

**March 16, 2018**

## ***Board of Trustees Names New Principals at Scranton, Olanta for 2018-2019***

The Florence County School District Three board of trustees approved Superintendent Laura Hickson's recommendation to appoint two new school principals for the 2018-2019 school year at the board's monthly meeting Thursday.

Shanda Poston was appointed principal at Scranton Elementary STEAM Academy and Tonyelle Thomas was named principal of Olanta Creative Arts and Science Magnet School.

"I feel honored and blessed to have this opportunity and promise to do my best to continue the expectation of excellence at Scranton Elementary STEAM Academy," Poston said.

Poston has served as assistant principal at Scranton Elementary since 2014 and played an instrumental role in the school's earning STEM accreditation from AdvancED and Scranton Elementary's selection as a Palmetto's Finest finalist for the past two years. She also spent 10 years as a classroom teacher, including five years at J. Paul Truluck Middle School.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from Coastal Carolina University and a Master of Science in Educational Administration from the University of Scranton (PA).

Thomas served as assistant principal at Main Street Elementary School for the past year and was an administrative assistant and math instructional coach prior to that. She also has served as a math interventionist and STEM mentor teacher. In addition, she was an elementary classroom teacher for more than six years.

She graduated magna cum laude from Francis Marion University with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. She earned a Master of Science degree in Educational Administration

from the University of South Carolina.

"I am deeply honored to become the new principal of Olanta Elementary Creative Arts and Science Magnet School," Thomas said. "I am excited to begin working with the staff, students and the community on the Magnet School Initiative. A lot of great things are in the works and I'm thrilled to be in Bearcat Country."

## ***Input Sought for Grant Applications***

Florence County School District Three is seeking public input on the use of federal funds before submitting federal grant applications for the 2018-2019 school year under the Every Student Succeeds Act, the latest reauthorization of the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act approved by the U. S. Congress in December 2015 and which replaces the No Child Left Behind Act. Through this law, substantial federal support is provided for programs to serve students in kindergarten through 12th grades. The district anticipates receiving funds for Title I, II and III. The grants are for Title I, Part A – Helping Disadvantaged Children Meeting High Standards; Title II, Part A – Preparing, Training and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals; Title III – Limited English Proficiency. The deadlines for these grants range from June 1 through July 1.

Because these grants deal with federal funds, the district is asking for comments and suggestions from parents and community stakeholders.

There will be a public informational meeting about Title I, II and III Thursday, March 29, 2018. In an effort to accommodate Florence County School District Three's residents, two sessions will be offered. The first session will be held at Florence County School District Three in the Staff Development Room located at 125 South Blanding Street in Lake City from 4-5 p.m. A second session will be held from 6-8 p.m. in the Banquet Hall at NanYa Plastics Corp located at 140 Beulah Road in Lake City.

Any private school interested in participating or anyone interested in submitting comments or suggestions should contact Linda Hair at [lhair@fsd3.org](mailto:lhair@fsd3.org) or call 843-374-8652, ext. 1111.



*Shanda Poston*



*Tonyelle Thomas*

## ***SOLVED! The Case of the Stolen Coin***

When Scranton Elementary STEAM Academy's Gifted and Talented students came to class recently, they were surprised to see that a crime occurred.

The area, roped off in "Crime Scene" tape, was exclusive to the Crime Lab Scientists (which they had become). With some background information, the CLS learned that a coin was stolen from the collection of a friend.

The CLS used iPads to record evidence from the scene. Various tests were performed on the evidence and the results were analyzed. These tests included fingerprint and footprint analysis, pH analysis of liquids, handwriting analysis, tool impressions, chromatography and mystery powder analysis.

After the tests were conducted, students wrote a summary of what had happened and, based on the results of the analyses, named the culprit who stole the coin.

The students enjoyed playing the role of Crime Lab Scientists and examining the evidence using hands-on science. The crime scene activity wrapped up a unit on mysteries including a mystery novel, and an enigma presentation.



## ***Auto Tech Students Earn Certifications***

Twenty-seven students from Danny Weber's Auto Tech 1 and 2 classes earned certificates in the Valvoline Ignition Program's Motor Oil 101 course.

The students learned about motor oil, including the rating system, different viscosities and the many different additives that are used in motor oil. The 27 students all passed a test and received a certificate showing successful completion of the course.

The students successfully completed the class are Bryan Ortega, Seth Evans, Quincey Jackson, Tyler Yarbrough, Cohen Coker, Tristan Rippey, Kaylee Gaskins and Jeffrey Nesmith, Beatriz Rodriguez, Nicholas Jones, Antonio Gamble, Savion Player, Amod Jackson, Malachi David, Leon Burgess, Damian Burgess, Willie McFadden, Joshua Osborne, Chance Matthews, Zaqvavious Johnson, Devyn Browder, Richard Matthews, Jordan Cooper, Michael Lamb, Benjamin Courtney and Cameron Euten. Congratulations to these students on their accomplishment.



## ***Forgot your Insurance Card?***

Your insurance ID cards are not interchangeable. You must use the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina card to receive medical or dental services, the Express Scripts card to fill prescriptions and the EyeMed card to receive vision care. Express Scripts is an independent company that contracts directly with the State Health Plan. EyeMed is an independent company that contracts directly with the State Health Plan.

Forgot your insurance ID card? You can access and share your medical or dental digital ID card from your mobile device or laptop.

Go to <https://statesc.southcarolinablues.com/web/non-secure/statesc/Member+Home/Resources/ID+Cards/>.

Register and sign into your My Health Toolkit® account, select "Benefits" and click either "Health Insurance Card" or "Dental Insurance Card."



## JCL Takes Part in National Beta Week

This past week was National Beta Week. Since 1934, the National Beta Club has continued to inspire young people to strive for excellence in academics, character, service and achievement. Each day last week the Beta Club students at J. C. Lynch Elementary School were involved in the community or service work, following the Beta motto, "Let us lead by serving others."

**Make an Impact Monday:** It was a packed house at Monday night's Coward Town Council meeting. Sixteen members of the JCL Beta Club, along with their families, packed the meeting room to show their appreciation to the Town of Coward for their support of our school. Chapter president Keely McClam addressed the mayor and council members in attendance and thanked them for supporting the school and town. She also outlined ways that Beta has made an impact on the school and community. She not only challenged the council to continue to make a positive impact, but she also offered Beta's services to the council.

**Transform Yourself Tuesday:** In honor of Transform Yourself Tuesday, Superintendent Laura Hickson encouraged the Beta members. She gave members three ways to transform themselves: 1) serve others, 2) read and 3) set goals and constantly work toward them.

**Willing to Serve Wednesday:** The J. C. Lynch Beta Club had the privilege of completing a service project with Help 4 Kids in Florence Wednesday night. Since Help 4 Kids gives back to the community through the Friday bag system, it felt only right that the school should help them. The BETA chapter helped make over 500 bags to be distributed to students in need.

**Take Action Thursday:** The JCL Beta Club wanted to show its appreciation for those who take action on their behalf each and every day. The club sponsored a schoolwide service project of collecting items for Hero Bags. They then had the chance to give some of those bags to Chief King and some of Coward's amazing volunteer firefighters. The BETA officers took the visitors on a school tour and ended with a special presentation. The Beta club sang *Hero* by Mariah Carey and presented the bags to the firefighters.

**Focus on Leading Friday:** JCL concluded National Beta Week by welcoming students to school in the car line and reading to students in 5K classes.



## MSE 3rd-Graders Celebrate Dr. Seuss

Third-graders at Main Street Elementary School set out for an adventure Tuesday, March 13, with *The Cat in the Hat* at the Lake City Public Library.

The students enjoyed Dr. Seuss read-alouds and munched on snacks related to the books: popcorn for *Hop on Pop*, goldfish crackers for *1 Fish, 2 Fish, Red Fish, and Blue Fish* and Trix cereal for *The Lorax*.



## Academy Celebrates Black History

Students at the Panther Pride Academy devoted time recently to celebrate Black History Month.

The students studied and relived the past through poems, speeches, a narrated PowerPoint presentation, singing and food.

Encouraging words came from Minister Anthony Caldwell and Minister John Singletary. Special guests included parents, police officers and volunteers.



## Blue CareOnDemand-Telehealth

Blue CareOnDemand State Health Plan primary members enrolled in the Standard Plan or Savings Plan, will have access to a new telehealth option, Blue CareOnDemand.

This platform, operated by BlueCross' telehealth partner, American Well, focuses on live virtual visits, and uses on-demand technology in which you can request a visit and connect with a provider in less than two minutes.

Learn more about this benefit at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=me-YxbE206s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=me-YxbE206s).