What a difference a year makes! Last year at this time, I had just arrived at the University of Florida and was overwhelmed at how much I had to learn about the College, the university, the community, and the state. At the same time, I was excited about the possibilities of working with highly talented people who were deeply committed to making a difference in the lives of children and families across communities and school districts in the state and nation.

As I review the progress made in the last year, I see that my initial impressions of exciting initiatives already underway were correct, and every day we are constantly adding to the list. One of my first goals was to communicate the rising sense of excitement and synergy felt in the College of Education to colleagues across campus, to local and state school educators, and to state and federal policy makers. While we recognize that we have many challenges ahead, we are confident the College is moving in the right direction to assume again a leadership role within state and national debates on professional education.

One major milestone achieved this year was that we were recommended for continuing state and national accreditation by the combined site team from the Florida Department of Education and the National Commission on Accreditation for Teacher Education (NCATE). In addition, Counselor Education received continuing accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Both site teams praised our preparation programs for their collaboration with affiliated programs across the College and university, the inclusion of professional development schools, and the use of practitioner input. The next challenges we face are to build a unit-wide assessment system, to develop new preparation models to meet the high demand for teachers and educational leaders, and to sustain and enhance our community/school/university partnerships.

We also received a five-year grant from the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council to begin the process of establishing a University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. One Center of Excellence already exists at the University of Miami; and we will be partnering with them, along with other units at the University of Florida, such as the Colleges of Dentistry, Health Professions, Health and Human Performance, and Law. We will also be collaborating with community and family groups who focus on this population. Through these collaborative relationships, we expect this center to become a prominent site for the coordination of research, service, and education impacting adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities.

With so many new initiatives underway, this column is not long enough to cover all of them. We are expanding the ways we communicate with our alumni, friends, and interested citizens to share the good news about the work being done in the College of Education to build stronger families, schools, and communities. As always, we appreciate your support and your feedback on our efforts. Stay tuned for future issues and check out our newly revised website (http://www.coe.ufl.edu). This is not your mother's College of Education!
The mission of the College of Education is to prepare exemplary practitioners and scholars; to generate, use and disseminate knowledge about teaching, learning, and human development; and to collaborate with others to solve critical educational and human problems in a diverse global community.

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FEATURES

4 Awards

Bingham Award
The Bingham Foundation’s mission is to help provide quality environmental education for today’s youth through environmental education and research.
BY NATASHA CRESPO

5 Updates

Baby Gator Growing and Changing
Baby Gator is under new leadership and is welcoming a new beginning.
BY DR. PAMELA PALLAS, DIRECTOR

8 Lectures

Innovative Educator
Arthur Levine Delivers Sesquicentennial Lecture at UF on October 8, 2003

DEPARTMENTS

2 Dean’s Message
6 Faculty News
7 Staff News
9 Alumni News
10 Educator News

COVER
Children at play – networking and communicating.
Bingham Award

There is a single light of science, and to brighten it anywhere is to brighten it everywhere," said Russian scholar Isaac Asimov. Spreading this torch of science is what the Bingham Environmental Education Foundation (BEEF) is about. Founded by students of N. Eldred Bingham on the occasion of his retirement as professor and chair of Graduate Studies in Science Education at the University of Florida, the organization bestows grants to graduate students and teachers to further the field of science education.

“It’s real scary what’s going on in the environment in Florida right now,” said Union Park Middle School teacher Victor Jerome Hatfield, recipient of the 2002-2003 award. “And it’s hard getting students involved and interested.”

But with the support of motivated teachers and innovative programs like BEEF, science education is getting its boost.

“I think any foundation or organization that encourages graduate students and teachers to do research is really good, especially on something as important as environmental education,” said 2002-2003 recipient Rebecca Penwell, a UF graduate student in science education. The award helped Penwell develop lessons for high school students participating in Science Quest, two week-long summer camp sessions for rising sophomores interested in science. Her project centered on increasing awareness and enhancing the attitudes of the students about various environmental issues.

“Research shows that they not only need the knowledge, but they also need to have positive attitudes,” Penwell said. “That is what is going to lead to them changing their behavior and think about that.”

