



Special Scholarship Edition

June 2021

GWINNETT COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION GCREA.org

The scholarship committees are pleased to announce the 2020 recipients of GCREA scholarships.

Gwinnett County High School Recipients

Mackenzie Woodward

Makenzie Stewart

Georgia Gwinnett College Recipient

Wendy Arnoux

GCPS Teacher Recipients

Taylor Davis

Ashley Farrington

Apita Waters

High School Recipients



Makenzie Stewart graduated from Mill Creek HS. She has been accepted into the University of North Georgia and plans to major in Education. Ultimately, she hopes to teach elementary students, ideally 3rd grade. Makenzie has gifts in the areas of mathematics and art. These two skill areas will be a real blessing to her future students.

Mackenzie Woodward graduated from Collins Hill HS. She has been accepted into the University of North Georgia where she plans to major in Education. Mackenzie has had a lifelong dream of being a teacher. She plans to teach mathematics in Middle School or High School



Georgia Gwinnett College Recipient



The Georgia Gwinnett College scholarship recipient, **Wendy Arnoux**, has chosen a career as a teacher because she loves children and wants to make a difference in their lives. Wendy previously was a paraprofessional in a special education classroom where she worked successfully with eight students, especially with one Fourth Grade boy who was nonverbal. She is currently working at an afterschool program teaching Kindergarten and First Grade students how to read. She hopes to teach middle school students when she graduates next May. Wendy is the mother of three adult children.

GCPS Teacher Recipients



Taylor Davis is a Special Education Teacher-Interrelated Resource at Jackson Elementary. She has taught six years and is working on her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction. Taylor said that she hopes that obtaining this degree will help her differentiate and provide meaningful experiences for her students. Taylor said her special talents are that she is proficient in Spanish and loves using technology in the classroom whenever she can.

Her goal is to strive to make educational success accessible to all students no matter their background or abilities. Taylor actually grew up in the Gwinnett Schools. She attended Jackson Elementary, Hull Middle, and Peachtree Ridge H. S. Taylor is the granddaughter of Sara Lee. Taylor and her husband have a new son and live in Buford.

Ashley Farrington is a level 1 ASD teacher at Mill Creek H. S. She has taught ten years and is working on her Doctor of Education in Special Education through the University of Florida. Ashley has always wanted to pursue her doctorate and more importantly gain more knowledge about special education to best serve her Autistic students. Some of her coursework is also assisting her as department chair and teacher mentor at the county level to new level 1 and level 2 Autism teachers. Ashley was honored to serve as her school's teacher of the year. She is even more proud of the video created by her students for the teacher voting process. She said that even though most of her students are nonverbal and have a disability, they shine in unique ways and were able to demonstrate their strengths to the faculty. She enjoys reading which assists her in developing appropriate grade level adapted reading material for her students. Ashley and her husband and their two and one half year old daughter reside in Buford.





Apita Waters is an 8th grade math teacher at Duluth Middle School. She has taught three years and is working on her Masters in Instructional Technology at UGA. She hopes to improve her ability in the current hybrid classroom environment and to be able to help others with the use of technology in the classroom. Apita said that this advanced degree will enhance her teaching abilities by challenging her to embed technology in the classroom with her students more. Apita's goal as a teacher has been to develop a classroom environment in which math is accessible to all learners. She hopes to transform everyday instruction in math. Apita wrote that she is fluent in computer programming and design. One of her hobbies is writing code for webpage design. She resides in Atlanta.

Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients.