



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Gwinnett parent honored for work with local school**

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) and the Georgia Parent Teacher Association (GA PTA) have recognized a Gwinnett County Public Schools parent for her support of Magill Elementary School. The two organizations have named Meshana Spivey as a recipient of the 2019 Georgia Parent Leadership Award. Spivey is one of only six parents from across the state to earn the award and the only winner in Gwinnett County. The honor was created by the GaDOE and GA PTA to recognize parents for their outstanding leadership in creating a foundation of support for student achievement and success.

Spivey has been an active participant and volunteer at J.C. Magill Elementary School for several years and is an advocate for students with special needs. As the school's PTA president, she established a strong and cohesive PTA board and has sponsored events to promote literacy. Spivey's dedication to the school and love of students has moved teachers and leaders at Magill Elementary.

Dr. Tonya Burnley, the principal at Magill Elementary, adds, "Mrs. Spivey's unique talents to build positivity in our building are contagious across our community. I have seen, under her leadership, an increase in parental involvement and an increase in parent satisfaction. This positive climate has a direct impact on the success of our students."

Aerrin James, a fifth-grade teacher at Magill, continues, "Mrs. Spivey is everything you look for in a leader. Her knowledge in organizing parents for a specific task or purpose is absolutely amazing. She cares deeply for the Magill community and that shines through in everything she does."

Candidates for the Georgia Parent Leadership Award are nominated by their local schools. Caregivers who assume responsibility for sustaining a student's educational, emotional, spiritual, and physical health are eligible for the honor. This year's winners were recognized at Georgia PTA's Convention Leadership Training in Atlanta earlier this month.

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