Penwell called for knowledge assessment tests and attitude surveys concerning different environmental issues. Four lessons, geared towards teaching students about issues such as human population growth, loss of biodiversity, and pollution, were administered during camp. Evaluation tools were created to measure changes.

By educating children, Penwell hoped to prompt them to go out and tell their friends and parents about the existing problems.

“It’s important for citizens to understand and make informed decisions when it comes to things pertaining to the environment,” Penwell said. “If we can convince kids, then they can go and convince others.”

Middle school teacher Hatfield also utilized the stipend to spread awareness throughout the community. His plan focused on stimulating students’ interest by teaching them in their own backyards.

The Little Econ, which is a heavily used park, contains a river that Hatfield used as an extension of his classroom. By creating a synergistic lab with different modules, he used the outdoors as a reinforcement to the subjects taught in class. The students studied microorganisms, such as e-coli and large contaminants, that were infecting their area.

After taking tests and conducting research, the children went to the river and took samples, checking them for contamination. In addition, they learned about pH balance, temperature changes, and water levels. This was a useful hands-on tactic to make science relevant in children’s lives.

“My students are in the lower socioeconomic level and live in apartments; so I wanted to create an interest in science," Hatfield said. “This gives me the opportunity to make that happen.”

Before the grant, Hatfield could only take 10 students every two weeks to five testing sites; however, with the BEEF award, he was able to double these numbers.

The recipients utilized their $1,000 to continue the Bingham Foundation’s mission to help provide quality environmental education for today’s youth through environmental education and research. The grant, which allows people to brighten “the single light of science,” is open to graduate students from all UF colleges and to Florida K-12 educators. Applications for this year’s awards are being accepted by Dr. Maureen Conroy in the College of Education: G315 Norman Hall, 392-0701 x245.
When “Baby Gator Nursery” was established in October 1970, its purpose was to provide “educational daycare” for the children of students, faculty, and staff at the University of Florida. Over the past 33 years, Baby Gator has changed its name officially and unofficially a few times. We are known alternatively as Baby Gator Child Care, Baby Gator Educational Research Center, and Baby Gator Child Development Center, but most commonly just “Baby Gator.” Although the moniker has varied over the years, the intent and vision of Baby Gator’s founders has not. Baby Gator strives to provide the highest quality child care, challenging thinking, fostering learning, and supporting creativity as children grow cognitively, socially, emotionally, and physically.

The business of educating young children can be likened to looking through a kaleidoscope; the landscape is always changing. Children, like the slivers of glass in the tube, are constantly moving and changing. Early childhood educators have the unique pleasure of watching the beauty of learning unfold. They also have an obligation to provide the environment, materials, support, and guidance little ones need as they experiment, explore, and experience the world around them.

In the continuing pursuit of its goals, Baby Gator is experiencing growth and change. A new director, Pamela Pallas, and assistant director, Silvia Ferguson, arrived this summer. Each of them brings more than 20 years of experience in early childhood education (along with the inclusion of children with special needs) to Baby Gator. Their mission is to guide the center through growth and change in both the physical space and the services offered.

Baby Gator has outgrown its facilities on Village Drive. The classrooms, with 130 children from one year to five years, are filled to capacity, and the waiting list contains over 50 more children wishing to enroll. While shopping for a new home, the staff have begun the process of adopting new teaching strategies and techniques. Children with special needs are welcomed at Baby Gator, and staff members are meeting with Dr. Pallas weekly for hands-on skill building to assure that they understand and meet the needs of all children in their classrooms. Even the daily lunch menu is changing in order to meet the nutritional needs of children with medical restrictions, religious requirements, and cultural preferences. Baby Gator is also actively seeking involvement from University of Florida faculty and researchers. The learning environment can only be enriched by collaboration with others.

Baby Gator is growing and changing. The future looks bright, and the excitement of what Baby Gator has yet to become is building. It is a good time to be a small-sized Gator.

