



**News from the Georgia School Boards Association**  
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December 9, 2008

**For Immediate Release**

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**School Boards and Media Organizations Honored at State Conference**

At the 2008 Georgia School Boards Association/Georgia School Superintendents Association Annual Conference, 14 school boards and 8 media organizations were honored for excellence.

The 14 school boards honored each received the GSBA Board of Distinction Award. This award recognizes boards that fulfill the following criteria:

- BOE and system are not on probation from SACS/CASI or any other accreditation organization.
- Are in compliance with GSBA *Standards for Local Boards of Education* (this is a voluntary program that provides a structure for evaluation and continuous improvement)
- Have implemented the GSBA *Board/Leadership Team Self Assessment Checklist* (this is a part of the Standards process)
- Have formalized the superintendent evaluation incorporating district goals
- Have a web link to the local district's policy manual that is posted to the Internet
- Have a copy of, or a web link to, the board's goal-setting model and a listing of the district's goals
- Have a web link to postings of monthly board meeting agendas
- Have a stated plan to integrate technology at the governance level of the local district

**2008 Board of Distinction Award Winners**

- Appling County Board of Education
- Butts County Board of Education
- Chickamauga City Board of Education
- Crisp County Board of Education
- Dade County Board of Education
- Effingham County Board of Education
- Heard County Board of Education
- Lee County Board of Education
- Madison County Board of Education
- Pelham City Board of Education
- Richmond County Board of Education

- Stewart County Board of Education
- White County Board of Education
- Worth County Board of Education

Also at the conference, 8 media representatives and/or organizations were honored for going above the call of duty to be fair and balanced in their reporting of school and public education news. The awards categories include print media and electronic media. Recipients were nominated by their local board of education.

### **2008 GSBA Beacon Award Winners**

#### **Print Media Category:**

- The Herald Leader, Tim Anderson, Ben Hill County
- Forsyth County News, John Hall, Forsyth County
- The Herald Journal, Carey Williams, Greene County
- Harris County Journal, Pam Avery, Harris County
- The Telegraph, Jake Jacobs, Houston County

#### **Electronic Media Category:**

- Phil Streetman, WSST-DT, Channel 51/55, Crisp County
- Bobbie Foster, WCON Radio, Habersham County
- David Carroll, WRCB-TV Channel 3, Walker County

The Georgia School Boards Association is a voluntary association of the state's 180 locally elected boards of education. GSBA provides training, information and services to local boards. For more information about GSBA, go to [www.gsba.com](http://www.gsba.com).

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