HEAD START 2025-26 Board Presentation

Venetia L. Peacock
Senior Director
March 2026



Leadership Team

Venetia L. Peacock – Senior Director

Gulshan Rahman – Asst. Director of Compliance & Family Services

Jamese Stancill – Asst. Director of Education and Operations

Armando Rodriguez – Community Partnerships Manager

Gino Kamaya – Compliance Manager

Taylor Hagness– Nutrition Services Manager

Tamara Ducan– Health Services Manager

Courtney Johnson – Education & Special Services Manager

Taiwan Williams – Operations Manager

Suzanne Cates – Operations Manager



Program Service Model

12 Head Start Campuses

4 Child Care Partnership Sites

302 HCDE Head Start Staff

41 Child Care Partnership Staff

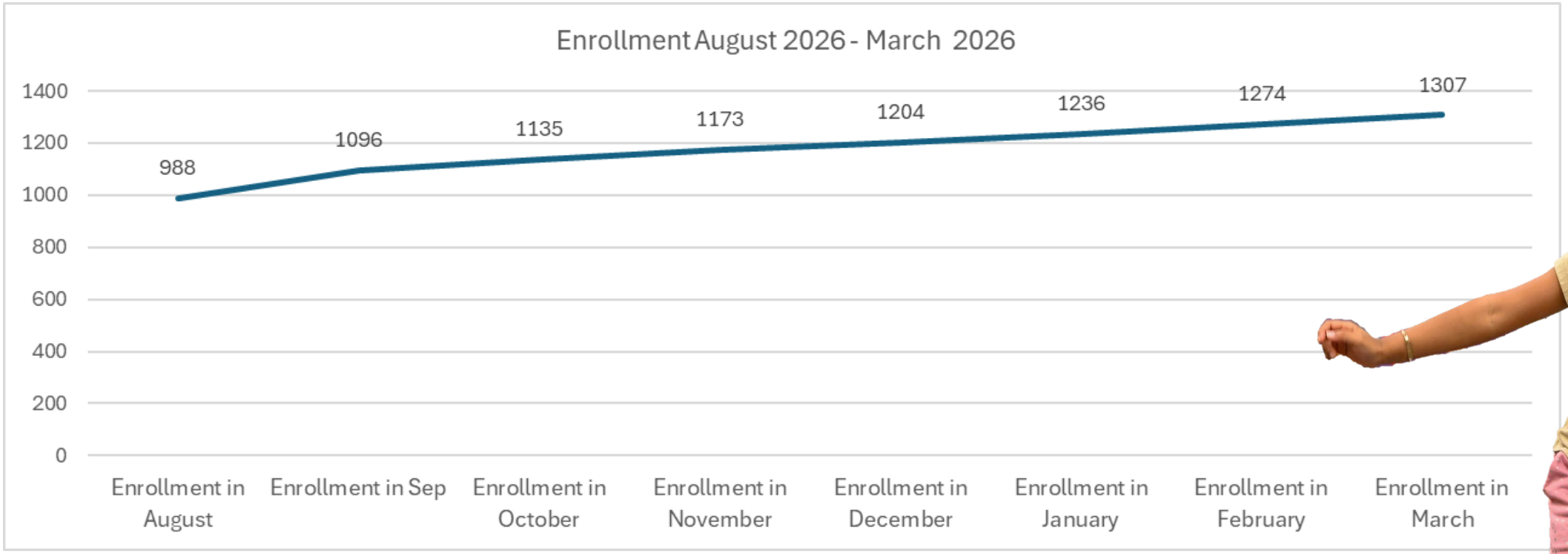


Budget



Description/Fund	Grant Period		NOGA Awarded
	Starting Date	Ending Date	
HEAD START OPERATION	1/1/2026	12/31/2026	$ 13,917,668.00
HEAD START TRAINING	1/1/2026	12/31/2026	$ 128,124.00
EARLY HEADSTART OPERATION	9/1/2025	8/31/2026	$ 5,281,614.00
EARLY HEADSTART T&TA	9/1/2025	8/31/2026	$ 110,244.00
LOC-HOGG FOUNDATION-YR 3	09/01/25	08/31/26	$ 10,000.00
LOC-OTHER LOCAL GRANTS	09/01/25	08/31/26	$ 87,128.47
Grand Total			**$ 19,534,778.47**

Strong Enrollment for 2025-26







What's Happening At Head Start ?







