

## **Calhoun City Schools news release on May, 20, 2014:**

"Calhoun City Schools has been made aware that three of its students have been named as suspects in an event reported to have taken place on the evening of May 10, 2014 at a private residence in Gilmer County. School officials continue to fully cooperate with Gilmer County law enforcement. Given the seriousness of the allegations, the Board and administration are concerned that the presence of the identified suspects at Friday's commencement ceremonies would likely cause a substantial disruption and could create an unsafe environment. For these reasons, the suspects will not be attending graduation. Our continued thoughts and prayers are with the victim, her family and all those involved in this tragic course of events.

Counselors, administration and staff are on hand to support our students as they deal with news of these events and will continue to reinforce the importance of making good decisions as young adults. These lessons have been, and will continue to be, reinforced through the delivery of programs such as drug and alcohol education, mock crash reenactments, seminars and other educational opportunities. The school is helping students to focus, cautioning about rumors, and encouraging students to report concerns as they arise.

In three days, Calhoun High School will graduate more than 180 seniors during their spring commencement. It is the hope of the Calhoun City School System and their staff that these recent events will not be a reflection of the graduating class of 2014. From a bounty of scholarships earned for their pursuit of excellence in academics, arts and athletics to the countless state and region championships, this year's graduates exemplify the mission of CCS... to inspire all students to become life-long learners in the pursuit of excellence."