

## Herndon Elementary School receive backpacks and school supplies from The Atlanta Hawks and Communities in Schools of Atlanta

**C**ommunities in Schools (CIS) of Atlanta teamed up with The Atlanta Hawks to provide much-needed backpacks and school supplies to 120 fourth and fifth graders at Herndon Elementary School in Atlanta. Each official “Junior Hawks” backpack contained Atlanta Hawks pencils and an age-appropriate book donated by CIS of Atlanta. The Atlanta Hawks donated a total of 550 backpacks and 6300 pencils to support CIS of Atlanta’s annual back to school supply drive efforts.

“The Hawks and Thrashers have always been committed to the Atlanta Public School system,” said Courtney Jankovich, Atlanta Spirit Community Development Manager. “CIS of Atlanta helps the Atlanta Hawks connect with area schools through our School Assembly programs and our initiatives to get books into the hands of kids, encouraging them to read”.

Ten-year old Herndon 4th grader, Charria, was excited about her new supplies and had plans to put them to use. “Now, I can stop using my sister’s backpack because I have my own!” Charria said with a big grin.

When asked about her goals for the school year, another Herndon student, Shanquita Rutherford replied, “I want to do good in Math.” With school supplies received through CIS of Atlanta’s partnership with The Atlanta Hawks, Shanquita is well on her way to realizing her goal.

Each year, CIS of Atlanta provides school supplies to students at its partner schools. “It is important that kids begin the school year prepared and ready to learn,” said Andrea Hill, CIS of Atlanta’s Partnerships Manager. “Having the necessary school supplies is a major part of being prepared for school. We appreciate the Hawks’ partnership and their efforts to help kids succeed in school. “

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Since 1972, CIS has been connecting community resources with schools to help kids successfully learn, stay in school and prepare for life. Through its partnerships with Atlanta Public Schools, Project GRAD and DeKalb County Schools, CIS of Atlanta is serving more than 33,000 students and their families at 62 schools.

For more information about CIS of Atlanta, visit, [www.cisatlanta.org](http://www.cisatlanta.org).



***(Back row, left to right) CIS of Atlanta Partnerships Mgr. Andrea Hill, Courtney Jankovich of The Atlanta Hawks and CIS of Atlanta Executive Director Patricia Pflum with Herndon students at the August 30th event.***