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## Sussex County Public Schools: 2nd Annual Youth Summit and Health Fair

At first glance, the event that unfolded at Sussex Central High School on the warm, sunny afternoon of April 17th was just another after-school event, with food, music and local community organizations advertising their programs. The 2nd Annual Sussex County Public School (SCPS) Youth Summit and Health Fair was so much more. The event was organized by the School Division's Student Services Department as part of its effort to not only organize more activities for local youth but to get them more involved in their communities and to address direct concerns that students cope with daily.



*On our way to have a good time!*

Students who attended the event were able to participate in workshop sessions addressing career choices, relationships, technology, hygiene, finance, and law enforcement. Many local community organizations came to support and participate as vendors in the Youth Summit and Health Fair to share in educating our youth on what their business has to offer right here in our community. One objective of the Youth Summit and Health Fair was to expose students to topics that directly impact their development to become productive contributing citizens of Sussex County.

*Continued on page 4*



*We are so ready to have fun!*

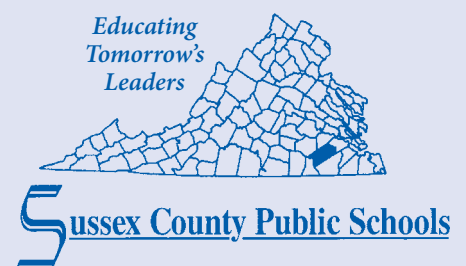
## Mission Statement

### *Educating Tomorrow's Leaders*

We believe that all students can learn. The mission of Sussex County Public Schools is to provide a safe and secure learning environment where all students develop into knowledgeable and productive citizens. Sussex County Public Schools will provide the necessary instructional resources, learning opportunities and leadership for students to reach their highest educational potential to be our leaders of tomorrow.

## Division's 2018-2019 Guiding Principles

- Intentionally Increasing Student Achievement
- Teacher Support
- Principal Instructional Leadership Support
- Community Outreach/Partnerships



## School Board



### **Courthouse District**

M. E. Morris, Jr., Chair  
15032 Beaver Dam Road  
Waverly, VA 23890-4108



### **Stony Creek District**

Linda J. Skipper  
10005 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882-3100



### **Blackwater District**

Laurie S. Latham, Vice-Chair  
Post Office Box 1157  
Waverly, VA 23890-1157



### **Henry District**

Terry A. Massenburg  
13200 Comans Well Road  
Stony Creek, VA 23882



### **Wakefield District**

Gloria S. Holloman  
9100 Birch Island Road  
Wakefield, VA 23888-2889



### **Waverly District**

Doris Coleman Hamlin  
235 Dogwood Street  
Waverly, VA 23890-5025

*Educating  
Tomorrow's  
Leaders*



**Sussex County Public Schools**

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents and Community,

*I take this time to commend everyone for their dedication and commitment to assist Sussex County Public Schools with continuing to be the educational "Beacon of Light" for our region and state. I am grateful for the daily student interactions, conversations with parents, meetings with administrators and teachers, and collaboration with our School Board and community as a whole. Additionally, I am encouraged by the magnitude of success that our schools have realized in the recent years.*



**Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Jr.**  
*Superintendent*

*Several years ago, we began a journey of improvement in our school district that started with teachers, administrators and parents working in collaborative teams through a Professional Learning Communities process. The result has been defining clear standards, common assessments between teachers, changes to grading and assessment to ensure all students are learning the essential content and interventions for those who do not learn essential skills the first time. Our goal has been and continues to be to provide the instruction for all students to reach their highest levels of learning.*

*I am appreciative of those educational partners and alumni who are committed to furthering the mission of Sussex County Public Schools. I continue to say with confidence that every success we have experienced has been done together. Every opportunity to learn lessons has been embraced with a mindset of growth and progressive movement.*

