

Board O'Gram

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

National History Day Winner: Mr. Swann presented Certificates of Recognition to the National History Day winners. Mr. Swann stated that several Rome High School students recently won the State Championship in the National History Day competition at Macon State College! Individual Performances: Kelly Hix, "Alexandra: The Tragedy and Impact of the Mad Monk Grigori". Group Exhibits: Haley Shore and Cheryl Culp, "Elizabeth Blackwell". Also, Anna Moses and Rachel Patrick received Honorable Mention in the Group Exhibit category with their "Death Reversed" project. Kelly, Haley, and Cheryl will represent the state at the national competition at the University of Maryland in June 2007.

Mr. Andy Blackburn was recognized for serving as the academic coach for this group of students. Congratulations, Mr. Blackburn!

Governor's Honors Program: Mr. Wood presented Josh Scoggins with a Certificate of Recognition for being named to the Governor's Honors Program (GHP) in the area of Mathematics. Mr. Wood stated that the Governor's Honors Program is a six-week summer instructional program designed to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students challenging and enriching educational opportunities not usually available during the regular school year. The Governor's Honors Program has been funded by the state of Georgia since 1964. Students study in the major instructional area of the nomination and also get to choose other areas of interest as minor studies.

Students are nominated by their high school teachers and transcripts of grades and records, nomination forms, endorsements and other pertinent information is submitted to substantiate the nominations. Local nominees may have a local interview/audition and all have a state level interview/audition. It is a very competitive program and to be named a finalist is a great honor.

This year we would like to recognize Rome High School Junior Josh Scoggins in Math.

DAR Essay Contest Winner: Ms. Huffman presented the DAR Essay Contest Winner, Jacob Stuart, with a Certificate of Recognition. Ms. Huffman stated that the Xavier Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) announced that Jacob Stuart, a fifth grade student at West End Elementary School, was the 2006-2007 winner of their American History Essay Contest. Jacob researched and wrote about the early settlement of Jamestown. Jacob exceeded the standard in several areas of his essay including his description of the settlement and its people, and identifying problems that faced the early settlers.

Jacob is a Challenge Student at West End and has consistently earned High Honor Roll status. He is a good citizen among his peers and is an overall outstanding student.

RHS National Wrangler Champion: Mr. Clark presented Auston Thomas with a Certificate of Recognition for his many accomplishments in rodeo competitions. Representing Rome High School, the city of Rome, and the entire state of Georgia, Auston Thomas has recently been named to the National Wrangler High School Rodeo All-Star Team in the calf roping competition. This award is presented to only two high school students in each state. In the official press release it was reported that Auston was chosen based on his rodeo ability, academic eligibility, and his leadership qualities.

Auston has earned many titles during his career. In 2005, competing in the "00" division, he was the Georgia State Champion, Southeastern United States Champion, and competed in the Dodge World Finals in Stephenville, Texas. Auston was the top money winner in the Southeast with over \$12,000 in earnings.

In 2006, he competed in the "#2" division of the United States Calf Ropers Association. Auston was the State Champion, Southeastern United States Champion, and finished eighth in the Dodge World Championships in Stephenville, Texas.

At the 2007 National High School Rodeo Championship in Springfield, Illinois this summer, Auston will be recognized for his latest milestone, being named to the National Wrangler High School Rodeo All-Star Team.

Thus far, Auston has received rodeo scholarships or official visits to over 30 colleges in 14 states throughout the nation including Texas, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Alabama, just to name a few; not bad for a junior.

Even though Auston excels in calf roping, it is important to realize that he also excels in other sports as well, in particular, baseball playing third base for the Rome Wolves.

Mr. Clark said, "On behalf of the Board of Education, it is my pleasure to present you with a Certificate of Recognition for your extraordinary accomplishments in rodeo and calf roping."

Kiwanis Club of Rome Local Art Showcase: Mrs. Collins presented Jordan Sellers with a Certificate of Recognition for being named Kiwanis Club of Rome Local Art Showcase Recipient. The Kiwanis Club of Rome sponsored a showcase for student artwork April 12-14th at the Rome Area Council for the Arts. This showcase highlighted the local talent of students in grades 6-12 and doubled as exhibit and contest. Astria Zachary, a seventh grader, received Honorable Mention for her oil pastel abstract work and Jordan Sellars, an eighth grader, took home First Place out of all Middle School entries! Jordan's artwork selected is a photograph entitled, "Road Rail" which is beautifully colored in warm yellows and burnt sienna and which displays his quirky sense of perspective and unique composition. This artwork is now traveling to Carrollton, Georgia for the district competition where the winner will receive \$3,500 in scholarship funds.

Jordan is currently exhibiting his photograph outside of the art class at RMS as a part of his "Advanced Art" coursework. We have been working diligently on critiquing his work and fine tuning the way that he balances the elements and principles of design in his pieces. He shows incredible promise as a future Fine Arts photographer and "I expect to hear great things about him in the coming years".

2007 Retiring Personnel: On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Sims thanked all of the retirees for their wonderful service to Rome City Schools and presented Certificates of Congratulations to the following employees.

