

# Board O'Gram

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Report of Rome Board of Education Actions Compiled by Dr. Robert A. Young, Dir. of Administrative Services

**National Creative Society Literary Competition:** The Board recognized the National Creative Society's Literary Competition winners. Two students from North Heights Elementary won First Place awards at the National Creative Society's Literary Competition at the Showcase for the Arts held at the Forum in March. Debris Ash, a fifth grade student of writing teacher Ms. Donna Beacraft, won a First Place award for her age group for her winning story "Volcano Disaster", which tells the story of a family vacation that ends unexpectedly. Isaac Palmer, a second grade student of Ms. Dell Ledbetter, won two First Place awards at the competition. Isaac's winning story was "Three Little Alligators" and his winning poem was "The Tree Frog."

**Georgia Health Occupation State Association (HOSA):** The Board recognized the Georgia Health Occupation State Association (HOSA) competition winners. Eight Rome High Students recently competed in the Georgia Health Occupation State Association (HOSA) state competition in Augusta, Georgia. All eight placed in the state competition and will compete in the national competition in Nashville, TN to be held at the Gaylord Opera Land Hotel on June 21 - 25.

The winners were:

Andy Shin - 1st Place - Prepared Speech

Rachel Lucas, Carla Montgomery, Bustos, Rae Thompson, Ashley Rogers, and Cynthia Guillen - Third Place

Parliamentary Procedure Team

Keely Phillips - 3rd Place - Knowledge Test Human Growth and Development.

**National Merit Scholarship Program:** The Board recognized the National Merit Scholarship program winners. Five Rome High Students have been named who qualify to participate in the National Merit Scholarship program based on their PSAT scores. Of the 1.3 million students who took the PSAT, 50,000 qualified for the program. These students are in the top 3.8 percent of the students who took the test and they will compete in the National Merit Semifinalist program which will be announced next year. The students are: Ivan Bathishchev, Josh Childers, David Holcomb, Ashli Johnson, and Kimberly Rogers.

**Retiring Staff:** The Board recognized the retiring faculty and staff members.

Certified Staff

Ms. Cheryl Allen, East Central

Ms. Marsha Dempsey, East Central

Ms. Mary Nance, Rome Middle School

Ms. Sharon Reichel, Rome Middle School

Ms. Betty Young, Rome High School

Mr. Howard E. Smith, Central Office

Ms. Pat Gaston, East Central

Ms. Starr Helton, East Central

Ms. Glenda DeAngelus, Rome Middle School

Ms. Linda Brown, Rome Middle School

Mr. Jeff Hargett, Rome High School

Support Staff

Ms. Mary Ford, West End

Ms. Betty Payne, Rome Middle School

**Eighth Month Attendance:** Dr. Cooper reported the attendance for the eighth month of school. He stated that North Heights Elementary School had the highest percentage of student attendance, 98.02 percent. It was also noted that Rome Middle School had 96.56 percent of student attendance for the eighth month of school. The East Central Elementary School had the highest percent of staff attendance, 97.87 percent.

**New Personnel:** The Board unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendations for Support Employment 2004-2005, remaining Certified re-employment 2005-2006, Certified employment 2005-2006, transfers, resignations, retirements, and Certified requesting release 2005-2006.

**Rome High School Student Achievement:** Dr. Evans presented the Focus on Student Achievement at Rome High School. Dr. Evans stated that the test scores of Rome High students continue to improve but there is still room for improvement. Dr. Evans reviewed the High School Graduation Test results, the Advanced Placement Test results, and the Scholastic Aptitude Test results and showed how each test battery had revealed student improvement. The students' achievements were quickly reviewed for the Board as well: Debate, National History Day, Advanced Placement, Governor's Honors, Star Student, and Athletic accomplishments to name a few.

**2005-06 Textbook Adoption:** The Board unanimously approved the K-12 Fine Arts & 9-12 Social Studies textbook adoption recommended by Dr. Cooper and presented by Dr. Baldwin.

**Special Education Comprehensive Plan:** At Dr. Cooper's request, Dr. Kemp presented the 2006 Special Education Comprehensive Plan.

**Attendance Protocols:** The Board unanimously endorsed the Attendance Protocols recommended by Dr. Cooper and presented by Dr. Harris.

**2005-06 Summer School:** Dr. Cooper reported on the 2005 Summer School program. He stated that the elementary school and middle school programs will run from May 31 through June 27 and the high school program will run from June 6 through July 18, 2005.

**SPLOST II:** Dr. Cooper gave an update on the SPLOST II revenues. He stated that February '05 collections of \$421,224.88 were \$4,119.40 over projections. Dr. Cooper reported that the actual revenues-to-date for the system are ahead of projected revenues by \$89,404.26.

**A.D. Black Scholarship Committee:** On a Wood / Clark motion, the board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendation for the A.D. Black Scholarship award as presented by the A.D. Black Scholarship Committee (Mrs. Collins, Mr. Greer, and Dr. Harris). This year's recipients are Matthew Crowley, Chad Teat, Christopher Bishop, and Russell Fleet for \$2,500 each.

**2005-06 Board Goals:** The Board unanimously adopted the 2005-06 Board Goals:

1. Teach the new Georgia Performance Standards in Grades K-12 English Language Arts; Grade 6 Math and Earth Science; Grade 7 Life Science; Grades 9-12 Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry, and Physics.
2. Train teachers in the new Georgia Performance Standards in Grades K, 1, 2, and 7 Math and Grades 3, 4, and 5 Science.
3. Focus on student achievement at the elementary, middle, and high school levels and improve test scores in all subject areas.
4. Develop and implement the Young Scholars Program for rising fifth grade students in Rome City Schools.
5. Review and update Rome City Schools Board Policy Manual.
6. Implement a photo identification system for all Rome City Schools employees.
7. Begin construction projects at East Central and West Central when adequate SPLOST II funds have been accrued.

**Consolidation Task Force Study:** At Mrs. Sims request, Mr. Greer reported on the Consolidation Task Force study. He announced that the Virginia Study Team will be releasing their Phase I (Climate Analysis) data to the Education Subcommittee and the public at Sara Hightower Region Library on Thursday, May 19, at 4:00 p.m. in the Coosa Room. The Task Force Committee has their next meeting on May 24, 2005.