*I commend the graduating class of 2019 on your many achievements and accomplishments. I am confident that you have the tools that you need to be successful. Surround yourself with those who can expand your wisdom and understanding, as well as those who can expose you to all of the wonderful opportunities to which you are afforded. As you propel into this next phase of your life, remember that you are always welcome to come back home to share your gifts and talents. As much is given, so is the requirement to give back.*

*"Others can inspire you, but ultimately the only thing that empowers you is what lies within you and learning how to better utilize what you've been given."*

—T.D. Jakes

Sincerely,

**Dr. Arthur L. Jarrett, Jr.**  
Division Superintendent

# Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) Member Spotlight

Recently, Mr. John Broderick, Director of Finance and Business Operations was featured in the May 2019 School Business Affairs publication which is the international professional journal of the Association of School Business Officials. Mr. Broderick indicated that his interest in K-12 education was sparked when the not-for-profit children's home where he previously worked built a new private school for the residents. In the years it took to find his way into the public school system, he acquired experience in finance, administration, human resources, technology, operations, and food service. After he found a position in school business, it became his passion. He has been in charge of finance and business operations for Sussex County Public Schools since 2010.



Mr. Broderick is proud to be a part of a strong team dedicated to the success of our staff and students. He counts it a privilege to have been a part of a team to strengthen support for staff and students to include the construction and opening the elementary school building on a consolidated campus. Also during his tenure, additional security features to include the installations of cameras, classroom locksets, and a high security entry system have been implemented. A new emergency notification system and bus GPS devices have been installed to increase the overall security for staff and students.

A self-professed life-long student, Mr. Broderick stated that he can satisfy his need to learn something new every day by being involved in every aspect of his work and in the ASBO community. As a 2012 recipient of the Emerging School Business Leaders Scholarship and a 2018 Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations, he urges newer ASBO members to get involved and to ask lots of questions. Mr. Broderick stated, "Information gleaned from the ASBO website, professional contacts and vendor relationships have provided helpful guidance and information in making decisions for our division." He also indicated that membership in ASBO International organization continues to provide resources, professional development and networking opportunities to assist him in performing his work at the highest level.

Mr. Broderick says "I benefit daily from the ASBO Members Digest, the monthly SBA magazine, and from the connections that I have made all over the world from attending annual conferences and from participating in regional meetings.

## Central Office Directory

Arthur Jarrett, Jr., Ed.D.  
*Superintendent*

Julius Hamlin  
*Assistant Superintendent of  
Curriculum & Instruction*

John Broderick  
*Director of Finance &  
Business Operations*

Adriene Stephenson  
*Director of Human Resources*

Lorraine Davis, Ed.D.  
*Coordinator of Pupil Personnel*

William Bain  
*Coordinator of Technology*

Jerry Parham  
*Coordinator of Operations*

Barbara Blount  
*Federal Programs Specialist*

Ahnjayla Hunter  
*Special Education Specialist*

Timothy Mays  
*Instructional Technology Specialist*

Leatha Baker  
*Data Specialist*

Linda Person  
*Executive Secretary*

Virginia Eacho  
*School Psychologist*

Shionda Evans  
*School Social Worker*

## Schools

### Sussex Central High School

Alvina Matthews, Principal  
Norris Evans, Assistant Principal  
21394 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-245-6051

### Sussex Central Middle School

Jennifer Tindle, Ed.D., Principal  
James Holemon, Assistant Principal  
21356 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-246-2251

### Sussex Central Elementary School

Morris Taylor, Principal  
Denise Parker, Assistant Principal  
21392 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-246-8960

## Home & School Connection

21302 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-246-1099  
Fax: 434-246-8214  
[www.sussex.k12.va.us](http://www.sussex.k12.va.us)



# Sussex County Public Schools: 2nd Annual Youth Summit and Health Fair (*continued*)

According to Dr. Lorraine Davis, SCPS Pupil Personnel Coordinator, the 2nd Annual Youth Summit and Health Fair was a direct result of Dr Jarrett's "vision of need" for our students. The summit was designed to gather community input on a future quality-of-life plan for the community while sharing with future successful local entrepreneurs that will include our students.

