

NEWS RELEASE



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Peachtree Ridge High's Dr. Scruggs receives Ga. music educator honor

A Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) teacher, who has shared her love for music with students for close to three decades, was recently honored by a group of Georgia music educators. **Dr. Bernadette Scruggs, a Peachtree Ridge High** Orchestra teacher, was named the 2012 Georgia American String Teacher Association Educator of the Year.

"I collaborate with a tremendous number of high quality and supportive orchestra teachers throughout Georgia and I feel extremely honored to be among them and, certainly, to have been singled out for this award," says Dr. Scruggs. "I love teaching orchestra because I have the pleasure of working with the best and brightest students at our school. Not only do I have terrific students, but we are also charged with the wonderful task of working together to create beautiful music."

Dr. Scruggs played a significant role in her school's history, establishing the orchestra program when the school opened in 2003. She moved down the street to the new high school after serving Hull Middle as its orchestra teacher since 1997. The move allowed her to continue teaching many of the same students who moved up grade level from Hull Middle. She shares, "I feel as though I am sort of like Mr. Feeny from 'Boy Meets World' ... my students could not escape me until they went to college."

Dr. Scruggs earned her doctoral of Philosophy degree and a specialist's degree, both in Education with a Music concentration, from Georgia State University. She also holds a bachelor's degree as well as a master's degree. Both degrees are in Music Education from Columbus State University.

Dr. Scruggs received her award during the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in Savannah.

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