Communicator

Information for the Grenada School District Community

May 13, 2024

Thank You, AmeriCorps



Superintendent's Message

Dr. David Daigneault

Whenever I'm invited to speak to groups of school administrators about Grenada's success, I offer a list of key factors that have contributed to our district's success. One contributing factor that people are always surprised to learn about is our AmeriCorps program.

AmeriCorps is a federally funded initiative that provides tutoring and classroom services in 9,500 schools across the nation. The program at Grenada, implemented through Volunteer Mississippi, is a flagstone for the organization's presence in our state, and it has impacted the lives of thousands of children right here in our community.

As the nation was enduring a financial crisis in 2007, dramatic budget cuts to public education in Mississippi forced us to take drastic measures by eliminating much of our assistant teaching staff. To continue helping teachers and students in the classroom, we applied for — and won — the grant that would lead to a long, fruitful partnership with AmeriCorps in 2008.

Judy Stein, the late State AmeriCorps Director of the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service, which is now known as Volunteer Mississippi, was an invaluable ally who showed us how to marshall an army of volunteer reading and math tutors. A group of 15 came into the schools, grades K-8, with a mandate to improve student academic performance 15% or higher.

Since then the membership has doubled. The one-on-one and small group tutoring continues to help at-risk students stay on course with their grade level and inspires them to want to learn. A testament to their success is that we're tutoring fewer students at the middle-school level because the need has dwindled from our effective measures in the elementary grades.

Currently, our grant requires us to tutor 815 students, and 80% (652) of those students must show a 15% growth or higher. We have exceeded that goal this year with 83% of our 833 tutored students showing 15% growth or higher.

Not only have the members kept these students on pace to succeed, they have served dutifully as mentors, building positive relationships and self-esteem. Their work reinforces our notion that extra attention and positivity is critical to early learning.

See "AmeriCorps" Continued on page 5

GSD Awarded $5M for New Entrepreneurial and Innovation Center



Photo by Jamie Kornegay

Staff Reports

Grenada School District was granted $5 million in additional funding from the State of Mississippi during the May 2024 legislative session. The funds were awarded based on a proposal to confront the community's growing population and workforce needs by establishing a dynamic new learning program, the Entrepreneurial and Innovation Center (EIC).

Projected to open for students in the 2026-2027 school year, the EIC will serve as GSD's outstanding learning environment for fostering entrepreneurship and innovation.

The state legislature's funding makes it possible to conduct significant renovations to a district-owned property, the 30,000 square-foot building that formerly housed the Daily Star and will serve as the EIC's home.

Among the planned features of the EIC, which were outlined in the district's proposal, are an expanded Advanced Manufacturing program, a Tiny House project in conjunction with Mississippi State University, an Entrepreneurial Center, a Virtual Reality Learning Lab, and a stationary FAB Lab that will extend the functionality of the existing mobile lab.

With a robust plan of action, the district reached out to Representative Kevin Horan, who guided the proposal through the legislative processes. The resulting approval and projected funds will provide essential support for the program and "pave the way for a new chapter in education in Grenada."

Daigneault said, "The funding allocated for this center demonstrates a commitment to investing in the future of our students and empowering them to pursue advanced job opportunities and career goals."

The community's growing job market in advanced manufacturing, energy, healthcare, information technology, and logistics offers rewarding opportunities for individuals with diverse skills. With or without a college degree, GSD students will have the opportunity through the EIC and enhanced Career and Technical Center programs to prepare for career success in these tech-driven sectors.

Going a step further, the EIC will provide vital support to entrepreneurs and lifelong learners, playing a key role in driving inclusive economic growth and helping establish the county as a pivotal hub in the region.

"This initiative highlights the importance of fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in education, ensuring that our students are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in a competitive global economy," Daigneault said. "We are grateful for the community's support and look forward to the positive impact the Entrepreneurial & Innovation Center will have on our students, educators, and partners alike."

GHS Hall of Fame

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

Eleven seniors have been named to the GHS Hall of Fame for the 2023-2024 school year.

