Randolph County School System
“RCSS STAR Employees” for September 2026



Archdale Elementary School – Abba Williard

Abba has taken every obstacle in stride with an unwavering positive attitude and a bright, welcoming smile. She works tirelessly for her students, serving as an advocate for those who need extra love and support, and delivering care in ways that deeply impact the entire school community. Abba's giving spirit, impressive work ethic, and ability to bring sunshine wherever she goes make her an extraordinary asset and an inspiration to us all. Archdale Elementary is proud to have Abba Williard represent us as our Star Employee.

Hopewell Elementary School – Courtney Andrews

Mrs. Andrews is a vital asset to our third-grade team and the entire Hopewell staff. She is always willing to open her door to support a colleague and is a steady, positive presence with exceptional character. Mrs. Andrews approaches concerns with a calm, level-headed perspective and is always ready to offer thoughtful solutions. She is deeply dedicated to her students, making each one feel seen, loved, valued, and supported while maintaining high expectations for all. Mrs. Andrews truly helps make Hopewell the place to BEE and is so deserving of this STAR Employee award!

John Lawrence Elementary School – Taylor Isaacs

Taylor Isaacs is an outstanding Teacher Assistant who consistently goes above and beyond to support our students and teachers. She is dependable, hardworking, and always willing to step in wherever she is needed. Taylor seems to almost read her teachers' minds because she often knows exactly what needs to be done before they even have to ask. Her willingness to help, positive attitude, and dedication make her an invaluable part of our school team. We are incredibly fortunate to have Taylor at John Lawrence Elementary, and we truly appreciate everything she does each day!

New Market Elementary School – Amanda Spencer

Amanda Spencer is in her third year as our STEM Lab Instructor, and she brings creativity, enthusiasm, and seemingly endless energy to everything she does for our school and students. Ms. Spencer is someone we know we can always count on, willingly stepping in wherever there is a need, whether it is volunteering to take over a morning bus route or covering after-school care shifts. It would be remiss to recognize all that Ms. Spencer contributes without mentioning her vital role in leading our Safety Patrol, where she has taken even the seemingly small details—yes, even the infamous "light pole"—seriously! She never seeks recognition for the countless ways she serves; she simply sees a need, jumps in, and gives her very best, exemplifying our belief that excellence is always the expectation. New Market is proud to honor Ms. Spencer as our STAR Employee for September; she is an invaluable part of our school family.

Randolph Early College High School – Kathy Kelley

Kathy brings incredible creativity, enthusiasm, and heart to our school community. She is constantly looking for ways to support students and make sure people feel connected, valued, and celebrated. Whether she is providing snacks, dressing in a ridiculous costume, blasting dance music, creating engaging social media content, or using her community connections to make something special happen, Kathy is always willing to go beyond what is expected. She genuinely cares about the people around her and is never afraid to be loud, silly, creative, or completely ridiculous if it will bring people together. Kathy gives far more of herself than her job requires, and her enthusiasm and energy are truly contagious.

Trindale Elementary School – Madison Kimball

Madison Kimball is our STAR Employee because she consistently demonstrates what it means to be a dedicated and positive team player. She approaches each day with a positive attitude and is always willing to support her colleagues and students. Madison has transitioned between grade levels with incredible grace, flexibility, and kindness, always putting the needs of students first. She is also quick to lend a helping hand with tasks and projects around the school that make Trindale a better place for everyone. We are so grateful for Ms. Kimball's servant heart, positive spirit, and commitment to our school community!

Trinity Elementary School – Christina Pond

Ms. Pond is dedicated to her students and the staff at Trinity. She constantly goes above to help every staff member whether it's filling in for someone, assisting with scheduling, advising beginning teachers on strategies that work in the classroom, or simply offering a listening ear. Ms. Pond is there to help. She always wants the best for her students and consistently advocates for them to ensure all student needs are met. She is a treasure to have and we are thankful she is a part of our Trinity Elementary family!

Trinity High School – Tammie Swaim

Tammie is constantly working behind the scenes to keep our school running smoothly and is always willing to lend a hand when someone needs help. She is dependable, hardworking, and deeply committed to our students, staff, and school community. Tammie may have a tough exterior, but anyone who has the opportunity to truly know her quickly discovers just how big her heart is. She genuinely cares about the people at Trinity High School and wants to see all of us succeed. We are a better place because of her dedication, heart, and willingness to serve others.

Trinity Middle School – Angela Combs

Angela Combs, Lead Teacher, is a true STAR Employee who is always looking for ways to improve the day-to-day experience for both staff and students at Trinity Middle School. Despite the challenges that can come with being displaced and transitioning to a new school, Angela immediately embraced TMS, taking time to build relationships with staff and quickly becoming an important part of our Bulldog family. Throughout the day, she consistently checks in with staff members, asking how she can help and offering support wherever it is needed. In just a few short weeks, Angela has already provided valuable ideas and input in areas ranging from instructional materials and testing to remediation and school-wide processes. Angela's positive attitude, willingness to serve, and genuine commitment to making TMS better demonstrate that she is already a true-blue BULLDOG and very deserving of recognition as a STAR Employee.

Wheatmore High School – Lesley Jessup

Lesley Jessup is an incredible asset to Wheatmore High School, and anyone who works at WHS knows that Wheatmore just does not run quite the same when Lesley is not in the building. She works tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure every student has a schedule that meets their needs, puts them in the best position to be successful, and helps prepare them for their future. Lesley has a natural ability to connect with students, and she knows every student in the building by name. She is always there for our students, whether they need guidance, encouragement, or simply someone who is willing to listen, and she makes sure every student feels valued and supported. Wheatmore is incredibly fortunate to have Ms. Jessup, who gives so much of herself every day to our students, staff, and school.

Wheatmore Middle School – Amanda Phillips

Amanda Phillips is an invaluable member of the Wheatmore Middle School team who has seamlessly transitioned into her new role as our Data Manager. She has quickly embraced the responsibilities of the position, demonstrating exceptional efficiency, organization, and attention to detail while always remaining pleasant, approachable, and willing to help others. Amanda's positive attitude and willingness to support students and staff make her someone our entire school community can depend on. Even while learning and excelling in her new role, she continues to drive a school bus many afternoons, demonstrating an incredible commitment to our students and our school. Amanda truly embodies the spirit of a $STAR^3$ employee through her dedication, flexibility, teamwork, and willingness to go above and beyond each day.