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31 Gifted & Talented Education Teachers Honored Sept. 11

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Thirty-one teachers of gifted and talented students from 13 schools will be honored Sept. 11, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. at the central office. Each teacher will be presented \$500 and a certificate as a recipient of the Houston County Education Assistance Fund on behalf of the Manoj H. Shah family.

Teachers are chosen for their enthusiasm, devotion and effectiveness in honors and advanced placement programs. The honorees are listed below by school.

- ★ Houston County High School ~ Brian Feehan, Rebecca Staines and Tammy Strickland
- ★ Northside High School ~ David Flanders, Rusty Lane and Daniel Sayles
- ★ Perry High School ~ Susan Bray, Lindsey Gentry and Cathy Heller
- ★ Veterans High School ~ Kristina Cannon, Dana Morris and Kaci Whiddon
- ★ Warner Robins High School ~ Joanna Barfield, Ashley Dalton and Elizabeth Wright
- ★ Bonaire Middle School ~ Shannon Sanders and Karen Yeager
- ★ Feagin Mill Middle School ~ Maria Huckabee and Mandy Medalis
- ★ Huntington Middle School ~ Lacey King and Joann Watts
- ★ Mossy Creek Middle School ~ Jacob Harvey and Laura-Lee McCranie
- ★ Northside Middle School ~ Annie Renee Stephens and Matt Yawn
- ★ Perry Middle School ~ Liz Hodge and Tim Hutchens
- ★ Thomson Middle School ~ Susan Lee and Erin Peck
- ★ Warner Robins Middle School ~ Tony Floyd and Penney Sneed

Since 2001, the Shah family has recognized high school advanced placement and honors teachers with a cash award and a reception held in their honor. Dr. and Mrs. Shah initiated this gift because they were pleased with the education their three children received while enrolled in Houston County schools, to include graduation from Warner Robins High School. They created the fund to support teachers who nurture and encourage innovation, creativity and student passion. The award began with Warner Robins High and over time was extended to all five high schools. In 2016, the Shah family has expanded their gift to include Houston County's eight middle schools. The Shah family will grant \$500 for three teachers in each of the five high schools and two teachers in each of the eight middle schools.

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The gifted and talented education program offers motivated students unique opportunities to further their education. From the sciences to the humanities, dedicated teachers have been paramount in the success of these advanced classes.

“Dr. and Mrs. Shah were very pleased with the education their three children received in Houston County,” commented Jan Jacobsen, Director of Gifted Education and Advanced Placement Coordinator. “They believe that their children benefited greatly from our school system and teachers, particularly from the higher level classes that they took while students at Warner Robins High.”

She added, “The Shahs are strong supporters of education in general, and of gifted and honors education specifically. This annual award is their way of supporting our dedicated gifted and talented education teachers.”

The Houston County Board of Education central office is located at 1100 Main Street in Perry. For more information, please contact Jacobsen at 478-988-6395, ext. 10393, or Jan.Jacobsen@hcbe.net.

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