

## Kayla Bates Hartline Candidate for GATFACS President Elect

Kayla Hartline is a 2006 graduate of Chattooga High School and a 2010 graduate of Jacksonville State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education for Family and Consumer Science. Additionally, in 2023, she received a Master of Science degree in Education for Family and Consumer Science from Jacksonville State University.

Kayla's journey in education began with a heartfelt return to her Alma Mater as a substitute teacher. She then embarked on a diverse range of roles at Chattooga High School, guided by the esteemed Family and Consumer Science teachers, Mrs. Darlene Scoggins and Mrs. Betty

McWhorter. From 2011 to 2015, she served as a Special Education Paraprofessional, Workforce Investment Act Coordinator, and Career Technical Instruction Coordinator. These experiences were invaluable stepping stones on her path to becoming a Family and Consumer Science teacher, a role she embraced in the fall of 2016. This is not just a job for Kayla; it's a dream she lives every day, and she is deeply grateful for the opportunity. Her unwavering dedication to teaching the children of Chattooga County is a direct reflection of the profound impact made by the exceptional Chattooga County educators who once taught her.

As the Family and Consumer Science teacher, Kayla serves as the FCCLA adviser. A few highlights from her years of teaching include:

- Honoring Mrs.Darlene Scoggins with the creation of the annual Miss Chattooga County Scholarship Pageant
- Bringing the first Chattooga male competitor to the FCCLA National Convention
- Completing the National Leadership Academy for FCCLA Advisers
- Adding the Nutrition and Food Science pathway to the Chattooga High School CTAE program

Kayla's dedication to her profession and her students was recognized during the 2020–2021 school year when she achieved Industry Certification in the Nutrition and Food Science pathway. That same year, she was chosen as Teacher of the Year for Chattooga High School, a testament to her commitment and excellence in teaching. Additionally, Kayla served as GATFACS Region 1 Vice President and membership chair during 2021–2024, further demonstrating her leadership and dedication to her field.

Kayla's roots run deep in Chattooga County. She was born and raised here, graduated from Chattooga High School, and now calls Summerville home. She is a proud mother to Karson, who attends Menlo Elementary School. Reflecting on her journey, Kayla expresses her profound gratitude for the Chattooga County School system. As a former student, she experienced profound love and support from her teachers and the administration throughout her education. Now, as an educator, she is determined to give back to her community and students with the same support and encouragement that shaped her educational journey. She hopes to extend the support she has received within her Region 1 county to GATFACS and serve as President-Elect.