Together, the Youth Summit committee secured a motivational speaker, area university representatives, local business owners, county administrators and law enforcement. Many organizations who participated donated gift cards, gift baskets, and school supplies for the students to win during the event's give-a-ways.



*Motivational Speaker Chris with Zonda Kids*



*High school students enjoyed the motivational message*

cyber-bullying. Parent sessions included topics that addressed finances, technology, employment skills, and information pertaining to their child's education and school environment.

"Exposure is everything," Mrs. Fowlkes stated. "My hope is that our students will take away a growth mindset that they have the ability with dedication and hard work to accomplish anything that they set their minds to do." Mr. Pierce stated, "It was really about young people finding their voice alongside adults, so that they understand what they want the community to look like. The learn-by-doing approach is still relevant to our youth. Exposure to every opportunity, coupled with a quality education, puts SCPS students at an advantage to compete and be more equipped to be self-sufficient as they exit the doors of the Sussex County Public Schools."

The 2nd Annual Youth Summit and Health Fair featured a number of organizations from Sussex County and surrounding areas. If you would like more information about this project or would like to participate next year, please contact Dr. Lorraine Davis at 434-246-1099.



*Students learn important information from vendors*



*SCES students enjoy a healthy meal before engaging in various activities*

**Thanks to our stakeholders for helping to make the Youth Summit and Health Fair a huge success**



# All Roads Lead to BETA...Achievement, Character and Leadership



The National Junior Beta Club at Sussex Central Middle School has had a great year.

Sussex Central Middle School's Junior Beta Club (JBC) first started this school year with its commitment to service by volunteering as tour guides and greeters at Sussex Central Middle School's 6th Grade Open House. In October, JBC traveled to the Virginia Leadership Summit



at Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg, Virginia to compete in challenges with other JBC members around the state. Our team of six competed in the Rapid Response challenge competition in which they placed and qualified to compete nationally in June at the National Junior Beta Convention in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. In December, we committed to service once more by collaborating with Sussex County Department of Social Services and the Salvation Army to sponsor a child during the holiday season. In February, JBC members competed at the Virginia National Junior Beta Convention in Hampton, Virginia. Although, they did not place at this event, the experience to compete amongst scholars around the state was invaluable. In our continued commitment to service, JBC members visited Sussex Central Elementary School in March to volunteer to read to students

on Dr. Seuss Day. As a result, JBC in collaboration with Sussex Central Elementary School established a BETA Reading Buddies program. Our final service project for this academic year included a collaboration with Mrs. Latham (SCPS School Board Member) and Mrs. Angela McPhaul (Mayor of Waverly) to Adopt-a-Street to assist in the beautification project for the town. Students not only assisted in cleaning up litter along the street but also planted flowers in front of the local Waverly Post Office.

Congrats to SCMS 2018-19 National Junior BETA Members and to Mrs. Valerie C. Fowlkes, SCMS Junior Beta Club Sponsor and School Counselor. You have done an outstanding job this school year; not only in the classroom, but locally in the community and with state and national competitions. Continue your commitment to achievement, character, leadership, and service.

2018-19 SCMS Junior Beta Club members include: She'Nyah Barrow, Makiyah Boone, Brianna Cheney, Imani Covington, Ja'Marion Crowder, Matthew Dodson, Kiley Dougherty, Kyla Fields, Shaela Motton, Jaden Nowell, Grace Parker, and Ty'Nasia Taylor.

To our JBC members (She'Nyah, Makiyah, Imani, Kyla, Jaden, and Trevion) competing in the National Rapid Response competition in June...LET'S BRING BACK THE GOLD TO SUSSEX!