Community Partnership Appreciation

Healthy Minds Healthy Families Conference



85 Participants (272 internal, 13 external)

16 presentations

15 organizations (including ABS East & West)

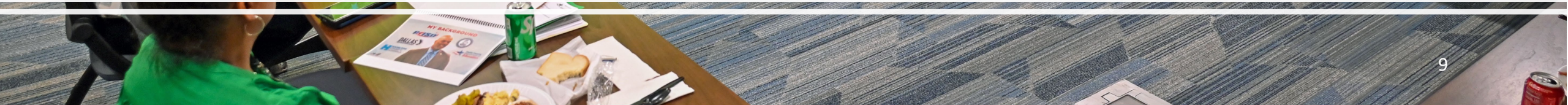
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Nicole Willis
Texas Southern University

The Weight of Wellness: Impact of self-care on educator effectiveness and ethics





Rising Star Leadership Academy



Rising Star Leadership Academy

Mission : To cultivate a sustainable leadership pipeline for HCDE Head Start by developing high-potential staff through targeted leadership training, mentorship, and campus-based learning experiences aligned with proven leadership competencies.

- September Opening Session and 6 Content sessions completed
- Final session in April and will conclude with participation in the National Head Start Conference
- A 10-session book study on John Maxwell's Developing the Leader Within



Rising Star Leadership Academy

Topics include:

- Building Relationships
- Developing People
- Driving Change
- Inspiring Others
- Thinking Critically
- Communicating Clearly
- Accountability







Unannounced Focus Area I Federal Review



- On January 13th HCDE Head Start received an unannounced Federal Review.
- 3-day review with four on-site reviewers and 2 virtual reviewers
- Included interviewing the governing board members, policy council members, staff, and parents; reviewing related documentation; conducting classroom explorations; and completing all aspects of the FY2026 FA1 Monitoring Protocol.
- Reviewers visited all campuses including Child Care Partners and reviewed 145 student eligibility records.

Review Results



- Two areas for correction:
  - Safe and Sanitary Environments:
    - In 3 of 23 classrooms reviewed, toothbrushing was not observed. This was in Community Partnership centers
  - Enrollment
    - 10 percent of total actual enrollment was not filled by children eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
    - We have until the end of the school year to achieve the goal or acquire a waiver

Review Results

- During the review event the OHS monitoring team identified the following Strong Practices:
  - An eligibility verification process to prevent fraudulent enrollment.
  - Applications are reviewed by staff members without ties to the applicant's family and ensures that multiple staff members verify eligibility.
  - To ensure the integrity of the application process, the HCDE Head Start's quality service committee completes the final review of the eligibility documentation for accuracy.









San Jacinto College Early Childhood Work Study Students

Nursing Students

- 23 San Jac Nursing students completed a 4-week rotation through three of our Head Start Campuses.
- Student completed developmental observations of students and supported teachers by completing