Certificated Employees:

Thelma (Tha) Berry - West Central Elementary

- Service: Teacher for 27 years - 26 years of service with RCS

Carole Farr - Rome High School

- Service: Teacher and Media Specialist for 28 years

Diane Garner - Rome High School

- Service: Teacher for 28½ years - 25 years with RCS.

Pam Hamilton - Director of Personnel, Central Office

- Service: Teacher and Central Office Administrator for 33 years - 31 years with RCS.

Mary Jo Harvey - Rome High School

- Service: Teacher for 36 years - 3 years with RCS.

Kathy Harwell - Southeast Elementary

- Service: Special Education Teacher for 30 years - all with RCS.

Cheryl Jenkins - Rome High School

- Service: Teacher/Guidance Counselor for 29 years -16 years with RCS.

Sally Johnso - East Central Elementary

- Service: Teacher for 27 years - 20 years with RCS.

Richard Pease - Rome High School

- Service: Teacher for 27 years - 18 years with RCS.

Judith Satterfield - Rome High School

- Service: Teacher for 32 years - nine years with RCS.

Anita Watson - Rome High School

- Service: Teacher for 41 years - seven years with RCS.

Carolyn (Lynn) Wigley - West End Elementary

- Service: Teacher for 31 years - 26 years with RCS.

Claire Williams - West Central Elementary

- Service: Teacher for 33 years - 29+ years with RCS.

Nancy Woods - Anna K. Davie Elementary

- Service: Teacher for 27½ years - 2½ years with RCS.

Support Employees

Puretha Austin - Main Elementary

- Service: School Secretary for ten years with RCS.

Doris French - Rome High School

- Service: School Secretary for 27 years with RCS.

Connie Hall - Central Office

- Service: Central Office Secretary for 15 years with RCS.

Judy Watson - Anna K. Davie Elementary

- Service: Lunchroom manager/worker for 30 years with RCS.

Eighth Month Attendance: Dr. Cooper reported the attendance for the eighth month of school. He stated that Anna K. Davie Elementary School had the highest percentage of student attendance at 97.80 percent. It was also noted that Rome

Middle School had 96.47 percent of student attendance for the eighth month of school. The highest percent of staff attendance was North Heights Elementary School at 97.56 percent for the month.

New Personnel: On a Swann/Wood motion, the Board unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's personnel recommendations:

Certified Employment 2007-2008:

Jessica Bishop/WC	Nancy Hiscock/ES	Chuck Bohannon/SE
Kent Howard/RHS	Christopher Cochran/RHS	Amanda Mayo/MN
Joey Connell/WC	Chuck Nix/RMS	Jennifer Dougherty/RHS
Larry Philpot/MN	Michael Dougherty/RHS	Brian Ross/AKD
Shannon Duncan/NH	Travis Spell/RHS	Dudley Freeman/RMS
Kimberly Townsend/WE	Jessica Garger/WC	Tonya Walsh/RHS
Amy Garrett/NH	Carla Williams/AKD	Lance Godfrey/RHS
Daronda Young/AKD	Ruth Havens/WC	Ellen Young/RMS
Valarie Hibbets/NH		

Support Employment 2006-2007: Jennifer Reed/RHS

Focus on Student Achievement at Anna K. Davie: At Dr. Cooper's request, Dr. Narkisa Ware presented the Focus on Student Achievement for Anna K. Davie Elementary School. Dr. Ware had a number of her faculty and staff along with her in support of her presentation: Teachers - Melissa Graney, Marian Williams, Susan Ray, Angela Fulton, and Monica Landis.

Dr. Ware reported that Anna K. Davie is a Title I Distinguished school and has met Adequate Yearly Progress for five consecutive years. Dr. Ware stated that more than one hundred students met their reading goal for the year and nearly one hundred students met their math goal for the year.

The CRCT scores were presented to demonstrate the work that the teachers and students are accomplishing. The highlights included the percent of students meeting or exceeding state standards: First Grade Reading 80% and Math 80%; Second Math 85%; Third Grade Math 91%; Fourth Grade Reading 81%; Fifth Grade Math 92%; and Sixth Grade Reading 80%.

Dr. Ware stated that Anna K. Davie teachers present instruction that is focused on the Georgia Performance Standards. As a school they are working on the Reader's, Writer's and Math Workshop programs. They are applying the Shurley English & Fountas Pinnell programs across all grade levels and applying Direct Instruction in grades K-5. She said that the Science & Social Studies instruction is integrated within the literature block. Special Education is using the SRA Direct, Saxon Instruction, Horizons, Edmark, Accelerated Reading and Leveled texts to provide differentiated instruction. Finally they are utilizing Instructional technology in providing Destination Reading I in K-2 through a laptop cart program delivery.

In conclusion, Dr. Ware was very complimentary of the parents of Anna K. Davie for their level of participation in mentoring and the support they provide to their children.

2007 Textbook Adoption: On a Clark/Wood motion, the Board unanimously approved on First Reading, Dr. Cooper's 2007 Textbook Adoption as presented by Dr. Mary Baldwin.

