

May Escambia County School Board Meeting Affirmations

KIDS TAG ART PROGRAM: On behalf of the Kids Tag Art Program, in partnership with Scott Lunsford, Tax Collector, it is an honor to recognize the Choice Awards winners for Kids Tag Art 2018. This is the fifth year ECSD has participated in the seven-year-old statewide Kids Tag Art Program working with the Escambia County Tax Collector. The purpose of the program is to advocate for our visual arts programs while bringing funds for the purchase of materials and supplies to the visual art programs in our schools. This year four high schools participated. Each participating school submitted their top two winners. Mr. Scott Lunsford and Superintendent Malcolm Thomas then personally chose the Choice Awards. The winning students were presented with a plaque and a car tag with their art on it. The Superintendent's Choice Award goes to Amy Lam, from Pensacola High School. The Tax Collector's Choice Award was presented to Jarvis Blaque also a student at Pensacola High School. Their art teacher is Andrea Cain.

EHS's LATIN CLUB - #1 in Florida! This year, the Latin students at Escambia High School have successfully carried on the program's decades-long tradition of excellence. They placed First overall at the Regional Latin Forum in January, for the **27th** year in a row. Then, at the State Latin Forum, 27 Escambia High School students competed at the Florida Junior Classical League State Latin Forum, April 19th -21st. The students returned with the overall first place trophy, defeating 4 time defending champion Oak Hall School - by 68 points. The team also earned first place in the Creative contests and 3rd place in Academics. Escambia High was the only school to receive high honors in both aspects of the competition. Escambia's Latin Team has a 12 year streak of top five finishes at the State Latin Forum. They placed 2nd overall in 2016 and 2017, but they are the first Escambia High Latin Team since 1992 to bring home a state championship. No team can be this successful without an outstanding coach. Amy Hornick is the Latin teacher at Escambia High School, and this championship team's outstanding coach.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY'S ALL-STAR ACADEMIC TEAM #1 In FLORIDA: Last month, the Escambia County All-Star Academic Team attended the Commissioner's Academic Challenge in Orlando, a highly academic statewide high school tournament inaugurated in 1986. The districts are placed in three divisions based on the fall student count. The school district's team was selected in an open competition, tournament format in October. Students enrolled in grades 9-12 during the 2017-2018 school year are eligible. The top eight scholars from all Escambia County high schools make up a 6 member team with two alternates and a coach. In order to become a team member in good standing, students must be available to practice every Saturday morning for 4 hours between October and April. Students must be prepared to be asked questions from the areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, the fine arts, world languages (French and Spanish) physical education, health, and technology. The questions are written by educators from high schools throughout the state. Escambia competed in Division II, (students between 10,000 – 40,000). Escambia County has previously earned six State titles, and has finished in second place three times. This

will make the seventh win for State title. The members of this year's team were: Maggie Brown, John Dixon, Michael Dixon, Abigail Lyons, Phillip Man, Pritka (Ally) Shah, and Connor Zameska. Mr. Allan Robinson and Mrs. Tristan Harris are the Academic Team's Coaches.

HEALTHIER U.S. SCHOOL CHALLENGE SMARTER LUNCHROOMS AWARDS

(HUSSC): Ms. Rachael Terrin, of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, attended the May Escambia County School Board meeting to present the Healthier U.S. School Challenge Smarter Lunchrooms Awards. This year's Bronze Awards were earned by: A.K. Suter Elementary School, Beulah Elementary School, Blue Angels Elementary School, Bratt Elementary School, Cordova Park Elementary School, Hellen Caro Elementary School, Lipscomb Elementary School, N.B. Cook Elementary School, Pine Meadow Elementary School, and Scenic Heights Elementary School. The Silver Awards were presented to: Bellview Elementary School, Brentwood Elementary School, Ensley Elementary School, Global Learning Academy, Jim Allen Elementary School, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Longleaf Elementary School, McArthur Elementary School, Montclair Elementary School, Navy Point Elementary School, Oakcrest Elementary School, Pleasant Grove Elementary School, Sherwood Elementary School, Warrington Elementary School, and West Pensacola Elementary School.

PAUL COMBES -- 2018 STELLAR EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR: The ECSD Stellar Employee of the Year was announced during the May School Board meeting and this year's selectee is Mr. Paul Combes, the Transportation Department G.I.S. Manager. Paul has been in transportation and with the district for eleven (11) years. He is a consummate professional whose impact on district operations is broad and immense. Combes leads by example; when he does a job, people know it has been done right. He exercises extraordinary initiative and outstanding judgment in developing new ideas and recommendations. He is the person who analyzes student data so students can be accurately assigned to buses, he's the person who manually uploads student data every night so new students can be transported the following morning. Combes also locates and tracks sexual offender residences to ensure they don't encroach on school bus stops and schools. He also provided unique and valuable insight regarding school zoning to the SAZAC Committee. Mr. Combes was instrumental in ensuring the SAZAC Committee members had the information necessary for them to reassign school attendance zones in support of the new Kingsfield Elementary and Beulah Middle Schools. Combes also validates student attendance and eligibility criteria against state criteria through an exhaustive process to ensure accurate data and provides feedback to the information technology department regarding student enrollment and data validity in order to facilitate timely correction of records, so students can be transported to and from school accurately and on time. Paul Combes is Stellar because of his excellent work ethic and dedication to the staff in the Transportation Department. He exemplifies the pillars of "people" and "service" and for those reasons Mr. Paul Combes has been selected as the ECSD Stellar Employee

of the Year. ***Thanks go to Member's First Credit Union for their continued support of all ECSD Stellar Employee selectees!***

Photos from the May School Board meeting have been posted on Facebook on the page, Escambia Schools Public Relations.

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