she is needed at the school. Mrs. Thomas is a valuable member of our staff at New Market and we are so thankful that she is a part of our team. Congratulations to Lorraine Thomas, New Market Elementary School's STAR Employee for December.

Randolph Early College High School - Monica Williams

Monica Williams is Randolph Early College High School's language arts teacher and the school's 2016 Teacher of the Year. She is the Book Club Advisor, Chess Club Advisor, Senior Council Advisor, and an active member of the School Improvement Team. She has embraced the principles of "Capturing Kids Hearts" and incorporates that into her class daily. Mrs. Williams has a positive attitude and is always willing to provide support to students and colleagues. We appreciate Mrs. Williams' willingness to serve and we are proud to have her as our STAR Employee for December.

Trindale Elementary School - Whitney Aiken

Whitney Aiken is a terrific lead teacher because she is unbiased, approachable, fair minded, and very helpful. She is a supportive coach to our teachers and does whatever is asked of her with a smile. She helps to create a climate of collegiality by being a collaborator and problem solver. We are lucky to have Mrs. Aiken on our staff and as our Trindale Elementary School STAR Employee for December.

Trinity Elementary School - Debbie Dennis

Debbie Dennis is absolutely amazing! She is the heart of Trinity Elementary School, as a friend, a mother, a nurse, or confidant to anyone who is in need. She puts the students and staff ahead of any other needs. She builds relationships with all families and as a result, parents ask for her by name. The parents feel as if they have an advocate to guide and support them while their child is at Trinity Elementary. Ms. Dennis is truly an inspiration to the entire staff with her infectious smile, cheering us along every step of the way, and is genuinely a great person. We are honored and proud to have Debbie Dennis represent Trinity Elementary School as our STAR Employee for December.

Trinity High School - Shannon Edwards

Shannon Edwards, as well as all of the STAR Employee honorees this evening, is a star employee not only in December, but every month. While Mr. Edwards' title is the Career Development Counselor at Trinity High School, the work he does goes so far beyond that title. Mr. Edwards is one of those people who are willing to help out and chip in wherever and however he can be of assistance. He is a leader on

the School Improvement Team. Under Mr. Edwards' leadership, the number of students participating in a Career and Technical Education Student Organization has climbed to over 200. To put it another way, over 25% of the students at Trinity High School are members and participate in a CTE Student Organization. That is amazing. In this past single year, Mr. Edwards has led an effort that has doubled the number of CTE completers in a career cluster pathway. He serves as a member of the Education Committee of the Archdale-Trinity Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Edwards seeks no recognition, but he is a consistent positive leader who is making a tremendous impact on the lives of students. Trinity High School congratulates Mr. Shannon Edwards, a STAR Employee in December (and every other month).

Wheatmore High School - Andrea Davis

Andrea Davis is an outstanding school leader through the various tasks and professional development she provides to our students and staff each year. Mrs. Davis singlehandedly created the large media center that our students utilize on a daily basis. She collaborates with teachers and uses their feedback to purchase the resources that are vital to their curricula. She is an asset to Wheatmore High School and is a key component to the success of our school. This award is very well deserved, and we are proud to have Mrs. Andrea Davis as Wheatmore's STAR Employee for December.