# *Graduation 2019*



**2019 Valedictorian –  
Zhane' Vaughan**



**2019 Salutatorian –  
Armani Cheilchani**



**Dr. Melvin Stith -  
Guest Speaker**

## **60<sup>th</sup> Commencement Exercises**

Sussex Central High School held its 60th Commencement Exercises on Friday, June 7, 2019. Fifty-nine graduates of which twenty-three were honor graduates participated in this long awaited event. Mrs. Jacqueline Elliott, SCHS Professional School Counselor, served as the Mistress of Ceremony for this wonderful occasion. The enthusiastic audience was welcomed by Yasmeen Jones, Senior Class President. The Valedictorian, Zhane' Vaughan, and Salutatorian, Armani Cheilchani, also offered

heartfelt messages and words of encouragement to their classmates. They also gave accolades to their parents, classmates and school staff members for preparing them with the experiences needed to be successful beyond high school. Dr. Melvin Stith, Interim President at Norfolk State University and 1964 graduate of Sussex Central High School, served as the keynote speaker. He delivered an inspiring charge to the Class of 2019. It was truly a night that the graduates will remember forever.



***Congratulations to  
The Class of 2019!!!***

## 2018-2019 *Teachers of the Year*



**Miss Janice V. Poarch**  
Sussex Central  
Elementary School  
and  
Division Teacher  
of the Year

**Miss Janice V. Poarch** is a native of Sussex County, and the daughter of Virginia A. Poarch and the late Willard Poarch, Sr. She has a beloved son, Michael Poarch and grandson Jamir Poarch. She is a graduate of Virginia State University with a B. S. in Elementary Education (NK-3) and Masters of Education in Administration and Supervision. She has also taken courses from the University of VA, John Tyler Community College, and St. Paul College. Miss Poarch's teaching experience extends from preschoolers to senior citizens. Her professional employment history consist of: Pre-Kindergarten Instructor (9 years), First Grade Instructor (3 years), Kindergarten Instructor (17 years), and Math Coach (1 year). Professional Development Leadership activities include: Lead grade level teacher, SCES Leadership team member, SCPS Curriculum Development Committee member, Technology Lead Teacher, SEA Faculty Representative, Facilitator of Teach First Learning Communities, PALS Data Coordinator, Lead Math Teacher, and Lead History Teacher. She has actively participated in the Sussex, Virginia and

National Education Associations. She has served in various instructional and educational programs to include after-school tutorial, book buddies, summer school, homebound instruction, Adult Basic Education (ABE), and PTA. Earlier in her career, Miss Poarch coached Girl's JV Basketball, Volleyball, Girls' Track, and assisted with the Band Program. Miss Poarch has also been recognized as Elementary Teacher of the year in 2003 and 2006; Technology Teacher of the year in 2011; Technology Support of the Year in 2009, and Project Success Mathematics Teacher of the Year in 1999. Miss Poarch has many interests that include listening to music, playing the clarinet and the keyboard. She also enjoys math, computers, cooking, animals, creating classroom designs, and most especially assisting in developing young minds. Miss Poarch has devoted 30 years to educating the children of Sussex County. She believes that all children can learn with time, patience, and assistance. She believes that in order to achieve success one must strive to reach his/her goals through dedication, termination, and hard work.



**Mr. Willie Montgomery**  
Sussex Central  
Middle School

**Mr. Montgomery** is currently a 6th and 8th grade Reading and Writing teacher at Sussex Central Middle School. He has taught 7th grade Reading and Writing as well. In May of 1995, he received his Bachelor's Degree in English with a 4-8 Grade Education Endorsement in from Saint Paul's College. Four years later in June of 1999, he received his Master's Degree in Supervision and Administration from Virginia State University. Mr. Montgomery is not only known academically for assisting SCMS with attaining accreditation for the past two years, but also for his contributions in the area of sports during his tenure in Sussex. He has coached girls' and Boys' Basketball, Football, Track and Golf and is proud to currently be assisting in keeping the strong legacy of Sussex athletics and

