

## District Highlights



• Heather Hill, visual arts teacher at Joseph Pye Elementary School, recently was named South Carolina Art Education Association's "Elementary Art Educator of the Year."



• Spann Elementary School students recently donated \$225 to the Summerville Miracle League as part of the school's Change for a Change donation challenge. Pictured with Miracle League President Michael Lisle is Aurora McLaney who was the largest donor.



• All district employees are receiving Stop the Bleed Training to learn how to pack wounds and use tourniquets. The district is working with several organizations to place Stop the Bleed kits in every classroom.

## Students "Grow" Gratitude at FDES

Over the past several weeks, Fort Dorchester Elementary School has been committed to cultivating and instilling the character trait of "Gratitude" among its student and staff. Many bulletin boards throughout FDES showcase the theme of gratitude through the writings and artistic expressions of the school community.



The theme was integrated in the classrooms through activities such as gratitude poems, gratitude journals, posters, and sending notes of gratitude. FDES wants the students to embrace the idea that gratitude is not only expressing appreciation but also supporting and helping others. To help promote this concept, each grade level will participate in their own service project. The fourth graders are raising money for the organization Water For South Sudan. Third graders are collecting money to help cover adoption fees for the Charleston Animal Society and the first graders are collecting "gently used" coats for children that may need them for the cold months ahead. With so much to be thankful for, Fort Dorchester Elementary School wants to be sure they are developing an "Attitude of Gratitude" in the hearts of each and every student.

## Artwork Dedicated to Students' Hero

For this year's PTA Reflections contest theme "Heroes Around Me," Ashley Ridge High School visual art student Taylor McCall was inspired by her neighbor, a police officer for the Town of Summerville. Taylor made a work of art representing her hero and felt it more important to gift the mixed media piece in order to effectively demonstrate her gratitude. Taylor recently presented her painting to PFC. H. Howard to thank her for her service in law enforcement.





## FES Student Writes Book

MaKayla Tyler, a fifth grade student at Flowertown Elementary School, recently authored a book and dedicated it to the FES principal Teresa Kelly, and three of her previous teachers, Mrs. Tammy Parent, Ms. Kristen Roumillat, and Ms. Courtney Bruffey. The book, titled “Love 7,” is available on Amazon and at Barnes and Noble. Last week, MaKayla presented some teachers with a personal copy of the book and expressed her appreciation for the investments they have made in her education while at FES.

## GMS Students Learn About Hardware of Computers

On December 5 at Gregg Middle School, Nicholas Bracci from Cantey Technology spoke to students in Mrs. Lexie Centers’ IT Fundamentals class about the hardware of a computer.

Mr. Bracci helped students understand the different hardware parts of a computer. Students were able to take the computer apart and put it back together and experience what it would be like to be a computer technician. Cantey provides technology support for Dorchester School District Two.



## SHS Named School of Distinction

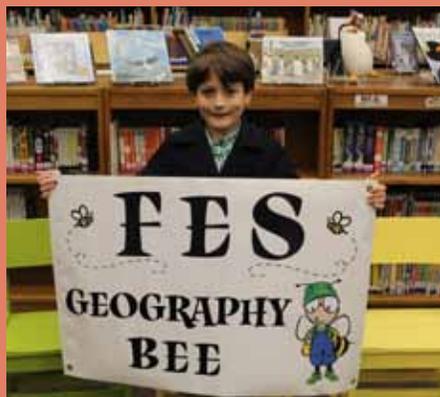
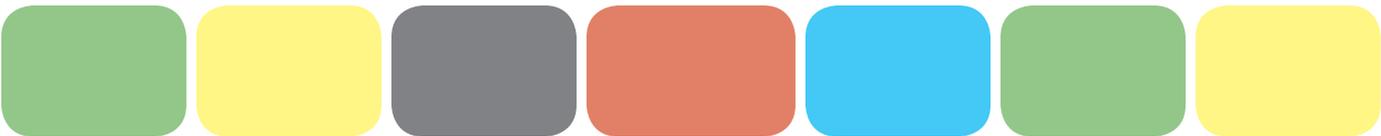
National Beta recently announced Summerville High School as a 2018-2019 National School of Distinction. This award is an honor for Beta Chapters striving towards academic achievement, exemplary character, demonstrated leadership and service to others. The National Beta School of Distinction Award is designed to award schools that show an increase in membership for the current school year. The Summerville High School Beta Club Chapter is sponsored by Sarah Bedard and Logan Morgan.

