



**Barrow County School System**

Boldly Committed to Student Success

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact:** Shenley Rountree, Director of Public Relations & Strategic Partnerships  
770-867-4527, [Shenley.Rountree@barrow.k12.ga.us](mailto:Shenley.Rountree@barrow.k12.ga.us)

### Surprising Choice in STAR Teacher Selection

[Winder, Georgia, February 5, 2019] – An event which celebrates Barrow County’s brightest culminated with the naming of two students as Barrow County’s STAR Students - Ticia Anne King a senior at Winder-Barrow High School, and Brandon Lee Hudson a senior at Apalachee High School.

Each high school STAR Student is asked to select his/her STAR Teacher and explain the impact the teacher had on their educational career. Ticia King selected her Literature teacher Matt Perry, whom she had in 10<sup>th</sup> grade for Honors Literature and in 12<sup>th</sup> grade for AP Literature, because he continually challenged her to work harder.

This year, Brandon Hudson’s teacher choice was a unique one. Typically, seniors select a high school teacher as their favorite or most influential in their lives. When Brandon reflected upon his favorite teacher, he selected his elementary school Gifted teacher from Yargo Elementary School, Meggan McNally. Mrs. McNally was his SCOPE gifted teacher from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Brandon explained that “Mrs. McNally helped him to understand self-motivation and self-satisfaction” which has stayed with him ever since. Meggan is currently the Director of Planning and Personnel for Barrow County School System. In her remarks about Brandon, she said that “teachers typically live for the small moments, but that being selected as Brandon’s STAR teacher was a big moment.”

The **Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR)** program honors Georgia's highest achieving high school seniors and the teachers who have been most instrumental in their academic development. To obtain the STAR nomination, high school seniors 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 Program, created by the PAGE (Professional Association of Georgia Educators) Foundation unites educators with the business and civic community to honor academic excellence. The Barrow Chamber of Commerce sponsors this program annually to recognize the students and teachers. A luncheon was held on February 5<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the Barrow County STAR students.

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Barrow County Schools are BOLDly Committed to Student Success and serve more than 14,000 students in the metro-Atlanta area. For more information, please visit [www.barrow.k12.ga.us](http://www.barrow.k12.ga.us) or contact us at 770-867-4527.