academics going. He is a committed, dedicated, and passionate teacher who strives for excellence in his students. In his free time, he enjoys surfing the "Net" for innovative ideas and strategies to use in assisting his students. Whether it be for academics or athletics, either walking around the track, or golfing at a couple of his favorite golf courses, Mr. Montgomery enjoys being active. Mr. Montgomery and his wife Sandra, who is also an educator in a neighboring division, are the parents of two wonderful teenagers, Shawn and Raequel. His future plans are to continue serving as a career professional in Sussex until his retirement. After retirement, he plans to fulfill his second passion of counseling youth and adults in South Carolina with Mrs. Montgomery.



**Mr. Joseph Elliott**  
Sussex Central  
High School

**Mr. Joseph Elliott** is a native of Surry County Virginia and a proud member of the Surry County High Schools class of 1978. He continued his education at Virginia State University where he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a concentration in Commercial Art and Design. He began his professional career as an illustrator at the Army Logistics Management College, Fort Lee, VA. He had advanced to the level of Graphics Arts Supervisor when he transitioned into Education. His teaching career began in Surry County as an Elementary Art Teacher. He then taught in the Virginia Department of Correctional Education

before coming to Sussex County Public Schools. In addition to teaching, Mr. Elliott is also owner/operator of Eye Catcher's PPC. (commercially designs parade floats and presentation services). He was a Fulbright-Hayes International Studies Participant, traveling to Senegal, West Africa to study the educational and cultural opportunities of that country. He has taught English in Egypt under a program supported by the Coptic Orthodox Church. Mr. Elliott is also an Associate Minister of the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Petersburg, Va. He is the proud father of two daughters.



# GEAR UP Students Participated In Two-Day College Tour



On March 26-27, 2019, GEAR UP students had a phenomenal experience and participated in a two-day, overnight college tour. On March 26th, students visited the University of Mary Washington and Marymount

University. After touring colleges, the students thoroughly enjoyed a unique and entertaining dining experience at The Hard Rock Café in Washington, DC. After dinner, the students had the opportunity to tour the Lincoln Memorial and The Martin Luther King Memorial. The final destination for the evening was The Holiday Inn Express in Manassas, Virginia for some much needed rest.

The next day, March 27th, the students toured George Mason University and The University of Virginia. During the George Mason University tour, students were excited to see Raywon Plaster and LaToya Porzelt [Sussex Graduates – Class of 2018]. During college tours, students participated in a walking tour of the campus, dined on campus in the cafeteria, and visited the library, residence halls and campus book store.

The two-day college tour experience was planned by our GEAR UP Team and Explore College Tours. The representatives from Explore College tours prepared the itinerary, provided the coach bus, full-time tour guide, and hotel security. The GEAR UP students had a wonderful time and learned a great deal about college life.



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## Sussex Central Elementary School's Annual Science Fair



The staff and students of Sussex Central Elementary School look forward every year to its annual Science Fair. This is an exciting event that encourages students to think like young scientists. The educational benefits are numerous, as students develop skills in writing, oral presentation, creative

thinking, and problem solving. Each participant presented their project to their teacher and peers. Afterwards, the projects were displayed in the gym for public viewing. Compliments could be

heard by all as the parents and students filled the gym to view the projects. First, second and third place winners received a medal for their hard work at Family Science Night. Many thanks to all of the volunteers who served as judges for our annual Science Fair.





# SCMS Meetings with Meaning

There are several groups that meet at SCMS that enable students to serve their school and learn more about themselves.

The Principal's Advisory Group meets on a regular basis to give representatives from each grade level an opportunity to share concerns and ideas with school administrators.



Mr. Holemon, assistant principal, holds mentoring sessions with groups of young men to develop leadership skills and positive attitudes. The Visionaries of Excellence this year consists of some of our sixth grade leaders who are learning the tools of how to use those leadership qualities in a positive manner. They will continue to build those characteristics of those young men and watch them blossom into our most impactful students in the middle school. We are excited for the journey we will embark on together and we look forward to their future success.

Finally, the Lunch Bunch Book Club meets during lunches to discuss books they are reading together. This spring, the groups have been reading *The Skin I'm In* by Sharon Flake, and talking about topics such as self-image, bullying, and friendship with guest discussion leaders such as Mrs. Paula Motton, our secretary, and Ms. Lauren Winborne, our New Life TD counselor.



## Family Science Night at Sussex Central Elementary School



Parental involvement is an important part of a child's success in the elementary years. The staff of Sussex Central Elementary School understands this concept and encourages parents to become actively involved in many school activities. In March, the elementary school held its annual Family Science Night and over two hundred parents and students participated in a night of fun and learning. There were Science Centers located all around the building for families to explore. Science centers included, creating with Legos, making edible soil and birdhouses, designing marble runs,

Science Bingo, rocket launching and Coding with computers. After visiting the Science centers, everyone convened in the cafeteria to cheer for all of the Science Fair Winners. The night concluded with gift card raffles and dinner for all to enjoy.



# 2018-2019 Notable News from Technology:

## INTERNET UPGRADE



The Technology Department negotiated an Internet bandwidth upgrade from 300MBps to 1GBps.

The vision started in February 2017 with a funding application to USAC seeking increased bandwidth.

With funding approval from USAC, which covers 90% of the total cost, SCPS Technology worked with Kinex Telecom to get the transition completed by July 1, 2018.

The increased bandwidth actually comes at a lesser cost due in large part to Education Superhighway advocacy for competitive pricing of K-12 Internet Connectivity. They have a simple mission statement: "Upgrade the Internet access in every public school classroom

in America so that every student has the opportunity to take advantage of the promise of digital learning. (<https://www.educationsuperhighway.org/about/>)"

ISP service is provided by Kinex Telecom (Farmville, VA)

## CAMPUS FIBER UPGRADE

The Technology Department has received funding approval from the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) for new underground Fiber Optic connections. The USAC funds, commonly called "E-Rate", are federal funds disbursed by USAC based on applications that demonstrate network needs. This project was submitted for consideration during the 2017-2018 USAC application window by Mr. Bain.

The project is designed to address several needs for the SCPS campus network, including;

- Network topology changes due to the relocation of the Technology Department to the Operations Center
- Modernization of the optical fiber medium for future speed upgrades
- More direct network routing

Secured Network Solutions, Inc. (Chesapeake, VA) is the contractor for this project. USAC funding will cover 90% of the expense of this project.



## CAMPUS MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM



The Technology Department has completed phases I and II to implement a campus mass notification system. Phase I was completed in the summer of 2018 with all classroom phones upgraded to VoIP and Speaker / Clocks installed in all buildings. Phase II involved integrating the new InformaCast system with the Cisco voice system as well as configuring the mobility

component of InformaCast. Phase III, which is pending, will tie the InformaCast system to the existing building alarm systems. Phase IV will involve training on the system and integration into emergency procedures and protocols.

The main goal of this safety and security project is to enable quick and efficient notification to the entire campus, including administrative cellular phones in the event of an emergency. This system compliments our video surveillance, door security, and visitor screening system and parallels our parent notification system. This system additionally served as a replacement for the aging bell/clock/ paging systems at SCHS and SCMS.

InformaCast is a product from Singlewire Software, Inc.



# 2019 Southside Virginia Regional Technology Consortium (SVRTC) Technology Award Winners

The Annual SVRTC recognizes a division and an individual through a competitive award: Division Leadership and Technology Leadership. Nottoway Public schools were the recipient of the SVRTC Division Leadership award and Tim Mays received the Technology Leadership award.



Tim Mays, Sussex County Public Schools, receives Technology Leadership award.

A complete list of award recipients can be found on SVRTC Annual Awards Banquet web page.