## ESES Students “Flying” Into STEM

Frank Hatten from Boeing visited Dr. Eugene Sires Elementary School to teach fifth graders about STEM careers and opportunities at Boeing.

The presentation included background information about Boeing and the airplanes that Boeing manufactures in North Charleston. Students participated in a paper airplane folding and flying competition.





### Geography Bee Winner at FES

Flowertown Elementary School recently hosted its annual school-level National Geography Bee. Ten finalists from fourth and fifth grade joined in the media center to vie for the title of School Geo Bee Champion. Fourth grader Nate McHale took first place in the final round, answering questions about states, capitals, National Parks, and foreign countries. Nate will go on to complete the online portion of the competition to try to secure his place in the next level of competition.



Above left: Alyssa Jade Lewis, 7th grader at Rollings Middle School of the Arts, and (above right) Brianna Burgess, 11th grader at Ashley Ridge High School, were recognized for their artwork that appeared on the school district Holiday cards.

## District Unveils Student Art Exhibit

On December 10th, Dorchester School District Two unveiled the 2018-2019 student art exhibition prior to the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. For the 19th year, artwork from 24 schools will be added to the Board of Trustees' permanent collection. The Board of Trustees honored the student artists and their guests at a reception prior to the unveiling ceremony. Former District Fine Arts Director Larry Barnfield was the master of ceremonies at the event.

The following students' work are included in this year's exhibit: Mon'Trel Barnett, Alston-Bailey Elementary, Blair Bailey, Alston Middle; Zoe Hayes, Ashley Ridge High; Ryan Nobitz, Beech Hill Elementary; Braulio Rocha, DuBose Middle; Eden Rutherford, Eagle Nest Elementary; Juliann McDowell, Fort Dorchester Elementary; Bianca Brown, Fort Dorchester High; Terrianna Heyward, Flowertown Elementary; Jayda Dangerfield, Gregg Middle; Joseph Polomsky, Joseph R. Pye Elementary; Emma Rogers, Knightsville Elementary; Summer Smith, Newington Elementary; Caroline Ward, Oakbrook Elementary; Hayley Cachola, Oakbrook Middle; Alyssa Lewis, Rollings Middle School of the Arts; Scarlett Callesen, River Oaks Middle; Sophia Jansen, Sand Hill Elementary; Alan Sanchez-Guzman, Summerville Elementary; Lauren Phillips, Summerville High; Lorelei Sherwood, Sires Elementary; Lily Stecko, Spann Elementary; Addison Peacher, William Reeves, Jr. Elementary; and Justin Riley, Windsor Hill Arts Infused Elementary.

A highlight of the evening was the announcement of student artwork that was used for the district holiday cards. Superintendent Joe Pye announced the 2018 cards display artwork from two students. Ashley Ridge High eleventh grader Brianna Burgess's artwork entitled "Cabin on a Snowy Landscape" appeared on one card and "Giving" created by Alyssa Jade Lewis, a seventh grade student at Rollings Middle School of the Arts, was on the other card.

### FDES Creates Giant Greeting

Fort Dorchester Elementary School 4th and 5th graders created a four by eight foot giant greeting card for the James Island County Park Festival of Lights.



The students highlighted the theme "Merry Magical Memories" with a design that included part mermaid and part angel to represent the magic of the sky and sea. They included a snow globe in the middle representing the special memories that are created during this time of year. The giant cards were on display at the park through January 1.

# Five Schools Receive Distinguished Arts Program Grants

Five Dorchester District Two schools received the Distinguished Arts Program grant – totaling \$60,000 – from the State Department of Education for the 2018-2019 school year. The purpose of this state grant program is to assist schools in developing and implementing arts initiatives that support quality arts education programs for students. These grants are awarded through a rigorous process by which fine arts departments conduct a formal assessment, set a three-year strategic plan, and meet with an advisory board of teachers, constituents and stakeholders.

Approximately 30% of the grant money is used for teacher training through the State Department of Education's Summer Institute. The remaining funds are used to implement the long range plans of each school's fine arts departments. Over the last five years, Dorchester School District Two has received



over \$375,000 through the DAP grant program.

Teachers receiving this year's grants were recognized by the Board of Trustees at the December 10th board meeting. Schools receiving the 2018-2019 DAP grants are: Knightsville Elementary School, Joseph R. Pye Elementary School, Alston Middle School, Rollings Middle School of the Arts, and Summerville High School.



## Rotary Donates Dictionaries

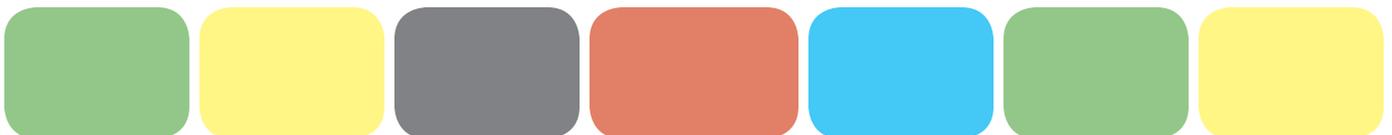
On December 14, third graders at Eagle Nest Elementary School received his or her own personal Student Dictionary from the Rotary Club of North Charleston Breakfast Club. President of the Rotary Mr. Jay Tiedemann and Mr. Joe Fox donated their time and brought 125 dictionaries to the school. Mr. Tiedemann and Mr. Fox also showed the students the page in the dictionary that highlights our South Carolina symbols, which the students had learned. Students could not believe their eyes when they looked at the longest word in their dictionary, which has 1,909 letters. Pictured with Mr. Fox and Mr. Tiedemann is Mrs. Kristina Rorem's third grade class.



Students use the engineer design process to create and test catapults using spoons and other household items.

### STEAM Night a Success at FES

Flowertown Elementary School recently held its 2nd Annual Family STEAM Night. Students participated in hands-on science, technology, engineering, art, and math activities presented by classroom teachers and community organizations. Participants observed a real owl from the Birds of Prey Center; operated robots brought by SPAWAR; made paper airplanes with Boeing; and watched as the Robotics teams from ARHS, SHS, and FES presented their robots. SCE&G brought their simulated city, and College of Charleston was on hand with many interactive engineering displays. The evening was a great opportunity for families to see what STEAM education is all about.





### Gilstrap Places 5th for USA in Judo

Gregg Middle School eighth-grader Caroline Gilstrap (pictured above in blue) placed fifth for Team USA in the 2018 Pan-American Judo Championships in Ecuador in November. The tournament hosted more than 550 players from 16 nations from North and South America. Competition in the under-15 girls 63k division consisted of 13 top-ranked players. Caroline's two victories were against players from Ecuador and Chile. Her losses were to players from Brazil and USA. This was Caroline's first international tournament as a member of Team USA Judo.

At home, Caroline trains in Judo under instructors Eli Fletcher and Al Jacobs at American Judo and Jiu-Jitsu Academy. At Gregg Middle School she is coached by Eric Emerson and is a captain on the Gregg Middle School Wrestling team.

## Students Hold Pajama Drive

Students at Eagle Nest Elementary participated in The 10th Annual Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive thru Scholastic Book Club. Pajama Program is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes a comforting bedtime ritual for children affected by instability in their lives. Students donated pajamas for Scholastic's "Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive" and children donated more than 60 pairs. For each pair of pajamas, scholastic will donate a book to go with it. Scholastic Book Club and Pajama Program host this program. Fifth grade Junior Beta Club members helped to sort and organize the PJs.



### Students Become Pen Pals With Seniors

During December, Dr. Eugene Sires Elementary's Singing Stingrays went to Aging Gracefully Senior Care Services to sing carols to the residents and give Christmas cards as gifts. Aging Gracefully residents loved the cards so much, they asked if some Sires students could be their pen-pals. Mrs. Lee Tyler's 2nd grade class graciously agreed to be pen-pals with their residents and sent them Christmas Cards before the holiday break.



## Babies Visit the "Beech"

The babies pictured above taking in a good book with Principal Rene Harris are all new Beacons born to Beech Hill Elementary School faculty during the 2017-2018 school year. Pictured from left to right: Deven (mom PDK teacher Stefanie Satterfield), Samuel (son of 5th grade teacher Jordan Macon), Caleb (son of 1st grade teacher Dianne Lewis), Everly (daughter of 1st grade teacher Stevie Ward), Jordan (daughter of 1st grade teacher Lindsay Smith), Julian (son of Speech teacher Elizabeth Tutterow), Mia (daughter of Resource teacher Natalie Pandora) and Briggs (son of 1st grade teacher Alli Bradberry).