

Clayton legislators honored at breakfast

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Kendrick Middle School held its fourth annual breakfast to honor Clayton County's legislative delegation at the school Wednesday.

The delegation includes state Sen. Terrell Starr, D-Jonesboro; state Sen. Greg Hecht, D-Jonesboro; state Rep. Ron Dodson, D-Lake City; state Rep. Valencia Seay, D-College Park; state Rep. Mike Barnes, D-Hampton; and state Rep. Darryl Jordan, D-Riverdale.

"The whole point is not to get something," said Principal Dan Ray. "The whole point is to give something back. My wife used to work for Steve Cash, a representative in Henry County, and I saw all of the hard work he put in with very little recognition."

Ray said the legislative delegation is responsible for securing a \$5,000 grant for the school this year. The money has been



Photo by
Daniel Lenz

Sen. Terrell Starr, Rep. Darryl Jordan and Rep. Mike Barnes, from front to back, listen during an appreciation breakfast for legislators. The event was held at Kendrick Elementary School.

used to buy a video projection system, a laptop computer as well as other computer

devices.

"This helps us to be on the cutting edge of

technology and enhances our instruction in a way that students have the best possibility for success."

Legislators also discussed legislation and issues they will be considering in the next session of the General Assembly.

"Of course, we want to try to hold on to what we've done for [the school system] already in the budget," Dodson said. "I think the budget will be the key for the entire session. We want to make sure that teachers continue to get pay increases. Anything that we can do for teachers to help them in the classroom is important because helping teachers is helpful to students as well."

Starr said any cuts to the education budget would be small as Gov. Roy Barnes values education.

"I want to make sure that the county commission map is passed," Seay said. "We hope to vote on that at the first of the year. I want to pass a map that's fair and representative of all of Clayton County."