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## Herman and Virginia Sanchez honored for business contributions to Dixie County schools



The Dixie County Schools Teachers of the Year and the students who introduced them are (from left) eleventh grader Sydney Grooms and Dixie County High School Teacher of the Year Mari-Michael Smith, fourth grader Emily Mills and behind her Old Town Elementary School Teacher of the Year Susan Crise, seventh grader Maddi Kight and behind her District Teacher of the Year and Ruth Rains Middle School Teacher of the Year Anne Jones and third grader Bryce Dixon with Anderson Elementary School Teacher of the Year April Kight.

**Story and Photo By Terry Witt Senior Reporter © Feb. 26, 2017 at 8:07 p.m.**

**OLD TOWN** – Dixie County honored Sanchez Farms on Friday (Feb. 24) by naming the business as the Dixie District Schools Business Partner of the Year for 2017.

The Dixie Education-Business Partnership made the presentation to Virginia Sanchez who with her husband Herman has made valuable contributions to the Dixie County School District for many years.

The Sanchez family was honored at a luncheon hosted by Dixie County Superintendent of Schools Michael Thomas.

The family was an FFA Award Sponsor and a quarter-sponsor for several football games in cooperation with the Dixie Quarterback Club, along with feeding the team.

The Sanchez family purchased a portion of the DCHS football scoreboard, offered field trip opportunities to Dixie County students, sponsored banners at Dixie County athletic fields, sponsored advertisements in multiple yearbooks and programs, offered yearly scholarships to seniors, participated in the Suwannee River fair, provided numerous other sponsorships and supported Beta Club.

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Thomas thanked all the business partners who have helped the Dixie County School District provide educational opportunities for students. He noted that today's education system "provides a strong base for economic success in Dixie County."

Also introduced at the luncheon were the four Dixie County Teachers of the Year. Students from the classes taught by the instructors introduced them at the luncheon.

Seventh grader Maddi Kight introduced the District Teacher of the year Anne Jones of Ruth Rains Middle School.

Third grader Bryne Dixie introduced Anderson Elementary School Teacher of the Year April Kight.

Fourth grader Emily Mills introduced Old Town Elementary School Teach of the Year Susan Crise.

Eleventh grader Sydney Groom introduced Dixie County High School Teacher of the Year Mari-Michael Smith.

Thomas introduced the six Educational Staff Professionals of the year.

Earnestine Osteen was the District Staff Professional of the Year from Anderson Elementary School.

Lyndell Howell was the Old Town Elementary School Staff Professional of the Year.

Janet Jones was the Ruth Rains Middle School Staff Professional of the Year.

Susan Kerslake was the Dixie County High School Staff Professional of the Year.

Doris Cavender was the Transportation Staff Professional of the Year.

Serrell Ross was the District Level Staff Professional of the Year.