Brookwood High’s Dees named Outstanding Educator

Two Georgia professional educator groups selected Gwinnett veteran educator Debbie Dees as the Outstanding Educator of the Year. Ms. Dees, who serves as Brookwood High’s principal, received the 2010 Jim Puckett Outstanding Educator Award from the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL) and the Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals (GASSP).

As this year’s honoree, Ms. Dees is recognized as an educator who possesses a record of service for the profession of educational leadership that is considered exemplary, and who exhibits leadership characteristics that are considered a positive role model for others.

“Clearly, Debbie Dees exemplifies the qualities of an outstanding educator and leader,” says Area Superintendent Calvin Watts who supports the Brookwood Cluster. “Brookwood High has a tradition of excellence that Ms. Dees has cultivated. In doing so, she has exhibited outstanding leadership and has challenged her school community to achieve at increasingly higher levels.”

As the selection team considered Ms. Dees for the honor, members also looked at her demonstration of effective leadership and management skills, how she has implemented new ideas and projects at Brookwood High, her contributions to the educational leadership profession, as well as her participation in professional growth activities, and her contributions to the profession and the school’s community.

This school year marks two decades of service with Gwinnett County Public Schools for Ms. Dees. She joined the school system in 1990 as a teacher and coach at Meadowcreek High. Six years later she became a Bronco at Brookwood High where she has been a teacher, coach, and assistant principal. She was named Brookwood High’s principal in 2007. Ms. Dees also has taught in several other schools in Georgia.

A graduate of the school district’s Quality-Plus Leader Academy, Debbie Dees holds a bachelor’s degree from Mercer University in Health and Physical Education, a master’s degree from Georgia Southwestern University, and a specialist’s degree from the University of West Georgia. She is also certified in educational leadership from the University of Georgia.
The Gwinnett County Board of Education will honor Ms. Dees at their monthly Board meeting on September 16, in recognition of this recent award.

The Jim Puckett Outstanding Educator Award is named after a former executive director of GAEL.

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