For more information about Baby Gator, please contact Dr. Pallas or Ms. Ferguson at 352-392-2330.
Dr. Thomas Oakland, a professor in Educational Psychology at the University of Florida, Honorary Professor of Psychology at The University of Hong Kong, and Honorary Professor of Psychology at the Iberoamerican University in San Jose, Costa Rica, is the recipient of the 2003 American Psychological Association (APA) Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology. He received this prestigious award in Toronto this summer during the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Lawrence Tyree, a professor in Educational Leadership, Policy and Foundations and executive director of the National Alliance of Community and Technical Colleges, has been approved for candidacy on the Fulbright Senior Specialists Roster. The Roster is a list of all approved candidates who are eligible to be matched with incoming program requests from overseas academic institutions for Fulbright Senior Specialists. As a candidate, Dr. Tyree will be considered a potential match for program requests that require someone in the field with his expertise.

In memoriam

Dr. Eugene A. Todd, a long-time faculty member of the School of Teaching and Learning and former chair of Secondary Education, passed away in July of 2003.

Although born in Maracaibo, Venezuela, Dr. Todd grew up in Brownsville, Texas. He moved to Gainesville from Nederland, Texas, in 1966. Dr. Todd’s degrees from the University of Texas and the University of Houston prepared him for his work as a professor in the College of Education, where he worked for 35 years. During his tenure, he served as chair of the Department of Subject Specialization.

Dr. Todd was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and did volunteer work there for many years. He served on the Alachua County School Board in the early 1970s. Suzanne A. Todd, his wife of 47 years; a son, Allan Kennedy Todd, of Peachtree City, Georgia; a sister, Joan Todd Walker, of Brownsville, Texas; and two grandchil-dren survive him.
The administration, faculty, staff, and students of the College of Education extend a sincere welcome to our new faculty:

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Alyson Adams, Lastinger Center for Learning
Michael Brooks, Counselor Education
Maria Cody, School of Teaching and Learning
Nancy Dana, School of Teaching and Learning and associate director of the Center for School Improvement
Tom Dana, School of Teaching and Learning chair
Diana Joyce, Educational Psychology
Waulene Pennymon, Counselor Education
Cirecie West-Olatunji, Counselor Education

**P.K. YONGE DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH SCHOOL**

James Bice
John Bourn
Stephen Burgin
Jill Cox
Kimberly Dotts-Hochncle
Sarah Enright
Kevin Fabulich
Rose Gleichowski
Susan Jinks
Jennifer Jones
Renee Leismer
Mickey MacDonald
Sherwin Macintosh
Phillip Porter
Abby Schwabb
Jacob Springfield
Lisa Stammen
Candice Weaver
Lisa Zaritsky

**BABY GATOR**

Pam Pallas, Ph.D., associate professor and director
Silvia Ferguson, assistant director

**TEACHERS:**

Christina Kelley, Jazmin Hall, Kelly Pigott

New Staff Council representatives for the College of Education have been selected for the 2003-2004 academic year. They are as follows:

**Karol Black** - Secretary
FFMT/Recruitment, Retention & Multicultural Affairs

**Patty Bruner** - Chair
Counselor Education

**Debbie Hagopian**
Development & Alumni Affairs

**Linda Kurtz**
Student Services

**Sabrina McLaughlin** - Co-Chair
Fiscal and Administrative Services

**Linda Parsons**
Educational Psychology

**Mark Piotrowski**
Graduate Studies

**Shaia Rivas-Otero**
Special Education

**Loretta Robinson**
P.K.Yonge DRS

**Susan Stabel**
Dean's Office

**Eileen Swearingen**
Educational Leadership

**Jackie Thomas**
School of Teaching & Learning

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Mary Bennett at (-352-392-0726 ext. 246 or mbennett@coe.ufl.edu.
Arthur Levine, president of Teachers College at Columbia University, shared his perspective on the future of higher education when he delivered one of the University of Florida’s Sesquicentennial Lectures on October 8, 2003. The presentation, titled “The Future of the American University,” was free to the public.

Levine is credited with revitalizing Teachers College, which was founded in 1887 to train teachers for New York’s expanding immigrant population. Since his appointment in 1994, he reorganized the college’s administrative and academic structure, erased an annual operating deficit, recruited top scholars, and launched the college’s largest-ever capital campaign. Emphasizing what he calls the “biology of learning,” Levine started an outreach program to assist local and state education officials in bolstering educational efforts. In 1999, the college began offering Web-based certificate courses and created a foundation to support promising educational ventures and the development of new educational products and services.

Levine, an advocate of improving teacher quality and enhancing the use of technology in higher education, is the author of dozens of articles and reviews. His most recent book is When Hope and Fear Collide: A Portrait of Today’s College Student (with Jeanette S. Cureton), published in 1998. His numerous opinion editorials appear in such publications as The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, The Wall Street Journal, and The Chronicle of Higher Education. Levine is a 1982 Guggenheim Fellowship winner and was named one of the “20 most outstanding leaders in the academic community” in a 1998 Change magazine survey.

(Look for more information in the next issue of EducationTimes.)
2003 Grand Guard Reunion

Dr. C. Thomas “Tom” Gooding, co-chair for the College of Education’s 2003 Grand Guard Reunion, thanks those who attended the October 2 – 4 affair.

The Grand Guard Reunion honors those who graduated from the University of Florida 50 years ago or more. Tom, who swears his original beanie fit him better when he was a student, received all three degrees from the College of Education (BAE ’53, MEd ’62, EdD ’64). Tom resides in Venice, Florida, with his wife, Shirley.

Alumni Events for the College of Education (COE)

Friday, September 12:
COE Development Committee Meeting
12:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Dean’s Conference Room, 158 Norman Hall

Saturday, September 13:
COE Alumni Council
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Terrace Room, G 400 Norman Hall

Friday, October 3:
Grand Guard Reunion: Classes of 1953 and Prior
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Terrace Room, G 400 Norman Hall
Speaker: Dr. Vivian Correa

Thursday, October 23:
COE Career Night
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Terrace Room, G 400 Norman Hall

Friday, November 7:
Homecoming
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Norman Courtyard

**Upcoming events in St. Augustine and Orlando to be determined for 2004.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Mary Driscoll at 140 Norman Hall; PO Box 117044, Gainesville, FL 32611-7044; 352-392-1058 ext. 290, or by e-mail: mdriscoll@coe.ufl.edu.

Youngest full-time coach in the sprint program, Tucker is the Kentucky to resurrect the men recruited from the University of hurdles, and relays as a coach.

was listed in the Teacher of the Year in 1980 and years. She was named Speech Community College after 30 years. She was named Speech Teacher of the Year 1993. Credit Union League and was Year in 1990 by the Florida strict schools (Florida) in 1987 as a full professor. Involved in oil paint-

Mary L. Shannon, BAE ’60, has retired from the Duval district schools (Florida) in 1987 as an elementary school principal. He was named Volunteer of the Year in 1990 by the Florida Credit Union Hall of Fame in 1993.

Erin H. Tucker, ’56, retired from West Chester University in 1992 as a full professor. Involved in oil paint-

Denom Ralph Storey, MEd ’57, retired from the Duval dis-

Eminio Joseph Peta, MEd ’56, retired from West Chester University in 1992 as a full professor. Involved in oil paint-

1960
Mary L. Shannon, BAE ’60, retired in 2002 from Florida Community College after 30 years. She was named Speech Teacher of the Year in 1980 and was listed in the National Register of Executives and Professionals Who’s Who in 2003.

1950
Virgil Lanier Ramage, MA ’50, has retired from the field of education.

1951
Marion L. (Irvin) Hill, BAE ’51, has now retired after working with children for over 30 years.

1956

Kenneth W. Price, MEd ’66, is the CEO of CHF Enterprises.

Victoria (Smith) Register-Freeman, BAE ’66, MAE ’70, has retired from teaching and is giving writing and ritual workshops at her Jacksonville bed and breakfast, The House on Cherry Street. She is also presenting national educational workshops dealing with age-related differences in today’s faculties. Her next national workshop entitled, “June Cleaver and Bart Simpson: Can This Marriage Be Saved?” will be presented in December at the Nashville SACS convention.

Denom Ralph Storey, MEd ’57, retired from the Duval district schools (Florida) in 1987 as an elementary school principal. He was named Volunteer of the Year in 1990 by the Florida Credit Union League and was named to the Florida Credit Union Hall of Fame in 1993.

