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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

(Release #2018/19 – 039)

Contact: Beth McLaughlin, Director of Community & School Affairs, 478-988-6390, ext. 0, Beth.McLaughlin@hcbe.net

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31 Gifted & Talented Education Teachers Honored Sept. 12

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA - Thirty-one teachers of gifted and talented students from 13 schools will be honored Sept. 12, 2018, 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 - Lindsey Cumpton, Jenny Gutshall and Rebecca Staines
- Northside High School - Christi Johnson, Brittany Robinson and Tiffany Smith
- Perry High School - Angie Barajas, Nathan Dooley and Blake Dunbar
- Veterans High School - Alan Bowers, Dave Gibbs and Ike Thompson
- Warner Robins High School Chad Ekey, Jennifer Sauceda and Chris Smith
- Bonaire Middle School - Brenda Taylor and Dianne Young
- Feagin Mill Middle School - Stephen Edwards and Matthew Topping
- Huntington Middle School - Jeff Knutson and Melissa Westphal
- Mossy Creek Middle School - Nikki Carroll and Shannon Williams
- Northside Middle School - Annie Renee Stephens and Lisa Witherington
- Perry Middle School - Sherry Akin and Alex Dady
- Thomson Middle School - Tracy Fulton and Meagan Harris
- Warner Robins Middle School - Jamie Nash and Lynn Shaver

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.

MORE

P.O. Box 1850 • PERRY, GEORGIA 31069
(478) 988-6200 • FAX (478) 988-6259
WWW.HCBE.NET

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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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