

# SURRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

## NEWS RELEASE

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#### *Surry County Schools' Yearbooks Are Among the 'Best of the Best'*

Surry County Schools is pleased to announce that one of our middle schools and two of our high schools have received outstanding recognition for their schools' yearbooks. These schools and their respective yearbook advisors and students were also recognized at the August 6, 2018 Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Jessica LeGue, who serves as the yearbook editor in chief of Pilot Mountain Middle School was featured in the Jostens *Yours Truly Look Book*. This recognition is to acknowledge her **2017** yearbook cover *The Nest* and Jostens states, "The Look Book is an example of excellence, creativity, and innovation." Jostens further explains that the cover of *The Nest* was one of only 414 yearbooks selected from approximately 2,000 to be in the Look Book means the judges considered the notable features of the cover design to be especially well done and "the best of the best". To be selected to be in the Look Book means the judges considered the notable features of the cover design to be especially well done and "the best of the best". Furthermore, each spring, all high school yearbook staffs who work with Jostens receive a copy of the Look Book. It is worth noting that Ms. LeGue is the sole member of the yearbook staff at Pilot Mountain Middle School. She is to be commended for her dedication and commitment to providing a high-quality yearbook, as well as for her hard work and effort from design elements to photography and layout.

Walsworth Yearbooks recognized the yearbook staff and Ms. Myra Combs, yearbook advisor for the 2017 yearbook, *The North Star*, with the theme "Anatomy of a Greyhound". The *North Star* was inducted into the Walsworth Gallery of Excellence. The annual Gallery of Excellence

showcases the best yearbooks printed by Walsworth, and only a small percentage of the yearbooks Walsworth publishes are included in this distinguished collection. President, Mr. Don Walsworth, states, “Books are chosen based on their superior examples of theme, coverage, design, photography, and copy.”

Many people will see the yearbook throughout the year as Gallery books are shared by yearbook representatives with other schools and at workshops. The book is also displayed at regional, state and national conventions, as well as possible display in Walsworth educational materials, such as their *Possibilities* idea book and *Idea File* magazine. Mr. Walsworth further stated, “Gallery books ignite the creativity in other yearbook staffs.”

Additionally, the North Carolina Scholastic Media Association (NCSMA) also recognized North Surry High School with **2017 and 2018** awards for the *North Star*. North Surry received the following **2017** NCSMA awards in the Small Schools Division:

- Overall Award for Distinction
- Breanna Goins was awarded the third place Individual Award for Sports Photograph
- Delaney Morgan won the first place Individual Award for the People Section Design
- Cassidy Willard received an honorable mention as an Individual Award for Theme Copy

The *North Star* was also awarded the All-North Carolina award for Small Schools in the **2018** NCSMA competition. The induction of the North Surry High School yearbook into the Walsworth Gallery of Excellence and these NCSMA awards honor Ms. Comb’s commitment to the yearbook staff and exemplifies the exceptional work, dedication, creativity and journalistic achievement of the yearbook staff. They are to be commended for this work and for achieving such high levels of recognition.

Likewise, Mr. Brandon Cook, yearbook advisor, and the yearbook staff at East Surry High School are to be commended for their outstanding efforts in journalism. The North Carolina Scholastic Media Association recognized East Surry High School as part of the 2017 High School Journalism Awards for Yearbook Division for its **2017** yearbook publication, *East Wind*. It was awarded an Overall Distinction Award for Small High Schools. Additionally, NCSMA recognized East Surry’s *East Wind* yearbook as part of the **2018** High School Journalism Awards for Yearbook Division with the following awards in the Small Schools division:

- Overall Award for All-North Carolina
- Section Award Honorable Mention for Advertising

- Rosa Mata was awarded an individual first-place award for Captions
- Abigail Martin and Madison Bowman both received individual honorable mentions for Sports Captions

All of these outstanding students who are members of their school's yearbook staff and the yearbook advisors are to be congratulated, celebrated, and we are extremely proud of their journalism, creativity, originality, and drive for excellence.