➢ Height and weight measurements

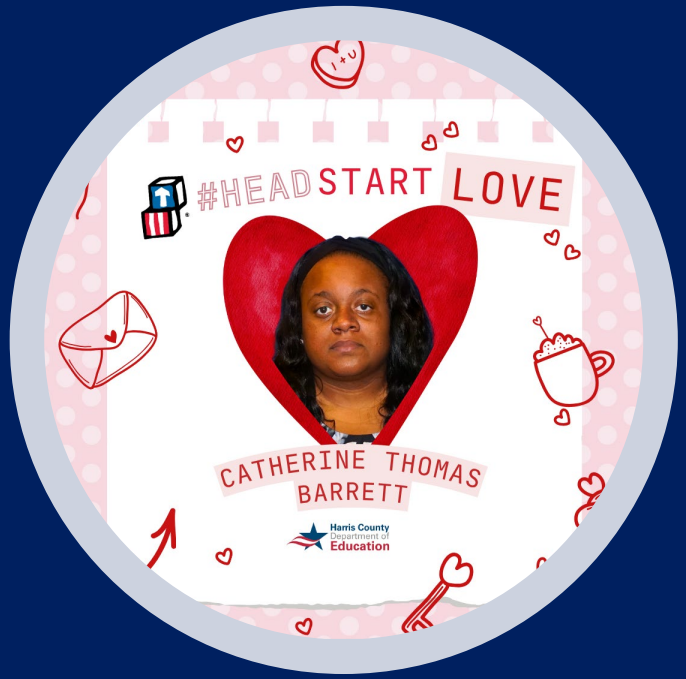
➢ Handwashing lessons

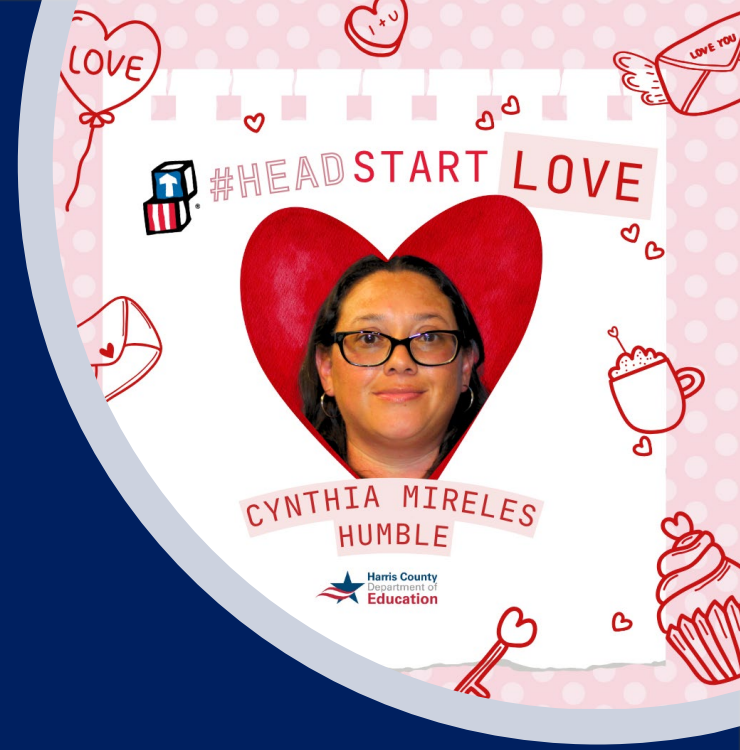
➢ Dental health lessons

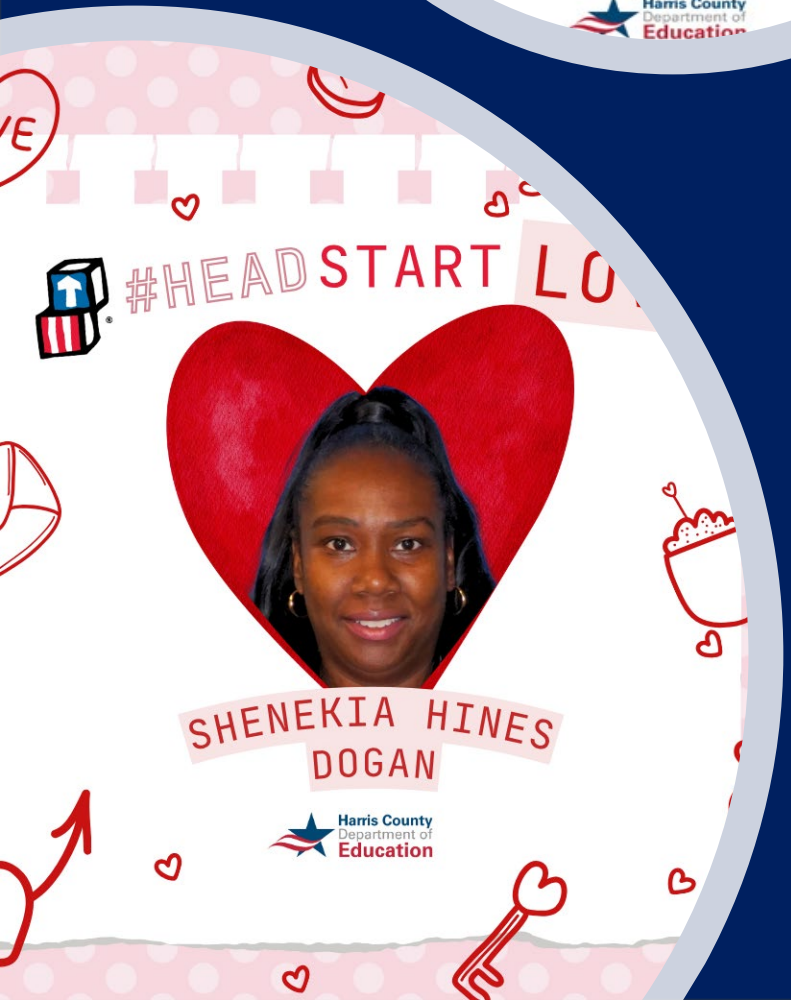












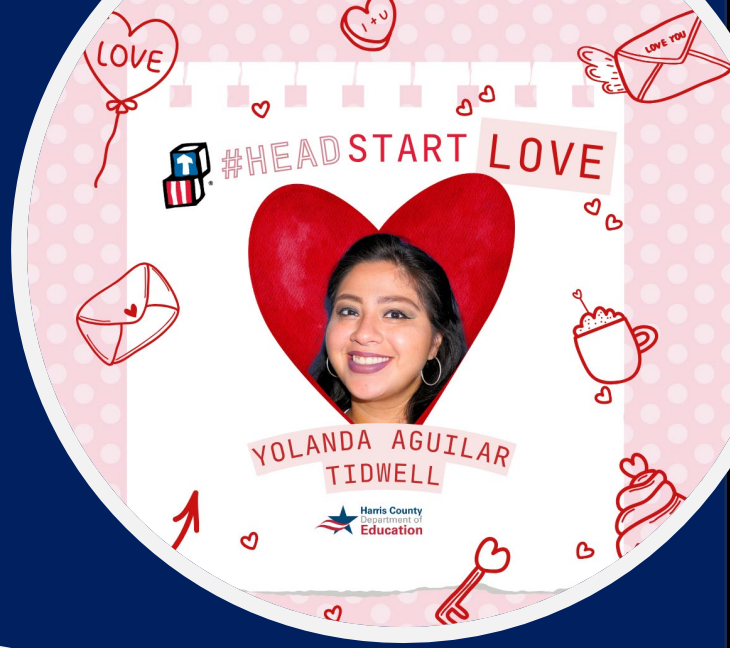
#HeadStartLove Campaign

During February, HS Staff nominated colleagues that they believe demonstrated our program's values every day through their interactions with students, families, and colleagues.



An opportunity to spotlight the passion and dedication at the heart of Head Start because Head Start's excellence begins with people!









National Nutrition Month

National Nutrition Month

National School Breakfast Week - March 2-6, 2026

A week to encourage children to join the 15 million students being provided with healthy breakfasts on "The Quest for School Breakfast," which has been shown to improve academic performance, decrease disciplinary issues, and build positive, life-long eating habits.



National Nutrition Month



National CACFP Week - March 15-21, 2026

- A national education and information campaign to raise awareness for the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program that combats hunger in care settings - currently feeding 3.9 million children healthy meals and snacks every day.
- This year's theme was "Stirring Up Goodness", focusing on colorful plates, encouraging family style dining, and getting kids involved in the kitchen and at mealtimes.

National Nutrition Month



Little Chefs, Big Flavors Science Fair Finale





Little Chefs, Big Flavors Finalists







Little Chefs Big Flavors
Food Science Fair Finale




KŌUNLTD.