The new members are Stephen Bloodworth, Nicholas Booker, Matthew Cummings, Anna Herring, Mary Clayton Logan, Ian McCullough, Laura Jane Moss, Nadia Reed, Shane Rosenthall, Jekerious Williams, and Malaree Williams.

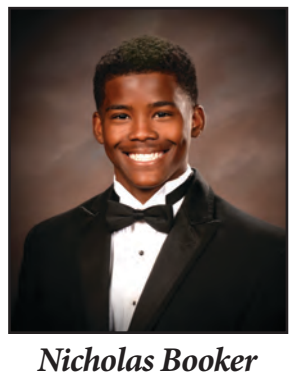
Considered the highest honor of a student's high school career, the Hall of Fame recognizes students who have earned attention for their school through their individual service and high performance.

A committee of administrator-appointed faculty determines the Hall of Fame from a pool of students who have applied. Members are selected on a point-based system that considers GPAs, club affiliations, leadership positions, and awards on various levels, from district to national.

Congratulations to the 2024 Hall of Fame honorees!



Stephen Bloodworth



Nicholas Booker



Matthew Cummings



Anna Herring



Mary Clayton Logan



Ian McCullough



Laura Jane Moss



Nadia Reed



Shane Rosenthall



Jekerious Williams



Malaree Williams

GHS Class of 2024


Keirin Alberg


Jaleiya Ammons


Keasia Anthony


Asia Archer


Martrevion Austin


Manuel Avila Moran


Adam Bachler


Jimarion Badon


Charles Bardo


Drudarius Barnes


Deontae Barton


Christopher Beach II


Jayla Beechem


Alvin Benford, Jr.


Jameecia Bibbs


Jamyriah Biggins


Dylan Black


TyRanie Bland


Stephen Bloodworth


Nicholas Booker


Roneisha Booker


Baley Bowen


Aunique Bridges


Brayden Brown


Caden Brown


Daisjah Brown


Gavin Brown


Lillie Brown


Zoniquah Brown


Jaylan Burl


Cole Caldwell


Moriah Calhoun


Aidan Carollo


Conner Carson


Adam Carter


Chloe Casey


Marlee Caswell


Jackson Channell


Brittany Clardy


Jacob Clark

Christopher Cole, Jr.

Keshunna Conley

Madison Conley

Rebecca Cornish

David Crawford

Matthew Cummings

Garriel Cunningham

Omarion Daniels

Melissa Daves

Gary Davis

Timmy Dean, Jr.

Isabella Dennis

Hayden Dungan

Skylar Edwards

Kenneth Everett III

Madarrius Ewing

TaKaila Exson

Charles Fair III

Anna Ferguson

Jalen Ford

Kelli Forest

Kelsi Forest

Katelyn Fulgham

Aden Gentry


John Gentry, Jr.


Kylee Goad


Alison Goldwater-Deussen


Nathaniel Grammer


Rhyan Haley


Paris Hall


Zyamireiona Hammond


Arrion Hancock


Lametria Harbin


Lauren Harges


Aidan Harris


Deterrian Harris


Taliyah Hawkins


Anna Herring


Jayvon Herron


Dekerrion Holman


Jeremy Holmes


Harley Hoop

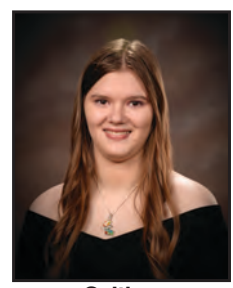

Damiyon Horton


Makayla Horton


Caleb Howard


Desmond Hubbard


Theron Hubbard


Caitlyn Huckaby


Kylee Hudgens


Camryn Hughes


Joshua Hughes


Kyla Hughes


Ava Hunt


Nadiya Hurd


Madison Ingram

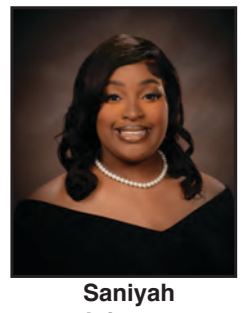

Lee Jackson


Jackson Jenkins


Stephen Jenkins


Ashton Johnson


Charlesha Johnson


Saniyah Johnson


Akera Jones


Callie Jones


Haylee Jones

Jeffie Jones

Kedraus Jones

Kelton Jones

Shakaya Jones

Shyesha Jones

Arianna Kennedy

Amanda Kent

Maci Kent

Keyonce King

Vivian King

Aaron Kinney

Markita Kinsey

Trinity Lane

Piper Langham

Nate Lawson

Jeremiah Lee

Preston Lee

Leah Lemley

Mary Clayton Logan

Savannah Mallet

Quinterrius Mays

Ian McCullough

Jakayla McNeal

Markiya McNeal

James Darren McRee II

Matthew Melton

Josh Miller

Corbin Mims

Brooklynn Moore

Jessica Moore

Octarious Moore

Terion Moore


Tristan Moore


Tanner Moring


Laura Jane Moss


Jayla Myers


Qwesinique Nason


Carla Nix

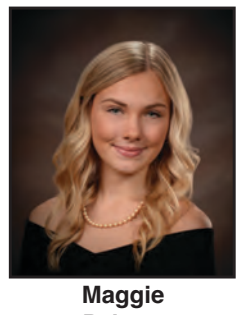

Charlie Nixon


Amaiya Noel


Kayla Orear


Amaria Owens


Mariyah Owens


Maggie Painter


Hannah Palazzolo


John Parker III


Payton Parker


Jeel Patel


Greyson Patton


Keino Peacock


Emily Pendergrass


Jahquarion Perry


Alex Pettway


Lamia Petty


Joshua Philley


Kunyae Pittman


Javarious Pratt


Nickolas Prescott


Ethan Prestridge


Latavien Pritchard


Kayla Pryor


Willie Pullie III


Nadia Purnell


Tajayus Ray


Nadia Reed


Kaitlyn Richardson


Sofia Rinaldi


Jared Robinson


Shane Rosenthall


Kemya Rounds


Rye Scott


Eli Smallwood

Case Smith

Collin Smith

Preston Smith

Laken Snyder

Layla Snyder

Savanna Snyder

Calyx Spencer

Braden Sprayberry

Jackson Staten

Bryce Stegall

Chance Stephens

Garrett Taylor

Ashton Thornton

John Tilghman

Makayla Topps

Aaron Travis, Jr.

Keosha Travis

Passion Travis

Sarah Trotter

Chris Turner

Kevion Van Buren

Mary Faith Vance

Kayden Walters

Alexis Westbrook

Jude Westmoreland

Luke Westmoreland

Malaysia Westmoreland

Chloe White

Kaid White

Eli Wiggins

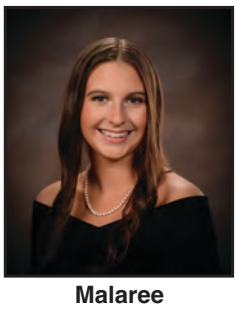
Blake Williams

Chloe Williams

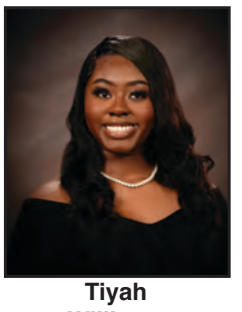

Harlee Williams


Hayden Williams


Jekerious Williams


Malaree Williams


Sadie Rose Williams


Tiyah Williams


Harvayon Willis


Quaniya Willis


Taylor Willis


Christian Wolfe


Shelbie Woodall


Jamison Woodson


John Wortham


Erriyanna Young


Olajuan Zollicoffer

"AmeriCorps"

Continued from page 1

Over the 16 years at Grenada, AmeriCorps members have successfully recruited over 200 volunteers. They've also worked in the community, advancing literacy and volunteering in the local soup kitchen among other projects.

The lasting impact of our AmeriCorps program is evident in the fact that 35 former members have been hired within our school district, with 10 becoming teachers and 12 alumni securing positions in local businesses, furthering their contribution to our school and community.

Members become more engaged citizens through their volunteer efforts and many attest that it has helped them develop as people. Through the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, members are eligible to earn thousands of dollars toward going back to school and earning their teacher certification. Members over 55 with past education experience may transfer their education award to a child or grandchild.

