



## **POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **POARCH CREEK INDIANS DONATE \$12,000 TO THE ACADEMY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AT ESCAMBIA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**

**POARCH CREEK INDIAN RESERVATION**, Alabama – June 3, 2019 – The Poarch Band of Creek Indians (PBCI) recently made a \$12,000 donation to the Academy of Information Technology at Escambia County High School (ECHS) in Atmore, AL. The donation will pay for curriculum and training that will take place during the 2019-2020 school year. “We are excited to be giving back to the community by investing in education, and this will help ECHS further educate the next generation of the IT workforce,” commented Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair and CEO, Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

The Academy of Information Technology, scheduled to open in the fall of 2020, will provide selected students an opportunity to become proficient in computer systems, computer programming, web development, and game design. Enrollment in the academy will lead to industry-based certification opportunities, technology competitions and work-based learning opportunities. Students at Escambia County Middle School are currently taking classes that will prepare them to enroll in the academy.

“This donation given to Escambia County High School has made us one step closer to beginning an Academy of Information Technology,” commented Beth V. Drew, Assistant Superintendent, Escambia County Schools.

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#### **About the Poarch Band of Creek Indians**

The Poarch Creek Indians are descendants of a segment of the original Creek Nation, which once covered almost all of Alabama and Georgia. Unlike many eastern Indian tribes, the Poarch Creeks were not removed from their tribal lands and have lived together for almost 200 years in and around the reservation in Poarch, Alabama. The reservation is located eight miles northwest of Atmore, Alabama in rural Escambia County, and 57 miles east of Mobile.

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is the only federally recognized Indian Tribe in the state of Alabama, operating as a sovereign nation with its own system of government and bylaws. The Tribe operates a variety of economic enterprises, which employ hundreds of area residents. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is an active partner in the state of Alabama, contributing to economic, educational, social and cultural projects benefiting both Tribal Members and residents of these local communities and neighboring towns.

The Tribe’s Planned Giving Campaign includes significant donations to local schools, education scholarships, senior centers, youth athletics, and charitable organizations.



 Date: 5-23-19

Pay to the order of Escambia County Board of Education \$12,000.00

twelve thousand dollars & 00/100

MEMO: Poarch Band of Creek Indians PAID BY: