

# NEWS RELEASE



**Haralson County School System**  
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**For Immediate Release**

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## **SCHOOL SYSTEM RECOGNIZES MASTER TEACHER** ***TPS Teacher Brittany Smith Attains Master Teacher Status***

**(Tallapoosa, Georgia – August 24, 2010)** – Haralson County School System proudly recognized Tallapoosa Primary School Second Grade Teacher Brittney Smith as one of Georgia’s newest Master Teachers at its August Board Meeting. The Georgia Master Teacher Program originated in 2005 when the Georgia General Assembly was looking for a way to recognize Georgia public school teachers who consistently demonstrate excellence, defined as gains in student achievement.

Mrs. Smith achieved this distinguished honor by fulfilling state requirements that include documented evidence of student achievement and progress. Mrs. Smith’s data were based on classrooms she taught in 2007-08 and 2008-09. The first classroom was an inclusion class that included special education and regular education students taught in an environment focused on differentiated learning styles. The next year’s data were taken from Mrs. Smith’s EIP class consisting of students on various levels of achievement and intervention based on their specific needs.

“These challenging classrooms require an incredible amount of planning and implementation strategies to successfully teach the Georgia Performance Standards to the students,” said Superintendent Brett Stanton. “Mrs. Smith’s students not only mastered the standards, but also showed tremendous gains in many areas of student achievement. Her fortitude and stellar teaching approach coupled with high expectations for ALL students are terrific examples of the qualities we model to all of our teachers in this system.”

Teachers receiving this distinction receive a Master Teacher designation on their certificate, identifying them as an educator who has positively influenced student achievement.

Mrs. Smith now joins the ranks of two other teachers in the Haralson County School System recognized as Master Teachers. Mrs. Vicki Carter and Mrs. June Sanders from Haralson County Middle School were named Master Teachers in 2009.

With almost 600 employees, Haralson County School System is the largest employer in Haralson County. Serving almost 4,000 students in six schools across the county, system employees work together to meet and exceed the educational needs of its most valuable assets, the youth of our communities.



Pictured: (l to r) TPS Principal Jentsie Johns, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher Brittany Smith, and Brittany's son Graeson.