No other school district in the state maintains such a strong AmeriCorps presence as Grenada, which is a major reason I was recently presented the National Service "Make-a-Difference" Award from Volunteer Mississippi at the organization's Give Awards last month in Jackson. It was a great honor to receive this award on behalf of my own efforts, as well as the many others who have made this program a success.

Our program's first director, Pam Hubbard, still serves in an advisory capacity. Another long-running director, Gwen Woodson, recently moved on to coordinate community development with the Lake District Partnership.

Phyllis Chism was promoted to director last year and holds a unique vantage. She worked with AmeriCorps tutors in the classroom, where she taught first grade for many years, and she was the very first AmeriCorps member at Grenada before the program was even established here. The education award allowed her to go back to school and become a certified teacher. She's a great believer in the program, both for students and volunteers. She has motivated several volunteers to enter the program, go back to school, and several have returned to teach at Grenada.

As I remarked in acceptance of the "Make-A-Difference" award, it has been the collective efforts of all the AmeriCorps members who served in Grenada and the administrators who helped keep the program funded and running smoothly that has has not only elevated educational standards here but also fostered unity and progress within our community, setting the stage for a brighter future.

Thank you, AmeriCorps!


(Left to right) Mississippi First Lady Elee Reeves and Volunteer Mississippi Board Commissioner Lisa Grantham presented the National Service "Make-a-Difference" Award to Grenada School District Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault at the Volunteer Mississippi Awards.

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Class of 2024 Star Student



Grenada High School senior Stephen Bloodworth was named STAR Student after scoring the highest in his class on the ACT. Bloodworth designed English teacher Melanie Hopper as the complementary STAR Teacher.

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

GHS senior Stephen Bloodworth has been named Grenada's STAR Student for the 2023-24 school year by the M.B. Swayze Foundation, sponsor of the Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) program.

The state's most prestigious educational recognition program, STAR rewards seniors with the highest ACT scores and scholastic averages in their class. They are chosen from more than 300 public, private, and parochial schools in Mississippi.

"It was a complete surprise," said Bloodworth, who scored a 31 composite and 32 superscore on the ACT, making him eligible for the STAR Award.
Each STAR Student is asked to designate a STAR Teacher, the teacher who has made the greatest contribution to the student's scholastic achievement. Stephen chose ELA teacher Melanie Hopper for the recognition.

"She was a great teacher," Stephen said. "Like all great teachers, she helped me understand material I didn't understand, and she really pushed me to be better."

Hopper taught Stephen two dual credit courses, Composition 1 and American Lit 1 and was proud to see he'd scored a perfect 36 in the reading section of the test.

"Stephen is a quiet kid but very introspective and works very hard, diligent to make sure he's doing things correctly," Hopper said. "His class is super smart, so I was proud of him. He's held his own and more with scholars across the state."

Hopper said she and Stephen attended the awards program in Pearl, Miss. Stephen was one of 200 students in the state to score a 30 or above on the ACT.

The top ACT scorer at Grenada earned multiple scholarships from Mississippi State University, where he plans to major in architecture. Among his scholarships are the Colvard Future Leader Scholarship and the Freshman Academic Excellence Scholarship.

Stephen is a member of the GHS Band, which he joined as a sophomore. Without having gone through the middle school program, he took private percussion lessons to catch up and won a number of awards in the band program, including Best Jazz Band Musician in 2023.

Stephen was also a member of the GHS ESports team and an accomplished Archery team member. He won Best Male Archer on team for his sophomore and junior years and was named Most Valuable Shooter this year.

A member of the GHS National Honor Society, Stephen is the son of Dr. Herby and Amy Bloodworth.

Stephen attended home school until he started at GHS his freshman year. "I'm glad to be moving on," he said, "but my experience [at GHS] was amazing."



GHS Internships in Medical and Municipal Fields

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

The student internship program at Grenada High School has given even more seniors the opportunity for on-the-job experience in the fields of health, construction, IT, and government this spring. The paid internships, facilitated by GHS Career Coach Tifany Reed, is a result of partnerships between Three Rivers Planning & Development District and the state's workforce development partner, AccelerateMS, along with participating businesses in Grenada.