TACO BOATS
FACTS
RECIPE
ROMAINE
DOGAN ELEMENTARY
Lettuce Taco Boats
Dogan
HS


3 FACTS
Compton
HS


February 19, 2026



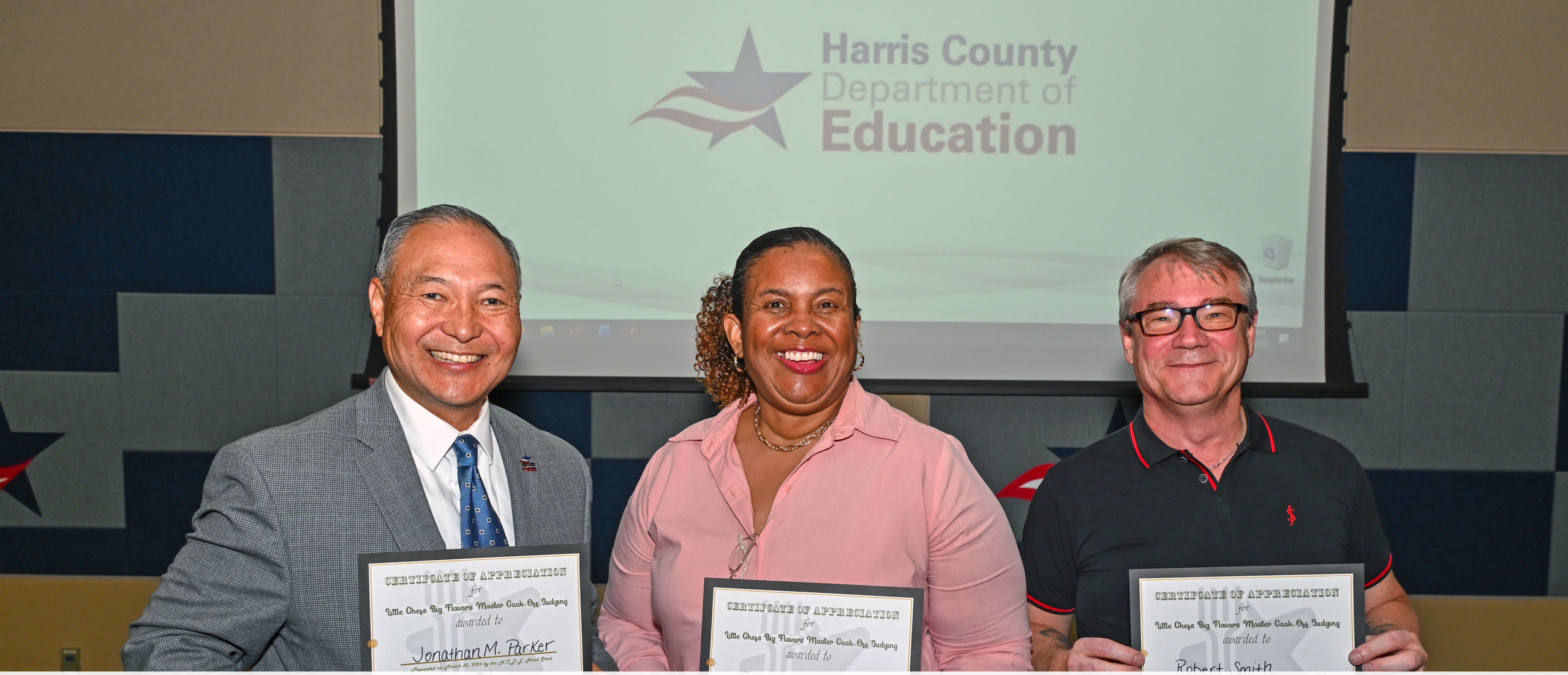



THE TOWN CHEF


Successful
Starters
Toddlers


Master Cook-off
El Aguacate


PINEAPPLE
3 Facts about my fruit:
Preparation instructions:
MINECRAFT



Little Chefs Big Flavors Food Science Fair Finale Judges

Featuring Fathers – Channelview Head Start



- Omar Contreras, a Channelview father, is highly engaged in his son's education and the campus community. He serves as a SuperMENtor and consistently volunteers for events across multiple classrooms, not just his child's.
- After the Campus Manager identified a need for increased male involvement during a Parent Committee meeting, Mr. Contreras immediately stepped up to lead and organize an activity focused on engaging male role models on campus.
- Through his efforts, over 65 male figures participated in a training and student activity, supporting their students and stepping in to help students who did not have a male family member present—creating a powerful sense of community and support.

Featuring Fathers – Channelview Head Start

Key points covered during the session included:

- Importance of male figures in children's lives
- Power of positive role modeling
- How role models impacted their lives



Featuring Fathers

Channelview Head Start










Featuring Fathers

Channelview Head Start






Featuring Fathers

Channelview Head Start











Week of the Young Child
“Come Learn with Us!”



April 13 – 17, 2026

On the Horizon

- Expansion of The Lawson Academy Partnership at Compton
- EHS expansion to Compton
- Rising Star Academy and three Education Team members will attend the National Head Start Conference the first week of May



Questions?