1957

Eugene H. Meyer, MEd ’67, has retired from a career as a school psychologist.

1958
Erin H. Tucker, BA ’58, MA ’00, heads the men’s sprints, hurdles, and relays as a coach at the University of Kentucky. Recruited from the University of Illinois to the University of Kentucky to resurrect the men’s sprint program, Tucker is the youngest full-time coach in the Big Ten Conference 2000–2003.

1960

Kenneth Tyrone Henson, MEd ’69, has just published his 26th book, Grant Writing in Higher Education, through Allyn and Bacon. He has been the principal investigator and/or collaborator on grants that have totaled over 100 million dollars. His workshops on grant writing and writing for publication have been given on more than 200 university campuses. A former National Science Foundation Academic Year Institute recipient at the University of Florida and a Fulbright Scholar, he was named Distinguished Teacher Educator for the year 2000 by the Association of Teacher Educators/Wadsworth Publishers. Henson and his wife, Sharon, live in Charleston, South Carolina, where he serves as dean of the School of Education at the Citadel.

Letty J. (Jones) Rayneri, BA ’69, serves as director of Gifted Education for the Dougherty County school system (Georgia) and serves as president of the Georgia Association for Gifted Children. Rayneri has been published in the Journal of Secondary Gifted Education and accepted by Rooper Review and Gifted Child Quarterly.

1966

Lynn C. LaBouve, MEd ’68, retired on July 1, 2003, from the University of Florida Libraries where she won the University Merit Award. Through 1978, she taught English and reading in the Florida public schools.

1969

Jean L. Dilsaver, BA ’71, has retired after 30 years in the Okeechobee (Florida) district, the last 10 years as a principal. As an adjunct professor for Florida Atlantic University, Dilsaver will begin working for the district as a full-time mentor for new teachers. Named as Teacher of the Year at South Elementary School in 1978, she has received numerous state awards, including a nomination for Distinguished Elementary Principal 2000 by the Florida Association of School Administrators. In spring 2003, she added a certification for ESE.

1972

Helen S. (Freimark) Baimel, BAE ’72, has worked as a police records supervisor with the Miami-Dade Police Department for over 30 years, where she has received the department’s Employee Excellence Award.

Susan C. (Boyer) Schondeimai, BA ’72, MEd ’75, is an elementary school principal in Jacksonville, Florida. She is married to Dallas Johnson, a University of Florida graduate from journalism.

1974

Floretta S. (Small) Bryant, BA ’74, was named Teacher of the Year at her school.

Marlene G. (Seftell) Sanders, BAE ’74, is a guidance director at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Holly (Fletcher) Wilson, BAE ’74, is a guidance counselor at Floral Avenue Elementary School in Bartow, Florida. She was named Teacher of the Year in 1995 for her school.

1980

Steven K. Leivich, BA ’80, MS ’84, is a counselor for Meridian Behavioral Healthcare in Gainesville.

1985

Amelia F. (Pyatt Addair) Buggle, BAE ’85, is the executive director and founder of DLC Nurse and Learn, a school and daycare for children from birth to 21 years of age with severe disabilities and medical problems, including cerebral
palsy, Down’s Syndrome, seizure disorders, Taisacs disease, and more. Previously, she worked as a teacher at Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center (Jacksonville, Florida) where she was named Teacher of the Year in 1989.

Dianne “Dena” (Griffin) Kiss, BA ’85, works as an instructional technology specialist at Anderson Elementary School in Clayton County, Georgia. Currently working on a doctoral degree in educational leadership, she achieved National Board certification in 2002.

Nancy (Weed) Taylor, MEd ’85, a teacher of pre-k handicapped students in Columbia County, Florida, has two movies on the Apple Learning Interchange (www.apple.com/all/digitaledge). Exhibits are entitled “Baby Signs for Pre-K Children” and “Super Slide Shows by Little Guys.”

John J. Carvelli, MEd ’86, serves as chairman of the St. Lucie County School Board in Florida, a district with 32,000 students, 4,000 employees, and 32 schools. He was elected to the board in 1994, and subsequently two more times. Carvelli served as vice-chairman of the Blue Ribbon Committee, State of Florida, for educational governance in 1998.