A major boon for the program is the partnership with the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Grenada. Three seniors are currently working at the hospital and gaining valuable work experience in the medical field.

Quaniya Willis is a patient care tech at the hospital. She's been working since February, helping deliver bedside care to patients. She said the experience has been eye-opening.

"I've learned how to deal with patients and how to work with people," she said. "The people I work with are amazing. I appreciate the introduction to nursing. You've got to know the basics, how to treat people."

Kimaria Reed has been observing on the surgery floor for over two months.

"I knew when I started this internship that I wanted to go into surgery," she said. "But I was kind of scared that I'd be squeamish."

Reed said the experience has made her consider alternate fields in the medical profession. Both students plan on attending the University of Southern Mississippi University to pursue nursing degrees.

Baley Bowen has spent the past three months in the radiology department at UMMC, where he has learned how to read X-rays, MRIs, and CT scans.

"This program has definitely helped me narrow down what I want to do," Bowen said. After observing Dr. Timothy Ragland, Bowen decided he wanted to pursue a career in interventional radiology. "I thought I would go through an X-ray program, but speaking with Dr. Ragland changed my direction of how I need to attend college."

Bowen said he planned to attend two years at Holmes Community College before studying pre-med at a university and then applying to medical school.

In order to be cleared to work at the hospital, students went through the exact same pre-hire process required of all UMMC employees, including TB Skin Test, the flu vaccine and submitting Form 121. They were also trained on patient confidentiality and signed non-disclosure agreements to assure their discretion.

UMMC Human Resource Director Celine Craig was instrumental in the implementation of the paid-internship program at UMMC. She complemented the interns on their enthusiasm and excitement to learn more about what they could potentially be doing in their future.

"It's good for our employees too," Craig said. "Our employees like to be able to encourage, correct, and guide them as they go along."

Two more seniors, Markiya McNeal and Amaiya Noel, are exploring their interest in medicine at Lumas Healthcare & Associates on Van Dorn St. in Grenada. Nurse practitioner and owner Shakeva Lumas (APRN, FNP-C) said students have been learning how to check in patients and learn their computer system.

"They've been learning telephone etiquette and customer service, making sure they're speaking appropriately to patients and know how to arrange follow-up appointments," Lumas said. "They're basically learning what it means to be the first face that people see when they come into the clinic."

The students have been interning for approximately a month, and both said they've learned a lot about working with patients. McNeal plans to attend Delta State University on cheerleading and academic scholarships. She hopes to become a nurse practitioner and own a clinic one day. Noel plans to attend Mississippi Delta Community College and pursue a nursing degree.

Lumas said that both students were excellent workers. It's the clinic's second year participating in the GHS internship program. "I wish that resources like this were available when I was coming up, particularly in our small town," she said. "To extend career choices to these students is a pleasure."

Lumas & Associates is a primary care clinic for patients 18 and over. They provide chronic disease management, acute care, wellness check-ups, and weight-loss programs.

The City of Grenada is also hosting GHS students for the second year. Seniors Dru Barnes, Joshua Hughes, and Jekerious Williams all work under City Manager Stan Amos to learn how a government office operates.

In late April, Barnes and Williams were completing their internships. They'd been working for several weeks, mostly with the election commissioner preparing for the city mayor election. "They've handled themselves well," Amos said. "From the first time we talked, I got it immediately that these were two good men. They carry themselves well and seem like they're eager to learn. I know they're going to be successful."

Williams, who plans to attend Holmes Community College on a football scholarship, is interested in a possible business degree. "Coming here to work helps me see how a city office runs and how to manage papers and stay organized."

After graduating, Barnes plans to attend Mississippi State's business program.

Hughes, who was just beginning his internship, was prepared to see how the election process works. He plans to attend Mississippi State University and explore several career paths, including physical therapy and real estate, before committing to a particular line of work.

Amos complemented the GHS Career Coach and her dedication to recruiting top students for the internships. "Mrs. Reed has attracted some very astute young men and women to the program, so whenever she calls, I'll answer," the city manager said.

