

# Newsletter

Volume 7  
Number 6  
April 2007

## Molly Howard 2007 Principal of the Year

Dr. Molly Howard, Principal of Jefferson County High School, Louisville, has been named 2007 Principal of the Year for GASSP. She will represent Georgia for the NASSP/MetLife Principal of the Year Award which will be announced next February(2007) in San Antonio at our nation convention.



Dr. Molly Howard is the 2007 GASSP Principal of the Year.

Howard is a 1977 graduate of Augusta State College. She earned additional degrees from Augusta State College and Georgia Southern University. She received her Doctor of Education in 2000 from Georgia Southern University.

She started his teaching career in 1977 as a Special Education teacher. Her administrative career began as Director of Riverquest Psychoeducational Services. She became Principal of Jefferson County High School in 1995 and is still serving in this position.

Howard has been very active in both GASSP and

NASSP as well as in her community. She has served her district in many capacities. She has served on the GASSP Board of Director's for 12 years and was President in 2000-2001. She has been a long time member of NASSP.

In Molly's twelve years as Principal of Jefferson County, the school has been recognized as one of the leaders in achievements in Georgia. Under her leadership, Jefferson County High School has received national recognition for "High Schools that Work" as well as many state awards for achievement.

*Congratulations Molly Howard 2007 Principal of the Year!!* ■

## 2007 FEAST-Invest in a Child's Mind.....Teach!

More than 150 Future Educators Associations of Georgia (FEA of GA) chapter participants and their advisors gathered at Epworth by the Sea at St. Simon's Island, on March 22-24, 2007, for this year's FEA Spring Training....better known as FEAST! Over the course of the two-and-a-half day camp, middle and high school students interested in entering the field of education had the opportunity to hear from the National Teacher of the Year, Georgia's Teacher of the Year and a host of experienced educators as they shared expertise and techniques toward becoming an effective teacher.

Continued on page 5...

President Pat Blenke Duluth High School 3737 Brock Road Duluth, Georgia 30096	President Elect Dr. Steven Hankla Colquitt County High School 1800 Park Avenue Moultrie, Georgia 31768	Past President Kenneth Goseer Terrell Co. Middle/High School 480 Pecan Street Dawson, Georgia 39842	State Coordinator Jim Arnold Shaw High School 7601 Schomburg Columbus, Georgia 31909	Secretary-Treasurer Richard Smith Bleckley County High School 1 Royal Way Cochran, Georgia 31014
---	--	---	--	--



## From Your Executive Director

*Melton Callahan, GASSP Executive Director*

Another year has come and gone. In Georgia, we have had a lot of successes and a lot of challenges. My real concern is that we do not share all the good things we do. We let the media

share all the negative issues. Our goal in the future should be to join together as a united front to show the public that public education in Georgia is a good thing! No one else will do this for us unless we do it ourselves. Take for example SB 10. Could we as educators stop this bill? The answer is Yes. It would require all educators coming on board and letting politicians know that we vote in a unified manner. I feel confident we would be heard in a different light. Will GAE, PAGE, GASSP, GAMSP, GAESP and all the other educational organization get on the same page against legislations that is not good for Georgia? This probably will occur only when a situation comes along that really set us on fire, like it did several years ago. Well enough said on this one for now.

It is time to move on. There is one thing for sure, we as quality administrators will take the hand dealt and make the best of it.

Our first Spring Drive In Conference in Macon was a success. We had over 100 building leaders in attendance. Mark Wilson and his staff shared how Morgan County High School had implemented a flexible schedule that really worked for them. Ken Cline shared Monroe Area High School Credit Recovery plan. Jim Puckett gave us the latest from the GOLD DOME, plus presenters from DOE.

Please make your plans for our Fall Conference next fall. The dates are November 4-6, 2007 at the Jekyll Island Club.

