

Elbert County Comprehensive High School (ECCHS) teachers Kachina Rucker, Cherish Ingram, Don Hurlburt and Daniele Franklin, GVRs Board Vice-Chair Tom Wilson, GA HSHT Coordinator Karen Royston, GVRs Board Chair Jimmy DeFoor, GVRA Chief External Affairs Officer Katie Womick, NE GA HSHT Regional Outreach & Program Coordinator Sid Jessup, and Friends Helping Friends Club, Inc. President / GVRs Board Secretary Sandy Adams (Master of Ceremony) participated in the first annual Northeast Georgia High School High Tech (HSHT) Awards Luncheon on April 17th at the Cateechee Golf Club Ballroom.

The program honored student participation from Elbert, Franklin, Hart and Stephens County School Systems in the 2017-2018 HSHT Program, a comprehensive community-based pre-employment transition program for youth with disabilities. This program provides the bridge to meet postsecondary and career-development goals. During the program ECCHS Blue Devil 101 (BD101) students presented an impressive Powerpoint about the exciting activities they have participated in this year. Through HSHT, BD101 students were able to visit several job locations to explore career opportunities. Visits included the City of Elberton Sheriff, Fire, and Public Works department, Water-Treatment facility, and Animal Control. Students toured Kroger in Gainesville, Tenneco in Hartwell and Mollertech in Elberton. Students also participated in Knowledge Beyond the Classroom Training (job readiness training) and Social Media training at Athens Technical College. These visits funded by HSHT and Friends Helping Friends Club, Inc. allowed students to learn about the requirements, responsibilities, criteria, and duties needed to obtain employment.