



Canton Public School District

February, March, April 2014

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."

Robert Louis Stevenson

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| MS Symphony | 5 |
| Canvassing the Community | 6 |
| College Spirit Day | 8 |
| CCC Business Industry Ed. Day | 10 |
| Nissan Teacher Appreciation | 12 |
| Science Fair Winners | 14 |
| Reading Fair Winners | 16 |
| Star Athlete | 19 |
| CHS Signing Day | 20 |

Tiger Talk



First Lady Visit

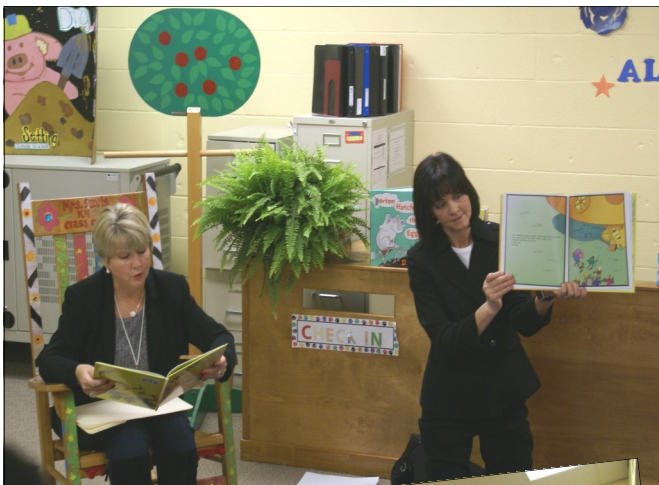


Superintendent Dwight Luckett, Sr., First Lady Deborah Bryant, Principal Shalondia Washington, School Board Member Walter Jones

McNeal Elementary Students welcome a visit from First Lady Deborah Bryant

Mississippi First Lady Deborah Bryant recently kicked off her education initiative "Read Across Mississippi." Her goal is to read to students in all 82 counties of Mississippi throughout 2014. She recently visited McNeal Elementary School in Canton and read to students. She shared pictures of the First Family, read a book, and answered questions from students. Afterwards, Mrs. Bryant hugged every student and took pictures with them and members of the faculty and staff. Superintendent Dwight Luckett and McNeal Principal Shalondia Washington presented her with gifts and thanked her for warming the hearts of students with her visit. She also got a surprise visit from cupid who presented her with a box of chocolates. Students were excited and thoroughly enjoyed the First Lady's visit to their school.

First Lady Visit



First Lady Visit

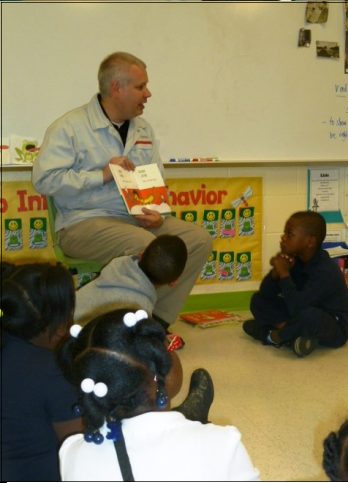


Read Across America Celebrations



Goodloe Elementary Celebrates Read Across America Day !

"Grab a Hat and Read with the Cat" was the theme of Goodloe Elementary School's Read Across America Day. This exciting event is held each year to celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday and the importance of reading. Students began the morning enjoying a green eggs and ham breakfast prepared by the dynamic food service staff. School leaders offer a special thanks to all of the guest readers who came to join in the fun by reading to our students. What a celebration!



Mississippi Symphony Orchestra

The Mississippi Symphony Orchestra fills the air with excitement for some Canton elementary students

Canton Public School officials thank the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra for enriching the lives of its students by performing live concerts in the district. Students from Canton Elementary, Reuben Myers Canton School of Arts & Goodloe Elementary got a chance to experience and enjoy live music up close. Students also got the opportunity to experience the joy of music making as they sang and played their instruments along with the Orchestra. Excited students say they look forward to the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra's visit each year.



Canvassing the Community

CPS officials Canvas the Community to Increase Success on Tests

As the school year draws to an end, students are gearing up to take important final exams like the MCT2 and Subject Area Tests. These tests will determine if students will graduate or be promoted. That's why some Canton school administrators and teachers were "Canvassing the Community" Saturday, April 26, to meet with parents. They went, door to door, giving helpful tips to ensure students do their best on their tests.

Educators delivered booklets containing test taking strategies, and Common Core and District testing information. They also gained valuable input as they listened to parent concerns. School leaders say keeping parents and the community involved is the key to increasing student achievement.