Be sure to start your year off the right way by attending Summer GAEL in July. If you have never been then you are missing an opportunity to improve yourself professionally. ■



## NASSP Convention, Las Vegas

Great Success! NASSP 's 91st convention in Las Vegas, February 23-25 was a great success. It was the highest attendance in several years, There was a very good delegation from Georgia who attended. There was approximately 50 who attended from Georgia.



Georgia had three presentations in breakout sessions. Grant Rivera, Principal, South Cobb High School in Austell along with Steven Constantino, Family Friendly Schools, Hiram, presented to a full room the topic "The Engaged Leader: Shaping the Invisible Culture". The presentation dealt with the invisible forces that affect the success of your essential improvement initiatives.

Therese Reddekopp, Principal, Northgate High School, Newnan, and Wayne Outlaw, Director of Human Resources, Coweta County Board of Education presented "Linking the Teacher Appraisal Process to a School Improvement Plan". An excellent audience listens to the Coweta plan that links teacher appraisal to the school improvement plan which provides a focus of student achievement and encourages collaboration among peers.

Wanda Creel and Karen Faircloth, Georgia Department of Education presented "Georgia Counts: Georgia's Framework for Improving Secondary Education". This presentation centered on the success path Georgia High Schools are using to improved graduation rates. ■



# Scenes from the NASSP Annual Conference



*Mark your calendar now. Join us next November at Jekyll Island for our Fall Conference.*

## GEORGIA'S TOP TWO YOUTH VOLUNTEERS SELECTED IN 12th ANNUAL NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM

### *Honors also bestowed on other top youth volunteers in Georgia*

David Mulcahy, 18, of Roswell and Jonathan Peacock, 14, of Alma today were named Georgia's top two youth volunteers for 2007 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism.

David was nominated by Marist School in Atlanta, and Jonathan was nominated by Bacon County 4-H in Alma. As State Honorees, each will receive \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip in early May to Washington, D.C., where they will join the top two honorees – one middle level and one high school youth – from each of the other states and the District of Columbia for several days of national recognition events. Ten of them will be named America's top youth volunteers for 2007 at that time.

David, a senior at Marist School, developed a program that helps financially disadvantaged kids become soccer referees so that they can earn money to help themselves and their families. David, who loves soccer, earns his spending money by refereeing soccer games. "I know the benefits of refereeing: pride, a sense of accomplishment, and, of course, the money," David said. "I simply thought that what was good for me might be good for others."

David started in 2002 with the idea of helping just one underprivileged youngster receive referee training, but he didn't stop there. To date, he has raised more than \$3,500 in donations from churches, businesses, family and friends to pay for referee courses, fees, uniforms and other equipment for dozens of young people. He identifies suitable candidates for his program, recruits mentors for them, arranges transportation to classes, assists with tutoring if needed, and helps place his newly trained referees in positions at area soccer clubs. He recently persuaded his high school soccer team to sponsor eight kids, and the Georgia Soccer Association to provide 25 free spaces in its referee classes. David is now providing advice to a similar program in Florida. "In attempting to give pride and a sense of accomplishment to others, I realize that I have done the same for myself," he said.

Jonathan, an eighth-grader at Bacon County Middle School, spent three months planning and preparing a time capsule to help celebrate his commu-

nity's centennial last year. When the head of Alma's centennial committee asked him to help make the town's celebration more memorable, Jonathan thought about a time capsule and began doing research. He found a company to provide an aluminum capsule canister, and delivered a Power-Point presentation on his plan. With \$1,000 from the committee, Jonathan purchased the capsule and bought a newspaper ad asking the public for ideas on what to put in it. He then collected things such as photos, a telephone book and technology items, carefully packed them into the canister, injected nitrogen to preserve the contents, and organized a ceremony to bury the capsule under the town's centennial square. "When people living here in 2106 open it, they will be able to see what the town is like now," said Jonathan.

In addition, the program judges recognized six other Georgia students as Distinguished Finalists for their impressive community service activities. Each will receive an engraved bronze medallion:

Carson Hand, 18, of Columbus, a senior at Northside High School, Renee Mallory, Principal, delivers motivational speeches and songs across the country to inspire young people and adults who are battling cancer.