Virginia “Gini” (Gibson) Geary, BS ’87, MAE ’90, is interim library director and adjunct professor at Matanuska-Susitna College, University of Alaska at Anchorage.

Joanne (Durrance) McFarlin, BA ’87, is a curriculum resource specialist for Manatee County, Florida.

Kelly C. (Fear) Baggett, BAE ’88, teaches 1st grade in Hillsborough County, Florida, and was chosen as the 2003-2004 Teacher of the Year by her colleagues. She and her husband, Clay (BSBA ’91), reside in Tampa with their two-year-old daughter, Shay.

Cristina “Cristy” Hoyo, MEd ‘89, teaches 5th grade at Sunset Elementary School in an international studies magnet program. She has been in Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers, named Teacher of the Year for her school, and has spoken before Congress regarding education. Hoyo is also National Board certified.

Joshua M. Leblang, BA ‘91, MEd ’94, EdS ’94, will be closing his private practice in Whitefish, Montana, to become the clinical director of New Zealand’s Multisystemic Therapy (MST) Program, an intensive community-based and family-focused treatment program for at-risk youth and their families. He will be in charge of providing clinical training in the theory and implementation of MST, provide weekly clinical supervision, and consult on the on-going evaluation of the program (www.mstnz.co.nz).

Laurie A. Bauer, MEd ’92, is an assistant principal at Ft. White High School in Ft. White, Florida. After becoming National Board certified in ELA/AYA in 1999, she was named the Columbia County Teacher of the Year in 2001 and served as a Sino-American Education delegate in 2001. Bauer is a Fulbright Memorial Scholar at the present time.

Michelle I. (Foster) Sammartino, MEd ’92, teaches AP History at Nova High School in Davie, Florida, a school that is ranked in the Top 10 Best Public High Schools in the U.S. by Newsweek. She is also proud to announce the birth of a son, Jackson, in June of this year.

William R. Lotson, BAE ’93, is an assistant principal at Atlantic Community High School in Delray Beach, Florida.

Amy L. Traiger, BA ’94, MA ’95, teaches pre-k special education in Broward County, Florida, and serves as an adjunct professor at Nova University. She plans to begin work on her doctorate in 2004.

Heather P. (Boykin) Lazarus, MAE ’97, is a maternity leave from teaching 1st grade.

Alison A. (Cravey) Atwood, BAE ’99, MEd ’00, teaches 1st grade at Sherwood Acres Elementary School in Albany, Georgia, and is expecting her first child in March 2004. She finished her educational specialist degree in leadership and administration in summer 2003.

Margaret C. Collier, EdS ’99, has been selected as a Fulbright Memorial Scholar to spend three weeks in Japan in October 2003. This trip will provide an in-depth look at Japan’s culture and in particular, its educational system. In April of 2004 she will return to the Crimes to conduct seminars for the teachers of Bakhchisarai where she was a TEA (Teaching Excellence in America) ambassador in 2001 as part of a program funded by the American Council of International Education. She is currently a 6th grade teacher of geography at Millennium Middle School in Sanford, Florida.

Katrina (Willard) Hall, EdS ’99, a doctoral student at the University of Florida who has achieved National Board certification, is also an instructor at FSU Lab School (“Florida High”).

Kira DeGroot, MEd ’00, teaches 4th grade at College Park Elementary School in Ocala, Florida.

Jorine G. Voight, BAE ’00, MEd ’01, is a 3rd grade teacher at Ludlam Elementary School in Miami, Florida, and a curriculum coordinator for the Upward Bound program at Florida International University. She is certified in Early Childhood Education and Varying Exceptionalities and is currently pursuing a specialist degree in TESOL.

Tina (Rinkus) Sines, MEd ’01, received the First Year Teacher of the Year award from her school. She was also honored as the district-wide winner from the Osceola County school district.

Stephanie van Hove, PhD ’01, recently received the 2003 Outstanding Dissertation Award from the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) and will be honored at a special ceremony to be held at the NCSS Annual Conference in Chicago this November.

Melissa A. Campbell, MEd ’02, teaches 7th grade language arts at Summerour Middle School in Norcross, Georgia.