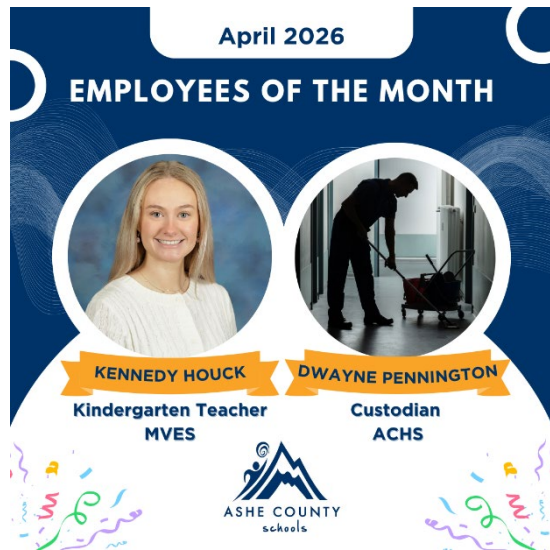


## Ashe County Schools Honors April Employees of the Month



Ashe County Schools is proud to recognize two outstanding team members as our April Employees of the Month, as selected by their peers. Please join us in celebrating **Ms. Kennedy Houck**, Kindergarten Teacher at Mountain View Elementary, and **Mr. Dwayne Pennington**, Custodian at Ashe County High School, for their dedication, hard work, and positive impact on our schools.

Ms. Kennedy Houck, in her first year as a lead teacher, is already making a remarkable difference in the lives of her students and colleagues. Her commitment to creating a nurturing, engaging classroom environment has not gone unnoticed. As one colleague shared, *"Kennedy has done a fabulous job, especially with this being her first year with her own class. She goes above and beyond for our class, making it known that every child is loved and cared for. She has been wonderful to work with and I have learned so much working with her. She is patient, kind, and loves what she does."*

Another peer added, *"Kennedy goes above and beyond the call of duty to assist with a child in her classroom ... She's always positive with a smile on her face, and she is a wonderful co-worker and is easy to work with."*

It's clear that her enthusiasm and dedication are setting a strong foundation for success, with colleagues noting, *"This is her first year as the lead teacher and she's doing an amazing job!"*

Mr. Dwayne Pennington, though new to Ashe County High School, has quickly made a lasting impression through his exceptional work ethic and pride in maintaining a clean and welcoming environment. His attention to detail and commitment to excellence have elevated the daily experience for both students and staff. One nomination shared, *"Dwayne has only been here for a few months, but he works so hard to make sure all parts of the upstairs area stay clean. He takes a lot pride in what he does. Our hallways, bathrooms, lounges, and classrooms have never been cleaner!"*

Another colleague wrote, *"Dwayne is an amazing custodian who takes great pride in his work. He is always cleaning, whether it's with a broom or a rag. He keeps the halls and classrooms swept, the trash taken out, and the restrooms and teachers' lounge clean and well-maintained."*

The ACHS math department echoed this sentiment, sharing, *"Dwayne makes sure our classrooms are pristine each day and goes above and beyond to ensure our spaces are maintained to an above-par status."*

Congratulations, **Ms. Houck** and **Mr. Pennington**. You exemplify the dedication, care, and excellence that define Ashe County Schools. We are grateful for all the ways you make a positive difference for our students and staff!

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