School leaders also participated in a parental involvement event at "In His Step Ministries" aimed at helping prepare parents and students for the upcoming tests. The event featured informational sessions, educational games, free books and plenty of fun for participants.

School leaders also thank Nissan employees Jamey Jenkins, Norris Poynter and Clifton Goodloe for helping get students motivated for the MCT2 Test with Pep Rallies at Canton Elementary, Goodloe Elementary, and Reuben Myers Canton School of Arts & Sciences.



Canvassing the Community



College Spirit Day

The Canton Public School District hosted its Annual College Spirit Day. Superintendent Dwight Luckett established this day in the district to promote the importance and benefits of attending college. The faculty and staff wore clothing displaying their university's logo. Students from K-12 participated in various activities encouraging them to be lifelong learners by obtaining a college degree after they finish high school. It was a great day for faculty and staff to show their school pride and encourage students to further their education.





Canton Career Center Business Industry Education Day



Canton Career Center Business Industry Education Day

Canton Public School District leaders thank participants and the Canton Chamber of Commerce/Main Street Association for making Canton Career Center's Annual Business Industry Education Day a success by showing our students the endless possibilities they have when they choose to stay in school and graduate.



Nissan Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Nissan Rewarding Achievement

Nissan hosted a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for Reuben B. Myers Canton School of Arts & Sciences Faculty and Staff during their professional development day. The Canton Public School District thanks its supportive corporate partner for rewarding its hardworking educators for improving student achievement. Fifth Grade teacher Henry Doyle was recognized for having the highest QDI on last year's MCT2 Test among others saluted. Guest Speaker Juanita Sims-Doty motivated educators to keep working together to continue moving the district forward as it achieves greater success. She applauded Superintendent Dwight Luckett, administrators, and teachers for their hard work to ensure students get a quality education.

Myers Canton School of Arts and Sciences Teacher Recognition:

- Teacher of the Year----Latoya Fleming
- Highest QDI from last year's MCT2 -----Henry Doyle
- Perfect Attendance thus far ----Shelia Warren
- 100% Professional Development 360 Videos viewed-----Anquinette Olowo-Ake



Nissan Mississippi Scholars Presentations

Nissan Employees Mentor Students

The Canton Public School District thanks Nissan employees who mentored students at Nichols and Huey Porter Middle Schools. The mentors encouraged students to participate in the Mississippi Scholars Program. Upon successful completion of the program, Nissan officials honor seniors' academic achievements by hosting a luncheon and offering each of them \$500.00 college scholarships.

The purpose of the Mississippi Scholars Program is to encourage students to take more challenging courses in high school. All national data indicates that students with a more rigorous academic schedule of high school studies will be better prepared for college and/or to enter today's competitive job market. The requirements include 40 hours of community service, a 2.5 cumulative GPA, 95-percent attendance, 16 ACT composite score, and no outside suspensions. A graduating senior will be recognized as a MS Scholar and receive a medallion and a decal on their diploma.



Porter Regional Science Fair Winners

Students from Huey Porter Middle School in Canton brought home top honors as they competed against hundreds of budding scientists participating in the Regional Science Fair at Jackson State.

After several hours of intense competition, Porter Middle School students proved their talents were among some of the best in the region.

Kodi Travis won 1st place in Medicine and Health.

Alexis Hunter placed 2nd in Behavioral Science.

Kenna Pierce placed 2nd in Zoology.

Kaitlynn Anderson placed 4th in Medicine and Health.

Garrison Gillum placed 4th in Zoology.

Sixth Grader Marlon Taylor placed 6th in Chemistry.

Janay Wade placed 6th in Earth/Space.



Alexis Hunter, Kenna Pierce, and Kodi Travis were selected as Broad Com nominees and will compete with the top 10% of 6th-8th graders across the nation for \$25,000 and an all expense paid trip to Washington DC. Kodi also won a Pre-College Award and the Surgeon General Award. Alexis, Kenna, and Kodi will represent the district at Region II in the State Science Fair Competition, in Greenville. Science Teacher Jessica Johnson says she is extremely proud of all of her students.

Congratulations to all of our students for a job well done!

The following 6th grade students participated Tuesday March 18th: Jordyn Love, Alyssa Nelson, Kelly Salvador, J'Dia Martin & Jasmine Tyler, Matthew Hobson, and Marlon Taylor.



Porter Regional Science Fair Winners cont'd



Regional Reading Fair Winners



JADA
POSTON
3rd Place
Winner

Canton Public Schools Reading Fair district winners competed in the Regional Reading Fair held at the Mississippi School for the Deaf in Jackson, MS.

