

February 8, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Willis Green, 770-229-3700, Kimberly.green@gscs.org

For Immediate Release:



Griffin-Spalding STAR Students and Teachers Announced

The 2018 STAR (Student Teacher Achievement Recognition) Students and Teachers for the Griffin-Spalding County School System (GSCS) were announced this week.

Board Members
Barbara Jo Cook
William B. Doss
James A. "Pete" Graham
Zachery Holmes
Michael Kendall

JAMES D. SMITH
Superintendent

Griffin High School (GHS)



STAR Student

Chanlier Futch

STAR Teacher

Kristen Kaylee Matheny

Spalding High School (SHS)



STAR Student

John "Connor" Scanlon

STAR Teacher

Dee Joiner

Spalding High School (SHS)



STAR Student

Grayson Olivia Waits

STAR Teacher

Rynn Goldstein

**This year SHS had a tie for their STAR Students*

To be named a STAR student, a high school senior must have the highest score on any single test date of the SAT taken through the November test date of their senior year and be in the top 10 percent or top 10 students of their class based on grade point average.

The STAR teacher is selected by the declared high school STAR student for having made the most significant contribution to their academic development.

GHS STAR Student Chanlier Futch said, "I'm very proud of what I have accomplished and very grateful of the people that made me who I am today. I chose Ms. Matheny as my STAR Teacher because of her never-ending support, care and selflessness for her students. She is a great teacher and person."

Ms. Matheny is no longer teaching at Griffin High School. She is currently attending Stanford University pursuing a Ph.D. in Education Policy.

SHS STAR Student Connor Scanlon said, "It feels good to be named a STAR Student. I chose Ms. Joiner as my STAR Teacher because she is a really kind and encouraging teacher. She is the reason I did so well on the SAT."

SHS STAR Teacher Dee Joiner said, "Connor has a mind that works like no other mind. He never forgets anything, finds multiple ways to solve something and will stick to something until he not only figures it out but masters it. He is a well-rounded, mannered and grounded student. He is truly special."

216 South Sixth Street
P. O. Drawer N
Griffin, GA 30224
Phone: (770) 229-3700
www.spalding.k12.ga.us

Accredited by
SACS and GAC

SHS STAR Student Grayson Waits said, “Being named a STAR Student makes me feel really accomplished, I have worked hard. Mr. Goldstein is my STAR Teacher because he has always helped me and been my mentor. He is such a big inspiration.”

SHS STAR Teacher Rynn Goldstein said, “As brilliant as a student as Grayson is, I am most impressed by her kindness and humility. It has been a privilege to teach her.”

The GSCS STAR Students and Teachers will be recognized at the Kiwanis Club of Griffin luncheon on February 28, where the district STAR Student will be announced. Both school and district STAR Students and Teachers will also be recognized at the Griffin-Spalding Board of Education meeting on March 6, 2018.

The district STAR Student will compete for region-wide honors in the 12 STAR Regions. Region winners and their STAR Teachers then compete for the Georgia state STAR scholarships and awards.

The Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) serves as the state coordinator of the STAR Program. The program is now in its 60th year and has honored more than 26,000 students and their teachers.

#####

About GSCS

The Griffin-Spalding County School System (GSCS) is an AdvancED accredited district with serving 10,000 students in 11 elementary schools, four middle schools, two high schools, one alternative high school and the Griffin Regional College and Career Academy. The vision of GSCS is to be an agents of change, transforming our students into future-ready learners and contributing members of society. For more information, visit www.spalding.k12.ga.us, download the GSCS app, view Sights & Sounds of GSCS on YouTube or follow us at www.twitter.com/GriffinSpalding or www.facebook.com/GSCSS.