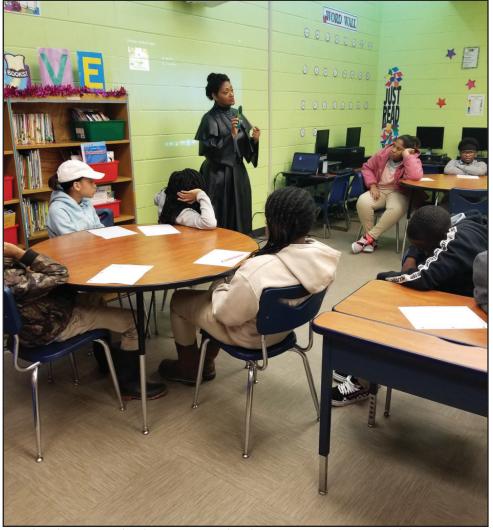


Holmes County Central High School inducted its first chapter members of the National Honor Society. Fifty-five straight-A students participated in the rural high school's first induction ceremony on Thursday, February 14. The National Honor Society, established in 1921, is the nation's premier organization to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in NHS activities. Chapters exist in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, many U.S. territories, and Canada. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but also challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. (NHS.org). In her keynote speech, Principal Adrienne Griffin, Ed.D., hailed the students as the "future leaders of Holmes County." Griffin also shared some valuable advice from her grandmother, a retired teacher, "My dearest Adrienne, if you are to attain, you must toil." Griffin said those words were written beneath a Henry Wadsworth Longfellow quote sent to her while she was in college. Longfellow's quote, found in the poem The Ladder of St. Augustine reads "The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in through the night." Following the event, the principal of the 800-plus student high school commented that "our students who were honored have put in the work, and this is a reward for their hard work...We are very proud of them. I challenge them to continue to shine." Many of the students commented that they were proud of themselves, as well. "It feels like a true honor; I feel I have accomplished so much," said Kendal Garnett. She said her efforts to keep her A average include good study habits, sacrifices and not doing some of the things that most kids do. Sherita Tillman said she constantly goes over her work and keeps her mind off of negative things when she studies. "This honor makes me feel smart," she said. English Teacher Lorene Haymer said the school's NHS chapter evolved as a result of a discussion she and her colleagues had about the fact that the school did not have a chapter. They went to their principal, then contacted the NHS and got the ball rolling. Requirements and eligibility for membership in the HCCHS chapter include the following: All applicants have to be registered with NHS and complete a lengthy application consisting of teacher references, community service requirements and an official transcript that reflects the current grade point average (GPA). Initially, students are required to maintain all A's, which is a 4.0 GPA. However, to remain in NHS, seniors must maintain 3.80 or above, juniors 3.75 or above, and sophomores 3.50 or above. All students must complete all community service requirements. Inductees pictured above are: Zakiya Brooks, Amauria Mitchell, Jarie Brice, Treneyce Turner, Kania Turner, Kendal Garnett, Kyleah Chambers, Zanashia Hawkins, Rabria Moore, Shakayla Hester, Shakenya Hester, Sarah Burch, Asianay Fisher, Derica Junior, Eriyonna Redmond, Cameron Keys, Detrayvious Frizell, Zamiya Brownlow, Kaitlyn Kimbrough, Alicia Jefferson, Brea Portis, Dennis Thurmond, Ashayla Webster, Aja Webster, Brittany Huggins, Elissa Stewart, Sherita Tillman, Zamiya Mike, Lillian Lewis, Xavier Black, Vashanti Pate, Theo Hudson, Morgan Morris, Rayla Thompson, Christian Davis, Kayla Redmond, Kristen Ellis, Kersten Ellis, Jaquan Green, Samantha Deering, Shandrea Whitten, Shondrea Simmons, Miltetona Gray, Carleigh Andrews, Tabrelle Deering, Ta'kyaa Brown, Nick Horton, Tamia Anderson, Keishyah Rule, Mieshia Clay, Madison Pickett, Arena Smith, Tempress Mines, Makiya Baker and Kaylen Williams. (Photo submitted)

Reflecting on the Future



Neakia Dixon, a motivational speaker, inspired the 5th graders at Williams Dean Jr. Elementary School in Lexington to look in the mirror to see who they are and their future potential. She challenged each student to speak titles before their name, like doctor or judge. Dixon, pictured above standing, also encouraged students to say visualize their future career by picturing themselves doing it. (Photo submitted)

Multi-year GUARANTEE Rates!

GUGGENHEIM LIFE AND ANNUITY



Renasant Insurance

• 10% Free Withdrawals After Year 1

Mike McBride 662-653-3173

Interest rate shown is as of 3/01/2017, is subject to change and may vary in accord with state regulations. Preserve Annuities are issued by and are obligations of Guggenheim Life and Annuity Company, home office at 401 Pennsylvania Pkwy. Sulte 300, Indianapolis, Indi