CPS congratulates Nichols Middle School student Jada Poston for winning 3rd place in Division I (Non-Fiction) for her presentation of the book "We Beat the Streets." CPS also applauds the efforts of all of the students who competed. Keep up the good work and continue to enjoy reading.

DISTRICT READING FAIR WINNERS



Dameeria Harvey & Ladarrious Johnson



Mikayla Johnson



Kaitlyn Dortch

District Reading Fair Winners

The Canton Public School District congratulates its District Reading Fair winners. These students competed in the Mississippi Department of Education's Regional Reading Fair on March 7, 2014.

Division A: Kaylan Brooks McNeal Elementary School
 Division B: Aurelia Nash McNeal Elementary School
 Division C: Cameron Parker McNeal Elementary School
 Division D: Jadon Smith Goodloe Elementary School
 Division E: Shaqueria Henderson Goodloe Elementary School
 Division F: Kaitlyn Dortch Nichols Middle School
 Division G: Mikayla Johnson Canton High School
 Division H: Ahniya Myers Canton Elementary School
 Division I: Jada Poston Nichols Middle School
 Division K: Briana Tucker McNeal Elementary School
 Division L: Lorrin Nichols, Erin Nichols, & Cedria Griffin Myers School of Arts and Sciences
 Division N: Ladarrious Johnson & Dameeria Harvey Canton High School

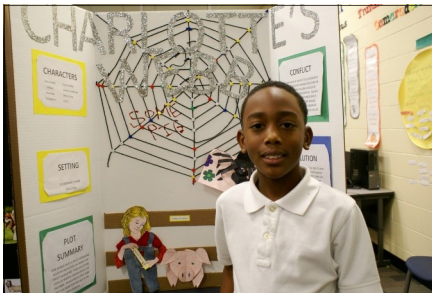


Kaylan Brooks

Cameron Parker



Aurelia Nash



Jadon Smith



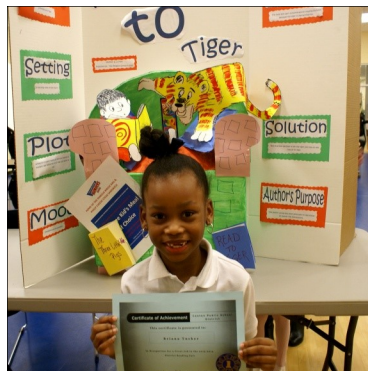
Shaqueria Henderson



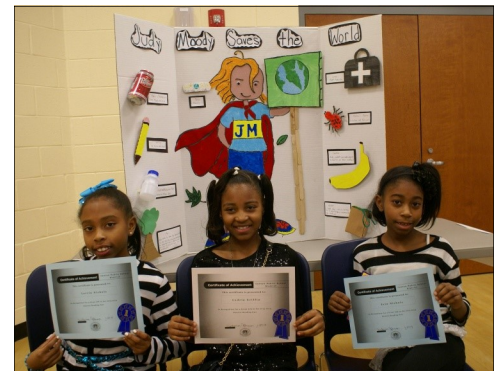
Ahniya Myers



Jada Poston



Briana Tucker



Lorrin Nichols, Cedria Griffin, Erin Nichols

Leapfrog Donation



The Canton Public School District thanks Mr. Glen Lacey and the Madison County Baptist Association's Laymen Ministry for its generous donation of the **Tag Learn to Read Program by LeapFrog** for our kindergarten students at Goodloe Elementary, McNeal Elementary, and Reuben B. Myers Canton School of Arts and Sciences. We are very excited about this donation because improving the literacy levels of our students is a priority for the district. The donation aligns seamlessly with the districts' initiative to improve the literacy levels of our students. The donation includes four (4) **Tag Learn to Read** devices per kindergarten classroom for

a total of 56 devices. Supporting our children with resources that directly impact instruction in the classroom is one of the most direct ways to improve the lives of children and improve literacy levels. This donation has the potential to directly impact the lives of over 350 of our students. That is significant! The gift allows us to provide targeted support directly to students through learning centers. The **Tag Learn to Read Program** devices are being used in learning centers as well as individually to support vocabulary instruction, fluency, and comprehension skills. These are key areas of literacy development. We appreciate partners like you who help us make a very meaningful impact in the lives of children.



Record Breaking Star Athlete

Canton High's Rising Star

Canton High Junior standout Jamelia Owens is a talented, rising star breaking records and making a name for herself in the world of athletics.