Gabrielle Richards, 17, of Snellville, a senior at South Gwinnett High School, Berry Simmons, Principal, created and leads the "Heaven Sent Foundation," a group of community volunteers who visit and provide encouragement and small gifts to children and elderly people in medical facilities.

Jordan Schwartz, 13, of Marietta, a member of the East Cobb YMCA and an eighth-grader at the Atlanta Girls' School in Atlanta, built a Web site to encourage and support girls undergoing treatment with human growth hormones ([www.ugrowgirl.org](http://www.ugrowgirl.org)).

Jena Sims, 18, of Winder, a senior at Winder-Barrow High School, Rob Johnson, Principal, organizes "Prince and Princess of Hope" beauty pageants to boost the morale of children and teens fighting terminal illnesses.

Michelle Waters, 18, of Savannah, a senior at Savannah Arts Academy, Odessa Richards, Principal developed a program designed to provide comfort to grieving children by helping them create Web sites to honor the memories of lost loved ones.

Laura White, 16, of Alpharetta, a junior at Northview High School, Peter Zervakos, Principal, in Duluth, organized monthly swimming lessons for more than 50 disadvantaged children in the Atlanta area. ■

## *2007 FEAST-Invest in a Child's Mind.....Teach!, continued from page one...*

The Opening General Session held on Thursday evening featured as keynote speaker National Teacher of the Year Kimberly Oliver, who shared how delighted she was to see such a large group of young students interested in a teaching career. Following her presentation, camp participants enjoyed social activities that included basketball, tennis, roasting marshmallows by the bonfire and card games in the "Create Your Own Game" room.

Georgia Teacher of the Year Pam Walker spoke the next day during the Morning General Session. Students then had the opportunity to attend break-out sessions covering a variety of topics including, "Strategies for Teaching Students of Poverty," conducted by Jan Goodwin, Ed.S., National Board Certified Teacher; "What Will College Really be Like?," conducted by several members of the Armstrong Atlantic State University Dept. of Middle Grades Faculty including: Dr. Regina Rahimi, Dr. Marilyn Hutchinson, Dr. Annette Wilson, Dr. Patrick Hannigan and Ed Davis; "Becoming an Effective Teacher," conducted by Peter Swanson, PhD, of Georgia State University; and "Multicultural Mathematics Education," conducted by Sheena Cooper, PAGE Teacher Academy Graduate; and FEA Advisors participated in an Advisor Roundtable, facilitated Cheryl Dixon, Instructional Coordinator; Susan B. Greene and Marcie A. Wynn, FEA Advisors, all of Booker T. Washington High School of Atlanta Public Schools. The afternoon was filled with team-building activities facilitated by two PAGE Teacher Academy participants, Stephanie Shelton, English teacher from Washington County High School and Sheena Cooper, Math Teacher at Lanier County High School. The day's activities concluded with the Evening Session led by Keith Rustin, a motivational speaker and life coach from Glennville, Georgia, followed by a spirited session of Karaoke.

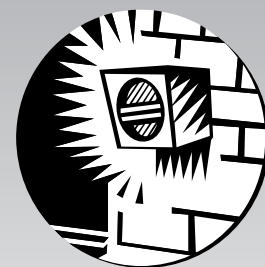
Saturday morning sessions provided FEA participants with additional opportunities to discover other useful teaching techniques including, "How to Be Successful in Education," conducted by Jennifer Boryk, professor of History at Armstrong Atlanta State University; "Let Your Voice Be Heard," conducted by Scott Grubbs, instructor, Dewar College of Education, Valdosta State University; and "How to Be a CAT (Creative Arts Teacher), conducted by Dr. Denise Weems, assistant professor and SPAGE Advisor, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education, Georgia Southern University. The closing session of the camp was led by Dr. Peter Swanson, a

foreign language methods professor at Georgia State University. Earlier in the week, participants had completed a vocational aptitude survey administered by Dr. Swanson. During his final session, Dr. Swanson shared the results of the survey and how the students' personality traits aligned with those that are traditionally associated with an effective teacher.

