



NEWS RELEASE

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Three GCPS students honored for reading achievement

The Georgia Reading Association recently congratulated three **Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS)** students for the strides they have made in reading. The state organization of educators selected the Gwinnett students based on nominations by their teachers.

The following students were honored:

- **Mackenna Basteyns** from **Ivy Creek Elementary**
Pre-K through 2nd Grade Reader of the Year

Mackenna was nominated by Ivy Creek Elementary teacher Natalie Frady last school year while she was a 1st grader. McKenna says that one of her favorite places to read is the doctor's office. She explains, "If you are holding a book, you aren't touching germs!"

- **Kyri Phillips** from **Lovin Elementary**
Bob W. Jerrolds Reading Achievement Award

Kyri was nominated for the honor while still a 5th grader at Lovin Elementary. Currently, he attends McConnell Middle. He was nominated by his literacy coach, Lovin Elementary teacher Elena Diaz.

- **Sara Vogel** from **Meadowcreek High**
Secondary Reader of the Year

A 10th grader at Meadowcreek High, Sara was nominated by Meadowcreek High teacher Marcia Ellington-Lopez. Sara, who is described by her teacher as a voracious reader, has an insatiable appetite for reading. Through reading, Sara says she has found more confidence and expanded her horizons.

Annually, the Georgia Reading Association selects one student at each level (primary, elementary, middle, and secondary) for the gains they have made in reading performance. This year, Gwinnett students earned three of the four awards.

The mission of the Georgia Reading Association is to promote literacy.

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*is to pursue excellence
in academic knowledge,
skills, and behavior
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