2019 Southside Virginia Regional Technology Consortium (SVRTC) Technology Award Winners: (Left to Right)  
 Ms. LaKeshia Ellis, Division Instructional Support Award  
 Mr. Timothy Mays, Regional Technology Leadership Award  
 Mr. William Bain, Division Technology Support Award  
 Mr. Clinton James, Division Technology Teacher Award

## Sussex Professional Luncheon

Several Sussex Central High School rising juniors and seniors participated in the Sussex Professional Luncheon held on Tuesday, April 30th, 2019 at the Wakefield 4H Conference Center. The luncheon was sponsored by the SCHS GEAR UP Team (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). This event was designed to give rising juniors and seniors the opportunity to interact with alumni professionals in their area of career interest, and to expose them to appropriate etiquette skills. During the Professional Luncheon, tables were prepared to represent each career cluster. Serving as the Professional Career Experts, alumni were stationed at tables to represent their profession. Students interested in a particular career cluster were given the opportunity to discuss careers with the expert alumni. The Alumni Professional Career Experts did an outstanding job sharing information about their careers and other careers in the cluster with our students. The students were fully engaged and enjoyed the dialogue with the alumni. Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Jr., Division Superintendent, served as the event speaker, and Ms. Erica Ewald, Culinary Arts Instructor, shared excellent tips pertaining to using appropriate dining etiquette.



FRONT ROW: William Ricks '70, Tracey Gilchrist '89, Edward Artis '13, Ricki Parham '14, Arnechia Washington '02, Tameka Massenburg-Williams '94, Leonard Jackson, Jr. '03  
 BACK ROW: Robert Gay, Jr. '99, Sonda Parham '87, Jeff Brown '83, Brian Hill '08, John Hollemon '09, Maurice Smith, Jr. '05, Shawn Lewis '89

Mrs. Jacqueline Elliott, GEAR UP Program Coordinator, would like to thank all participants for their input in making this informative event a success. Special thanks to the Sussex alumni who traveled near and far to share with our students. We are GEARED UP FOR SUCCESS at Sussex Central High School!

# Science and Math Lessons: Keeping it Real at Sussex Central Middle School



## NEWS FROM LIFE SCIENCE

The weather was pleasant outside during the study of Taxonomic Keys and Classification, which provided the opportunity for Mr. Hohenwater's Life Science classes to continue their learning outdoors. After Mr. Hohenwater provided an example of how to classify using a taxonomic key, the students were instructed to explore the premises and collect samples to identify and classify including fish, insects and lots of leaves. Descriptions of samples that students were unable to bring back inside were recorded in their field journal. Upon returning to the classroom, they made use of taxonomic keys (books and internet) in order to identify their sample and use proper scientific notation (Binomial Nomenclature). This was a great way to apply the scientific classification systems using local organisms.



## NEWS FROM ALGEBRA I

Mr. Garrett and Mr. Tryon assigned Algebra I students a project regarding notable mathematicians and scientists. They were required to develop a presentation about how their particular scholar contributed to the fields of Math and Science. Additionally, the assignment provided the opportunity for students to provide a basic biography of their person and discuss how their scholar's contributions are still used today. This was a project designed to show students how their understanding of Algebra and other higher levels of math can be applied to real life concepts.



# Career Day at Sussex Central Elementary School



At Sussex Central Elementary School (SCES), it is important to expose children to diverse careers because they are the future and will be responsible for continuous productivity in our ever-changing society. On March 15th, SCES hosted an exciting Career Day with representatives from various professions to include the health, medical, civic, law enforcement and other community organizations. Presenters informed the students about the responsibilities associated with their positions. Pre-kindergarten through grade five students learned about first responders, agriculture, sports racing, finance, and several other careers. The highlight of the day included a visit from NBC 12 news anchor, Ms. Jasmine Turner. Ms.

Turner shared with the students her role at the news station and allowed students the opportunity to role play as a news anchor. Many thanks to all of our Career Day representatives and we look forward to another exciting event next year.