Recently, Jamelia won the Class III powerlifting title for her weight class at the Mississippi Coliseum on April 5, 2014. She has won in her respective weight class and has also made the Elite 11 team for three consecutive years. Owens broke and set new records for Class III bench press and dead lift with a combination of 660 pounds. She set a new state Class III record for her weight class in bench press with 210 pounds. She also tied the Class III 1,025 total points. Jamelia was recently the **"Metro Area High School Athlete of the Week"** and has been nominated for the "2014 PopStar Award in Girls Power lifting."

Jamelia is the youngest daughter of Jerome and Tammy Baker-Owens. "This has truly been an honor and blessing for my daughter. She has been diligent and has worked hard to get to where she is today. It does my heart good to see the fruits of her labor pay off and I am very proud of my baby." says Jamelia's mother, Tammy Owens.

Owens represents many things to the Tiger's athletic department. Tiger fans have been watching this young lady blossom since her freshman year of high school as a member of the volleyball, softball, basketball, track and field, and powerlifting teams.

Jamelia loves to play sports, travel, meet new people, and try exotic foods. As a ninth grader, she surprised her competition with a total over 900 points. As a sophomore under new leadership and a very strong willed mentor, Jamelia was eager to start the powerlifting season but with a purpose. She wanted respect! She exploded with a total of 1,010 points to win her second championship for powerlifting. Jamelia set a new dead lift and bench press record for Class III and tied the state record for bench press. In addition to her second powerlifting championship, she was a member of the 2013-2014 Girls 5A State Championship Basketball Team, and the Girls 5A track and field runner up team where she won first place in shot put and discus.

After a jubilee season as a sophomore, Jamelia returns as a junior with some surprises. She has been battling quite a few injuries with her toe, chine, and back. With all the injuries throughout each sports season, Jamelia knew the task at hand and she knew the journey consists of persistence, hard work, and dedication. Jamelia says, "With the agonizing pain I was experiencing, I couldn't turn back." She took ice baths, stretched three times a day, and even changed her eating habits to prepare her for the state meet. She dedicated this season to her sister Brionna Owens, who is also a member of the powerlifting team.

Surprisingly, Jamelia had some unexpected competition this year with Tina Harris from Meridian High School who squatted 485 pounds, giving her the state record for squats. "When she cleared that squat, I became very nervous but my coach told me to stay positive," says Owens. Her mentor, Canton native Coach Shako Freeman, gave her a motivational pep talk. Jamelia says excitedly, "Coach has a way of recharging your spirit! You can be very low or upset and she has a way of getting you to go all out." Thanks to Coach Freeman's strategic plan, Jamelia did recharge by breaking and setting new records for bench press and dead lifts in Class III. "All coaches and teammates see a leader and one of any team's most talented players in Jamelia. She is a very talented and gifted athlete who works hard," says Coach Freeman.

Jamelia looks forward to next season, when she will be a senior and battle it out again with her competitors, but in the meantime, her focus has shifted to her next sport, track and field.



Jamelia Owens

la-

CHS Talented Standout Makes His Choice



Myquashia/sister, Corice Anderson/Mother, Keontre, Koche Anderson/Father, Laniaha/sister

Canton High School Tigers Participate in National Signing Day

After many sleepless nights, and countless offers, Canton High School Tiger Standout Keontre Anderson finally makes a decision on where he will play college football.

The 6-foot-3, 230 pound Defensive End who landed a career high of 58 sacks announces he will take his talents to Jackson State University.

"It's a great feeling knowing I made my parents proud and I can go somewhere and be the best I can be," says Keontre.

Anderson, a senior, will get a full scholarship to continue his football career while pursuing his educational dreams of majoring in Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy.

Despite offers from other schools

like Mississippi State University, Ole Miss, and Alcorn, to name a few, Keontre says he chose to play at a Southwestern Athletic Conference school because of his desire to pave the way for future athletes who may think they only have a shot at playing professionally if they attend schools in a larger conference. He says he believes he can make an impact in the SWAC.

His supportive parents, Koche and Corice Anderson, say they are proud and just wanted this to be his decision.

"I'm just tickled to death he has an opportunity to go anywhere and do something he loves to do and most importantly get his education and be successful in life," says his father Koche a former Defensive Lineman at Mississippi State.

"I would have supported whatever choice Keontre made because I am his number one fan. I am excited about his future and know he will also get a quality education at JSU as he pursues his dreams," says his mother Corice, a Jackson State alumna.



CHS Signing Day

Canton High School Tigers Charles Elam and Quayshun Henderson also get a full scholarship as they sign their letters of intent to play college football and further their education.

Defensive End, two-year starter Charles Elam says he looks forward to playing for Copiah Lincoln (Co-Lin) Junior College. Elam says this opportunity will also help him get closer to his goal of one day becoming a High School Football Coach. His mother Michelle Bennett says, "I am excited. I know he will continue to keep up the good work, stay on a positive path, and be successful in life."