Reed works directly in GHS through Three Rivers and meets one-on-one with high school students to assess their interests and develop a plan. Once the student has fulfilled the requirements for the program — including good attendance, grades, behavior, and job skills training —she works with the corresponding business to assure them the pay and liability is covered by the internship program.

After students complete a successful interview with the organization and are invited to work, Reed checks up regularly to make sure that the work relationship is mutually beneficial.

In addition to on-the-job training, students are paid for their work. Some positions pay up to $12 an hour through the program with Three Rivers and AccelerateMS·



At the University of Mississippi Medical Center, (l to r) GHS Career Coach Tifany Reed, Kimaria Reed, Quaniya Willis, Baley Bowen, UMMC Human Resource Director Celine Craig, and Grenada Career and Technical Center Director Barry Rogers.



At Grenada City Hall, (l to r) Jekerious Williams, Grenada City Manager Stan Amos, Dru Barnes, and Joshua Hughes.



At Lumas Healthcare & Associates, (l to r) Amaiya Noel, nurse practitioner Shakeva Lumas, and Markiya McNeal.



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Alumni Spotlight — CiCora Leigh



CiCora Leigh, a member of GHS's Class of 2008, recently returned to campus to visit with students and talk about her role as an intelligence officer at the Defense Intelligence Agency. Leigh, who routinely briefs policy makers and government officials around the world, told students that she would never have imagined the path her life would take while she was a student at GHS.

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

CiCora Leigh, a Grenada High School graduate, returned to campus this spring and spoke with students about her role as an intelligence officer stationed at the Defense Intelligence Agency Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

In visits arranged by Career Coach LaTifany Reed, Leigh (Class of 2008) visited NJROTC and College and Career Classes to share her story and advice. Leigh told students they might be surprised where life takes them if they develop skills, confidence, and have the courage to pursue opportunity.

As a student at Grenada, Leigh planned to become a registered nurse. Instead she ended up joining the Mississippi Army National Guard after graduating from the University of Mississippi. "The drive to join the Army actually came from wanting to be a lawyer," she said. "I couldn't afford school because I took the scenic route and depleted all of my free grant money. I joined the Army to pay for my education, and when I took the law school entry exam, the scholarship offers came."

By then, Leigh found excitement in the National Guard. She enlisted as 35F Intelligence Analyst and deployed to Kuwait and Syria. She found herself one of the only intelligence analysts in the region during the mission to suppress ISIS and moved up from security detail to serving as an advisor to the post commander.

When she returned to the States, Leigh reported to Army Central Command in South Carolina where she continued her intelligence work. Her team produced reports that were briefed in Congress and resulted in a speedy U.S. pull-out from Afghanistan.

Soon after that, Leigh received an email from the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), offering her a job and a rotation at the Pentagon. She couldn't believe it was real, but soon she found herself presenting high-level briefings to the J-2, the Secretary of Defense, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on happenings all over the world, including China and the Russian-Ukraine conflict.

Leigh's work has largely consisted of assessing military capabilities, though currently she provides humanitarian conditions operational environment analyses regarding the Israel-Gaza conflict. She said she routinely briefs ambassadors, deputy ambassadors, and combatant commands all around the world. "I'm surprised at how up-to-date they keep the world on what's actually happening over there," she said.

Leigh told students, "When I sat in these same seats as you all, I didn't even know that what I do today existed. I never thought about who advises the government or how they make these decisions. I never thought I could work in Washington, D.C. at the Pentagon or that my products would be read one day by the President of the United States."

Leigh credited her former GHS teachers, Ms. Gordon and Ms. Cook, with giving her a strong background in writing and reading. She recalled the essay she was asked to write when she was being considered for the DIA and how she went back to the essay format she learned from her teachers.

"What I do now depends heavily on writing skills," she said. "My ability to analyze certain situations and develop courses of action to advise policymakers and Congressmen is very critical and very important."

Leigh encouraged students to develop three critical skills:

Communication, "especially how to translate what you think in your mind to paper." She added that learning a foreign language early makes you highly competitive in the job market.

Leadership skills. "It's important to learn how to lead yourself, and how to manage your time and resources," Leigh said. "If you can start with yourself first, everything else will fall into place."

Innovation. "Keep your imagination open," Leigh said. "Sometimes as we grow and mature, we tend to let those external circumstances hinder our ability to create and imagine." She advised students to keep their perspective unbiased. "It helps to look at things from other peoples' point of view." She also recommended they talk with as many experts and learn as much as they can to be a well-rounded individual.

Speaking to female students in particular, Leigh said that when she gives briefings, she's often the only woman and African-American in the room. "Females, just be confident that you can do anything," she said. "When it comes to what we do at DIA, there's no gender, there's no race boundaries. We're just looking for quality people who can complete the mission and who really care about being a servant and also who are very confident as leaders. As long as you build those leadership skills, you can come to DIA too."

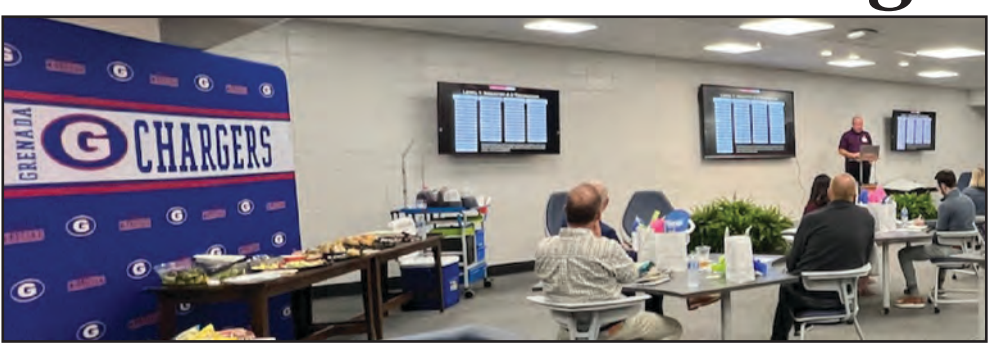
Leigh admitted that she did not have confidence when she entered the military. "I was quiet, I often stood to the back and kept my head down. With experience, I learned that it's best to just do it. Whatever your role or duty is, it's best to move forward. If you shirk back, you'll never see the full potential that's in you. You don't know what's in you until you try."

Her last piece of advice to women could be useful to any young person. "You can become whatever you want to become," she said. "I would say the most important thing is to change your self-talk."

Leigh recalled that when she first came to DIA, she sat in a cubicle among workers with prestigious college degrees and lofty ambitions. "I thought what am I doing here. And God told me, 'The thoughts that you have are not the thoughts that I think toward you.' I had to change my self-talk, and the more I changed my self-talk, the more I changed on the outside."

"The more you tell yourself positive things, people will receive that from you."

Smart-Tech Meeting



Mississippi State University (MSU) held its SmartTech MS Spring Stakeholder Meeting at the Grenada High School Career Center on April 18. The planning meeting was held to further plans based on MSU's grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Engine Development program to advance autonomous technologies for advanced manufacturing in Mississippi. The working lunch event began with a review of GSD's innovative programs by Sherry Worsham and an Industry 4.0 program update from Northeast MS Community College's Greg James. This was followed by a stakeholder discussion led by Dr. Julie Jordan, President of the MSU Advanced Research Development Corporation and Vice President of the MSU Office of Research and Economic Development. MSU's SmartTech Partners include Appalachian Regional Commission, Accelerate MS, Mississippi Manufacturers Association, Milwaukee Tool, MS Department of Employment Security, Nissan, Three Rivers PDD, MSU's Research & Curriculum Unit, the University of Mississippi's Center for Manufacturing Excellence, CREATE Foundation, Camgian (AI software), and more. Watch for additional details about SmartTech in our next issue.

Sixth Grade Uses Reading Relay for Review



(Photo left) Grenada Middle School students (l to r) Taylin Thomas, Tori Vincent, and Meadow Williams participated in the sixth-grade Reading Relay event. Teams raced around the track, stopping at intervals along the way to answer questions from a reading passage. The fastest classes to correctly answer all questions were awarded reading trophies. In three different sessions, two of Brooke Foster's classes finished first, and Gwen Booker's class won the other race.

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