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Contact: Alisha Evans, Communications Director
65 Gilreath Road NW, Cartersville, Ga. 30121
alisha.evans@bartow.k12.ga.us
770-606-5800 x3815



PRESS RELEASE

BARTOW COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM REACH SIGNING DAY 2018

BARTOW COUNTY, Ga. (October 26, 2018) – Georgia State Senator Bruce Thompson said it best when he addressed Bartow County School System’s 2018-2019 REACH Georgia Scholars October 25, “Do you know how big of a deal this is? Some people are not given the opportunity, but you are. Take the opportunity, determination, and desire, and make it to the top.”

REACH Georgia, now in its second year at Bartow County Schools, is all about opportunities. The state-wide program works with school systems to award select eighth-grade students up to \$10,000 in scholarship money, so they can attend a two or four-year Georgia REACH college or university of their choice. Some institutions match or even double match that amount.

The second cohort of REACH Georgia Scholars includes Robert Brown and Kaylie Stanley from South Central Middle School, Alondra Burgos and Jessica Kaufmann from Cass Middle School, Moses Flores from Adairsville Middle School, and Justus Young from Woodland Middle School.

“I was pleased to see these students commit to a 2.5-grade point average or higher, regular attendance, and good behavior,” says Bartow County School System Superintendent Dr. Phillip Page. “I was also happy to see their parents or guardians sign a contract to show their support and commitment to this endeavor. These efforts will pay off in dividends and afford these children unique opportunities that they would not find in any other program.”

It was standing room only at the REACH Georgia Signing Ceremony October 25, as teachers, counselors, principals, school board members, mentors, and community leaders filled the Bartow County College and Career Academy. “Seeing representatives from local colleges, having mentors in attendance, and being supported by their families, I think Signing Day was very successful in conveying just how important this scholarship is to their future,” adds REACH Georgia Coordinator Kristy Mitchell. “One of my favorite parts of this program is seeing the power of advocacy when Scholars regularly meet with their mentor and academic coach.”

This six-year-old program serves nearly 1,200 scholars in more than 134 school systems across Georgia. The state’s goal is to have all 180 school systems participate by 2020.

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