Offensive Tackle, three year starter, Quayshun Henderson chose Southwest Community College. He says he is excited about this opportunity to further his football career and also focus on getting a quality education. Henderson plans to major in Communications. His mother Tameka Henderson says "I've told him from the start, if he keeps God first all things are possible. I'm his number one fan."



Michelle Bennett/Mother, Charles Elam,
Athletic Director/Coach Peter Brown



Robert Truss/Uncle, Quayshun Henderson, Tameka Henderson/Mother, Coach Peter Brown

Star Lady Tiger “Guarding Her Future”

Canton High School Lady Tiger Jamilah Sanders gets a full scholarship after signing her letter of intent to play college basketball and further her education.

The star Guard for the Lady Tigers says she looks forward to playing for Copiah Lincoln (Co-Lin) Junior College. Sanders says, "I know I made the right decision for my future. This opportunity will allow me to continue playing the sport that I love and help me reach my goal of becoming a Physical Therapist." She says she is thankful for Coach Melissa Word's support and guidance over the years to help her become a better player and person on and off the court. Her grandmothers Catherine Simpson and Barbara Sanders say they are extremely proud of her accomplishments and know that she is on the right path to having a successful future. Coach Word says Sanders is a talented player who will be truly missed and very hard to replace because she contributed to the game in so many ways. Word says she knows Sanders will be a great asset to Co-Lin. Sanders was named District MVP this year. She averaged 9.5 points per game, 5.4 rebounds, 4.8 assists, and 4.7 steals which demonstrates her all-around talent. She helped lead the Lady Tigers to a State Championship last year. She was a member of the 3-5a All District Team. She was chosen to participate in the North/South All Star game for top juniors in the state. She was also chosen for the State All Star Tournament Team. Sanders says she looks forward to achieving more success on and off the court as she heads to college.



Maternal Grandmother Catherine Simpson, Jamilah, Paternal Grandmother Barbara Sanders, standing Coach Melissa Word,



Star Lady Tiger “Moving her Career Forward”

Canton High Lady Tiger Andreal Fleming signed her National Letter of Intent May 13, with Northwestern State in Louisiana.

Fleming, a Forward, averaged 12.3 points per game and 8.4 rebounds per game during her senior season. She is the second Lady Tiger in two years to sign with a Division 1 program. Last year, Ashley Beals signed with Mississippi Valley State.

Fleming turned down numerous offers and says she chose Northwestern because they made her feel right at home. She says the success she and Beals have had the past two years will help encourage other girls in the program to pursue their dreams.

Her parents Chemeka and Andre Fleming say they are extremely proud of their daughter's accomplishments and look forward to her continuing her education. Fleming says she wants to major in Athletic Training.

Fleming helped lead the Lady Tigers to victory in their 5A State Championship win last year. She was also a member of the 3-5A All-District Team and she was chosen to participate in the North/South All-Star game for the top juniors in the state.



Andre Fleming/Father, Andreal, Chemeka/Mother, Coach Melissa Word, and Andreal's boyfriend





Phone: 601-859-3984
 Email: beverlylucett@cantonschools.net
 Beverly Luckett, Editor
 Communications Specialist

We're on the web!
www.cantonschools.net

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Canton Public School District, with full participation of parents and the total community, is to enable all students to become analytical thinkers, self-directed lifelong learners and effective communicators who are prepared to continue their education and /or to enter the global workplace and to participate in society as responsible citizens.

OUR VISION

Children are our greatest asset and value. It is the responsibility of the parents, school and the community to serve as a perpetual bridge for the development of our children's character and the enhancement of their ability to master data, interpret knowledge, and apply the practical principles of their mastery.

BELIEF STATEMENTS

- **All children can learn, but at different rates and in different ways.**
 Students must be actively involved in the learning process.
- **Education is a community effort.**
It is the responsibility of the parents, the community and the schools to be active participants in nurturing and educating our youth.
- **Family is a powerful influence on both children and the community.**
Parents must be informed about and involved in the education of their children.
- **Self-respect and self worth are essential to success.**
The schools are the vehicles for students to develop the positive attitudes and goals that lead to a sense of motivation and self worth.
- **High expectations for our children will produce higher achievement.**
The schools provide the environment to model and reinforce higher goals for students.
- **Working together it is possible to change negative perceptions and environmental factors that affect student learning.**
Civic organizations, businesses, churches, news media, and the schools must become active partners in change.

The Canton Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability in hiring or in participation in educational programs or activities.