



NEWS RELEASE

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Gwinnett county parent mentor earns statewide honor



Gwinnett County Parent Mentor **Jackie McNair** has been named recipient of the **2017 Phil Pickens Award**. The award acknowledges the hard work and contributions of a parent mentor who has dedicated his or her career to improving the educational and postsecondary outcomes of students with disabilities and guiding the work of special education school staff and parents.

McNair was recognized for her efforts within Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) as well as on a regional and state level. Every parent mentor is the caregiver of a child who has a disability. McNair, who is a long-time advocate involved in disability-related organizations and programs, is informed by the needs of her own family and those she serves. McNair has passion for her work saying, “Working with families has been the highlight of my career. During my years as a mentor, I’ve been instrumental in creating and developing several workshops, to teach parents about special education and how to be involved effectively in their schools and communities.”

The Phil Pickens Award is named after the late Phil Pickens who served as state director of the Georgia Department of Education Special Services Department and founded the Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership.

For more information go to the Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership website:

<http://tinyurl.com/y7n4bslh> .

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2010 and 2014 Winner of