PAGE Foundation Manager of Student Groups Mary Ruth Ray, who organized the FEA Spring Training, was pleased with the results of the event. "It's extremely gratifying to see so many young people interested and engaged in meaningful activities in their pursuit of a future teaching career. We are grateful to all the individuals who contributed to FEAST and to the FEA advisors for bringing their students," she said.

FEA of Georgia is a partnership of the PAGE Foundation and Phi Delta Kappa International. The program is funded in part by the following donors: AT&T Foundation, Copeland Insurances Services, Inc., Ford Foundation, Professional Association of Georgia Educators, Scientific Atlanta, The UPS Foundation and Wachovia; sponsors include the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders, Georgia Association of School Personnel Administrators, Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals, Georgia Department of Education, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education, Georgia Professional Standards Commission, Georgia School Boards Association, Georgia School Superintendents Association and Phi Delta Kappa International. Special thanks to Maggie Roberts, director, Advising Center, Dewar College of Education, Valdosta State University, for the generous donation of a backpack for each FEAST participant and FEA Advisor. ■

## **GASSP Announcements**



### **MOVING ON**

- **Chuck Bell** is moving to Commerce, Georgia to become the new principal at Commerce Middle School. He is leaving Cook County in Adel.
- **Mike Rowland** will be moving from the Principalship at Putnam County High School to the Putnam County Board Office as Executive Director of Operations.

## THEY CALL HIM "PAPA D"

He's been a teacher and mentor to three generations of Thomas Countians, and through it all, he has become one of the most recognizable and respected figures in South Georgia.

Born February 5, 1944 on the grounds of Pebble Hill Plantation, Frank Delaney, Jr. was the eighth of nine children of Frank and Evelena Delaney. As his life unfolded before him, Pebble Hill would be much more than just a home for the young Delaney and his family.

"I was born there, schooled there, and eventually started working there as an employee when I was 11 years old," he recalls. "It was home, school, and work all at once for the first part of my life."

Determined to escape the hard physical work of the plantation, Delaney made up his mind to find a better life for himself by empowering himself with education.

"I wasn't afraid of hard work in school, thanks to the work ethic I learned working on the plantation," he remembered. "I made good grades, and was encouraged to go to college by Miss Pansy Poe. When it was time for me to try to go to college she paid my way, and I am forever grateful for it."

Delaney would go on to earn his Bachelors of Science degree in mathematics from Albany State University, and would soon begin a career as an educator. He would then earn a Masters in Educational Leadership and Supervision from Valdosta State University. After three years in the classroom, one as a math teacher at East Ochlocknee Elementary School and two at Central High School, Delaney began his administrative career as an assistant principal there in 1972.

In 1993, after serving 21 total years as an assistant principal, Thomas Countians were thrilled when he was named principal of Thomas County Central High School, a position he has held since.

But as deeply as his roots run in education, "Papa D," as he is called by his students and co-workers, is just as deeply rooted in his faith. He has been a member of Ochlocknee Missionary Baptist Church for 54 years, 35 of which have been served as a deacon.

"I wouldn't have anything if it weren't for God, and I am smart enough to know it," he stated. "It doesn't matter what you are doing, you better be putting God first. You can't do anything without God, but you can do anything with Him."

A member of several service organizations including Kiwanis and the Masons, Delaney was the 1996 NAACP Man of the Year, 1996 Thomasville Business Men Educator of the Year, 1998 Kiwanis Club President's Award recipient, and was named One of South Georgia's 25 Most Influential Citizens by South Georgia Business Magazine in 2005. His list of accomplishments and honors is too lengthy to list.

However, one accomplishment he is quick to point out is his family. He and his wife Eunice have four children - Reginald Leonard Delaney, Sr., Frank Delaney III, Kimberly Yvette Delaney, and Tonya Lynn Graham - and three grandchildren, Delanye, Reginald, Jr., and Mikayla Savannah.