In her presentation, Dr. Baldwin stated that the adoption would include Mathematics K-8. The committee members who reviewed the materials and helped prepare the recommendation included:

Anna K Davie: Susan Ray, Angela Fulton, Nikki Woodall
 East Central: Patty Acree, Libby Miller, Tracy Doss
 Elm: Beth Williams, Pam Gilmer, Diane Fuller
 Main: Marc Roberts, Jennifer Gilbert, Carol Green
 North Heights: Deborah Childs, Connie Wilson, Heather Byington
 Southeast: Stephanie Guyant, Megan Ray, Jennifer Short
 West Central: Sherry Richardson, Steve Price, Margaret Combs
 West End: Wendy Edelkind, Debra Lorrens, Keith Summerlin
 Rome Middle School: Elaine Crouch, Ron Hyde, Jennifer Vaughn
 Facilitator: Brenda Erwin, System Math Specialist

The 2007 Textbook Committee made the following K-8 Mathematics recommendation:

Grades K-5	<u>Scott Foresman Investigations</u> with Scott Foresman/Addison Wesley <u>Mathematics</u>	Scott Foresman
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Grades 6,7,8	<u>Georgia Middle School Mathematics</u> Courses 1, 2, & 3	McDougal Littell
	<u>Connected Mathematics</u>	Pearson Prentice Hall

New School Buses: Dr. Cooper reported on the three state subsidized buses that were purchased this spring. The state provided \$150,000 to purchase three buses and the system paid the balance. Two of the buses are 72-passenger and the third is a 48-passenger special education bus.

SPLOST II Summer Projects: Dr. Cooper discussed the East Central, West Central, and Southeast Elementary School renovation projects that will take place this summer. At East Central and West Central the ceiling tile will be replaced, folding partitions will be replaced with wall board, walls will be painted, both schools will be rewired, and VCT will replace carpet in most areas. West Central will also receive a new 6-class addition. At Southeast, the hallway carpet will be taken up and new VCT floor tile will be installed.

SPLOST II Receipts: Dr. Cooper gave an update on the SPLOST II revenues. He stated that the February '07 collections of \$464,284.86 were \$26,784.86 above projections for the month (\$437,500.00). Dr. Cooper stated that the overall collections are still well above the anticipated amount by \$101,841.30.

Superintendent's Announcements: Dr. Cooper announced Rome High School's 2007 Georgia High School Graduation Tests passing percentages are: Writing, 95%; ELA, 98%; Mathematics, 96%; Social Studies, 93%; and Science, 82%. Dr. Cooper stated that every score was from one to eight percentage points above the state average.

Dr. Cooper congratulated the students, teachers, and the administration at Rome High School for a great job on the Georgia High School Graduation Tests.

Dr. Cooper announced the following year-end activities:

Baccalaureate Service will be held at Fellowship Baptist Church at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 13, 2007; the last day of school for students will be Friday, May 18, 2007; and Rome High School Graduation will be held at The Forum at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, May 19, 2007.

A. D. Black Scholarship Recommendation: On a Clark/Collins motion, the Board unanimously approved the 2007 A. D. Black Scholarship Committee's recommendation as presented by Dr. Mike Buck. Dr. Buck reported that the committee consisted of Mr. Gene Clark, Ms. Faith Collins, and himself. After reviewing the selection criteria, the committee unanimously selected Christopher Bishop as the 2007 A. D. Black Scholarship recipient. The criteria include: students will be selected by the Floyd County Board of Education and the Rome Board of Education; the student selected, and at least one of his parents, will have been born in Rome or Floyd County; the student must attend Georgia Tech; and any student not making the necessary passing mark for a current year (in college) shall not receive any further benefits from this trust.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Mr. Greer read a Board Resolution in recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6 through 12, 2007). Mr. Greer reminded everyone that earlier in the day, the Board presented every employee with an apple and qualifying tenure employees with a service pin.

National School Boards Association meeting: The Board members reported on their impressions about the National School Boards Association meeting that they attended in San Francisco. Mrs. Collins said that the talk that she heard from former President Clinton was excellent. This was echoed by a number of Board members. Mr. Wood reported that he went to the No Child Left Behind session and was impressed by the number of systems across the country trying to face the challenges that it brings. Mrs. Sims said that she was impressed by the "Framework for the 21st Century" for which educators are to be prepared and make adjustments.

Chamber Lobbying Trip to Washington D. C.: Ms. Huffman reported on a Chamber lobbying trip to Washington D. C. in which she participated. She stated graduates who live and work in the D.C. area were invited to the Chamber's annual reception for our legislative delegation and their staffs. The reception was hosted by the Chamber's Partners in Prosperity and held in the Southern Company's D.C. office (catered with fancy hors d'oeuvres). Senator Isakson, Congressman Gingrey, and his wife all attended along with their staffs. Six Rome High School graduates were the only graduates from the surrounding area present: Travis Canova, Chris Cook, Will O'Hara, Carlyn Reichel, Carsten Reichel, and Kristen Smith.