

# WCF Grant Award Presentation at Hilton Head Middle School

By Claudia Aller, Past President

WAHHI awarded a \$4,000 grant from our WAHHI Charitable Fund to the **Foundation for Educational Excellence**. And on March 14, we were invited to Hilton Head Middle School to surprise Jim Morton, an 8th grade science teacher, with a \$500 grant! This is one of eight grants funded by the WAHHI Charitable Grant Fund that will be given to Beaufort County teachers.

Founded in 2007, the Foundation for Education Excellence's mission is to seek and sustain county-wide charitable and educational resources that support the mission and goals of the public schools of Beaufort County. The program that WAHHI supported is called "Building a Teacher's Toolkit." **With our award of \$4,000 the foundation can fund eight elementary and middle school teachers** to set up their classrooms with special supplies that go beyond regular school supplies—and are often funded by teachers themselves. Each year many first and second-year teachers complete an application through this program and apply for a grant.



*Left to right: Jim Morton, Hilton Head Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher; Jamie Pinckney, retired school principal and Foundation board member; Claudia Aller, WAHHI Past President; and Clint Austin, HHMS principal*

Last week we surprised Mr. Morton, a popular 8th grade science teacher, with the award in his classroom. It's considered an honor to receive the award from the Foundation, and many folks from the school took part in the surprise for Mr. Morton. He will be purchasing desk dividers for his classroom. Middle school educators reach 100 students a day and Mr. Morton was thrilled **and** surprised to receive this grant that will help brighten his classroom and carve out workspace for his students.