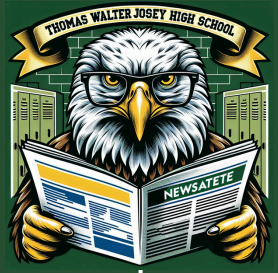


MAY 2025

# THE NEST NEWSLETTER



## Leading with Heart and Innovation: Ms. Harris Honored as the 2025 Teacher of the Year

TW Josey High School proudly celebrates Ms. Natasha Harris as our 2025 Teacher of the Year! A standout educator, Ms. Harris is known for her creativity, leadership, and deep dedication to student success.

Throughout this year, Ms. Harris has gone above and beyond to foster collaboration among staff and students. Her innovative spirit shined during this spring's March Madness Georgia Milestones Assessment prep initiative, where she worked closely with the leadership team to design fun, engaging activities that energized students and helped them feel more confident heading into testing season.

Beyond her inventive ideas, Ms. Harris is a passionate supporter of the school's literacy goals. Her commitment to our school's literacy goals is evident in everything she does—from embedding reading strategies into daily lessons to supporting school-wide reading initiatives that empower students to grow as critical thinkers and communicators.



One of her peers says, "Ms. Harris brings creativity, energy, and heart into every room she walks into. She's a leader by example, and our school is better because of her."

Congratulations to Ms. Harris on this well-deserved recognition—and thank you for everything you do to make TW Josey High School shine!

## Behind the Scenes, Frontline Impact: Mr. McKinnie Recognized as 2025 Staff Member of the Year

A huge congratulations to Mr. Tony McKinnie, Josey High School's 2025 Staff Member of the Year! As the school's dedicated Parent Facilitator, Mr. McKinnie plays a vital role in connecting families, students, and staff in meaningful ways



Mr. McKinnie serves as a bridge between the school and the community, ensuring that parents are informed, involved, and equipped to support their child's education. Whether it's hosting family engagement nights, sharing valuable resources, or providing one-on-one support, Mr. McKinnie is always there to help.

Thank you, Mr. McKinnie, for your unwavering commitment to Josey High and the families we serve. Your work behind the scenes makes a difference every single day.

## Closing the Chapter: Josey High Wraps Up a Memorable School Year

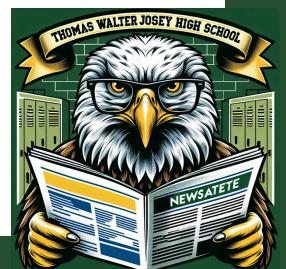
As the final bell of the school year approaches, the halls of Josey High are buzzing with activity, reflection, and excitement. From testing season to senior celebrations, students and staff alike are closing out the 2024-2025 school year with pride and purpose.

In April, students tackled Georgia Milestones Testing, putting their hard work and academic growth to the test. Last month, classrooms were filled with focus, determination, and strong support from teachers as students took part in March Madness GMAS prep. Our Advanced Placement (AP) students are now focused on AP testing, using this opportunity to showcase their college-level skills and earn potential college credit.

While testing keeps students on their toes, Senior Week brings joy and closure to the Class of 2025. Superlative Day, the senior brunch, and a dazzling Prom Night offer students a chance to celebrate in style. With Cap and Gown Pickup complete, our seniors are ready to walk across the stage on May 29 at the Bell Auditorium.

Behind the scenes, students have also been checking in textbooks and wrapping up final projects, while teachers are hard at work closing out grades and preparing for graduation.

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**Senior pride on full display - our young men suit up in their caps and gowns, ready to walk into the future!**

Amid the end-of-year excitement, our dedicated administrators are taking time to celebrate the heart of our school—our teachers—during Teacher Appreciation Week. So far, staff have enjoyed tacos and slushies on Monday, followed by signature Josey glassware and a Chick-fil-A breakfast on Tuesday.

We're excited to see what's next! Word has it that Wednesday is "Hats Off to You" with a food truck, Thursday brings "We'll Give the Shirt Off Our Back for a Teacher Like You," and Friday wraps up with "No Matter How You Slice It, Our Teachers Are Great." Don't forget to show your school pride!

Adding to the celebration, Josey High proudly met its Beanstack Community Reading Goal! With the commitment of students and staff, we logged over 60,000 minutes, strengthening our schoolwide literacy culture and proving that Eagles don't just fly—we read!

As the school year comes to a close, one thing is certain—2024–2025 was a year to remember, and the best is yet to come.



**Ms. Harvey and Ms. McNeil shine with their signature glassware during a well deserved Teacher Appreciation Week!**





# Every Reader Belongs: MOID Students Dive Into Literacy



**ARCPL Book Mobile arrives at Josey High, delivering books and fostering a passion for reading!**



**Liz Mason from the ARCPL sparks curiosity and a love for reading with an engaging storytime session.**



**Proud readers! Ms. McCarthy, Ms. Swain, and Ms. Walker's class show off their library finds.**

Josey High is proud to shine a light on the incredible progress and inclusion of our MOID (Mild Intellectual Disability) students as they become active participants in the school's literacy initiatives. This month, those efforts were made even more special with a visit from the Augusta - Richmond County Public Library (ARCPL) and their Book Mobile, bringing the joy of reading right to our students' doorstep.

Our MOID students had the exciting opportunity to explore a wide selection of books, engage in meaningful conversations about reading, and check out titles that matched their interests and reading levels. The visit wasn't just about books—it was about belonging, empowerment, and making sure every student has access to the tools they need to thrive.

"Seeing our students light up when they chose their own books was a powerful reminder of why literacy access matters," said Mrs. Hall, the Media Specialist at Josey. Mrs. Hall went on to say, "Having the opportunity to visit the Media Center helps our students feel included, respected, and excited to be part of something bigger."

With continued support from the school library, staff, and community partners like the ARCPL, Josey High is building a culture where every reader belongs—and every student has a story worth reading.

