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Education updates, honors highlight TSBA South Central Fall District Meeting

Local boards of education heard updates on education reform in Tennessee, earned honors for their professional development activities, recognized a dedicated school volunteer and an outstanding student at the Tennessee School Boards Association's (TSBA) South Central Fall District Meeting, held Sept. 1 at Fayetteville High School in the Fayetteville School District. The South Central District meeting was one of nine similar sessions held annually in each of TSBA's development districts. The evening's program included an update on this year's session of the Tennessee General Assembly, a discussion of moving from collective bargaining to collaborative conferencing, a review of the new teacher and principal evaluations and an update on tenure reform. The meeting also included recognition of school board members who have achieved honors over the past year, a local school volunteer who is a finalist for a grant to their school of choice and a local student who is a finalist for a college scholarship given by TSBA.

AREA STUDENT HONORED

Each year TSBA honors one student from each of its nine districts who has achieved distinction in the areas of academics, community leadership, and engagement as part of its Student Recognition Award program. One of those nine students will win the statewide Student Recognition Award to be presented at the TSBA Annual Convention in November, which will include a \$2,000 scholarship. The 2011 South Central Student Recognition Award Winner is Bradford Lamb of Marshall County. Currently a sophomore at Forrest School, Bradford has maintained honor role status with a 4.0 grade point average while taking a rigorous schedule of advanced courses. He is a member of the Beta Club, and has won the geometry and physical science highest average award. In addition to Bradford's academic success, he was a member of the varsity football team for the 2009-2010 school year, has volunteered over 80 hours for the Lions Club, and participated in Sunday school "Servoution" projects. Bradford has also been a student representative on the Forrest School Student Council. In addition, Bradford developed a personal project to plan, plant, harvest and deliver produce to families in need, which he was recognized for on the WSMV Channel 4 news segment, "Making a Difference.

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AREA SCHOOL VOLUNTEER HONORED

This year TSBA will honor one school volunteer from each of its nine districts who have distinguished themselves by demonstrating exceptional commitment to volunteerism in a local school district. The district winner has exhibited exemplary leadership, creativity, cooperation and hard work in their service to a school. One of those nine volunteers will win the statewide School Volunteer Recognition Award to be presented at the TSBA Annual Convention in November, which will include a \$1,000 grant to the school of their choice. The 2011 South Central School Volunteer Recognition Award winner is Brooke Duncan of Hohenwald, TN. Brooke, an extraordinary 13 year volunteer for the Lewis County School System, is motivated by principle and doing the “right thing”.

For many years she has maintained the highest number of hours served during a school year averaging 900 hours. As a result of Brooke’s true commitment to Lewis County Schools she has earned gold status in the President’s Volunteer Service Program for the past 12 years. The President’s Council on Service and Civic participation has also awarded her their most prestigious Life Time Achievement Award after completing 4,000 hours of service. A graduate of Lewis County Schools, Brooke is also registered as a volunteer in the Comprehensive Developmental Class where she works diligently with students with a wide range of developmental delays or impairments. Brooke has made outstanding contributions to the school through her many hours of service. Her longevity in the program has allowed her many leadership opportunities with helping new teachers, educational assistants and also other volunteers. Brooke’s creativity, organization and knowledge of school resources have helped with projects and programs of the school system for many years.

AREA BOARD MEMBERS EARN HONORS

Several South Central District school board members earned TSBA Boardsmanship Awards in 2011. The awards are presented to individual board members who have achieved one of five levels of boardsmanship standards over the past year. The program is designed to recognize school board members for participation in board activities beyond the local level through a commitment to training, willingness to participate in workshops and a volunteer spirit. The Boardsmanship Award honors not only the quantity, but also the quality of participation. Levels I-IV are given at Fall District Meetings, while Level V Boardsmanship is awarded at the association’s annual convention in November. South Central District board members who were honored for their achievements this year were:

LEVEL I

Andrea Anderson, Bedford County
Brett Henley, Coffee County
Jack Raby, Fayetteville
Betty Jo Drummond, Franklin County
Christine Hopkins, Franklin County
Lance Williams, Franklin County
Jerry Campbell, Lawrence County
Glenda Atkinson, Lewis County
John Manis, Tullahoma

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LEVEL II

Chad Graham, Bedford County
CleiJo Walker, Franklin County
Mike Young, Giles County
Tommy Dudley, Maury County
Linda Thoma, Tullahoma

LEVEL III

Lana Beard, Hickman County
Phyllis Townsend, Lewis County
Ann Tears, Marshall County

LEVEL IV

Loretta Goodloe, Maury County

NSBA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Vickie Shelton, Tullahoma

A statewide, nonprofit organization, the Tennessee School Boards Association is a federation of all the state's school boards. TSBA's mission is to assist school boards in effectively governing school districts. Through the years, TSBA has helped school boards and their members reach their highest potential through Association programs, meetings and services. TSBA also provides school board members a collective voice in matters of legislation and public education concerns. For more information about TSBA, visit our website at: www.tsba.net.

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