

2015 Phil Pickens Leadership Award Nominee



Andrea Pender

Special Education Director, Barrow County

««Accolades of Leadership

- *Recipient of 2015 G-CASE Outstanding New Special Educator of the Year award*
- *Grand Marshall in 2013 Parade of Athletes for Special Olympics Barrow*
- *Special Olympics volunteer since 2004*
- *Board Member of SELDA (Special Education Leadership Development Academy)*

««Modeling Collaboration and Partnership

- *Reports to parents at annual Stakeholders Committee meeting on the status of special education compared to rest of the state*
- *Collects and uses parent feedback to guide Parent Mentor's work and to inspire teacher education*
- *Expects Parent Mentor and Adaptive P.E. teacher to lead and grow Special Olympics Barrow County*

««Building Home/School/Community Partnerships

- *Volunteers with her family on Christmas Day with "Share the Blessing" to provide resources to families living in poverty*
- *Serves on the Board of Directors' Executive Committee for The Tree House, Inc., a local child abuse prevention and treatment agency*
- *Instrumental in implementing and continues to actively work to produce the "Yes, I Can" award banquet for students and families*
- *Mentored a student and served as a committee member at a local "Focus School," where improvements led to removal from list*

««Leadership and Involvement with GaPMP

- *Uses skills as a speech therapist and as a special education director to lead*
- *Demonstrates child-focused leadership to achieve student success, parent engagement, and teacher empowerment*



Georgia
Parent Mentor
Partnership