As with his students, the lessons Delaney teaches the children in his own family are based on decades of experience and success.

"The thing you try to teach every child, whether it's yours or someone else's, is to stay away from things that they know are wrong. And I don't just mean drugs or alcohol - I mean anything in this

life that is wrong and best left alone."

His steady hand and reassuring presence has had a profound effect on the students and co-workers he has touched along his life's path.

"No doubt, Papa D is one of the heroes of my life, and I know I am not alone," added Randy Young, who was a student at Central under Delaney and now is an employee as a teacher. "There is no telling how many young people in Thomas County have 'made it' because of the inspiration he has provided them not only as a leader but a friend as well. You just won't find a better man or example than Frank Delaney."

Currently in his 38th year in education, Delaney doesn't see retirement on the horizon.

"I just love working with young people," he says. "Times have changed, but young people are still young people. They give me hope for the future, and we have



*Frank Delaney, Jr., "Papa D," at his desk as principal of Thomas County Central High School.*

Continued on page 7...

*Papa D, continued from page six...*

so many good ones here in Thomas County. As long as that's the case and my health holds up, I'll keep going and moving forward."

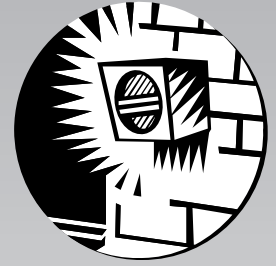
Unselfishly offering his services anywhere they are needed, it is not unusual to find Delaney teaching Sunday school, inviting friends and family to his home to 'pray in' the New Year, or on the school grounds running a weedeater or leaf blower sprucing things up a bit.

"We are God's creatures, and we are put on this earth to serve and help each other," he concluded. "As long as I've got breath in my lungs, that's what I intend to do. Every day is an opportunity granted to me to try to have a positive impact on the lives of those that I am blessed to serve." ■

## More NASSP Conference Scenes...



## GASSP Announcements



### RETIRING

- **Rena Hanson**, Assistant South Gwinnett, High School. She served 34 years in education, 13 in administration.
- **Keith Cowne**, Superintendent of Madison County is retiring with 31.3 years, 14.75 years as a high school principal—6.25 as a superintendent—5 as an assistant principal and 5.3 as a teacher and coach.
- **Jane Stegall**, Principal of Brookwood High School is retiring with 34 years services. Twenty years as an administrator and 5 as Principal.
- **Dr. Martha K. Richardson** - retired from Troup County Schools with 30 years of service; 13 years as English teacher and 17 years of administration.
- **Cynthia Gibbs** will be retiring after 30 years in education (17 in administration). She is an Assistant Principal at Sequoyah High School.

### GASSP Lifetime Achievement Award

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years as Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years as Assistant Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Years in Education \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: Melton Callahan, Executive Director  
GASSP  
5634 Atlanta Hwy., Suite 300  
Flowery Branch, Ga. 30542  
mcallahan@gael.org

Date you would like this Presented \_\_\_\_\_

Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals  
5634 Atlanta Highway, Suite 300  
Flowery Branch, GA 30542

Non Profit  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
Permit No. 82

## GASSP 2007 Student Scholarship Application

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ *(Must be a member of GASSP)*

High School Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Attach a copy of your official transcript and include how your GPA was determined)*

Your Highest SAT Score(Total from a single administration) \_\_\_\_\_

Include a description of all extracurricular school and community activities

Include two letters of recommendation. These may be from a teacher, counselor, administrator, etc. Relatives of applicant may not be used.

Include an essay (not more than two double-spaced typed pages):

MY PLANS FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE

Mail the application package with all the requested information to: Art Wheaton  
Banks County High School  
1486-A Historic Homer Hwy.  
Homer, Ga. 30547

Application deadline: JUNE 1, 2007

The amount of the scholarship (a minimum of four will be awarded) is \$1,000.

### GASSP Platinum Sponsors

America's

Choice

Balfour

eInstruction

Herff Jones

Jostens

Lifetouch

PAGE