

Channeling her creativity

Library assistant Melissa Hopson has her own business redecorating rooms

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Library assistant Melissa Hopson decorates a bedroom for a client. Ms. Hopson runs her own room makeover business.

Photo courtesy of Melissa Hopson

Melissa Hopson knows how to make a room look special. Ms. Hopson, who is an assistant in the main campus library, spends her time outside of school redecorating rooms. Ms. Hopson started to do room makeovers because, she said, “people would come to my house and like how nicely I do my house and would want me to do their house.”

Raykisha Blanden, director of the school district’s Nathaniel Jones Early Learning Center, asked Ms. Hopson to decorate a teddy bear-themed nursery for her newborn.

“I loved it,” Mrs. Blanden said. “I was more than amazed. I was absolutely amazed. I recommend Ms. Hopson’s services to everybody.”

Adenike Harmon, the school district’s intervention coordinator, asked Ms. Hopson to do a bumblebee-themed nursery for her newborn.

“The room wasn’t (originally) very appealing to me, so when Ms. Hopson did the room, I was surprised,” Mrs. Harmon said. “I just started to cry because I was so happy with the results.”

When Ms. Hopson meets with a new client, she asks to see the room you want redone. Then, she shops for the items she needs and gets to work. She requests that clients are not present while she does the makeovers.

Ms. Hopson not only redecorates rooms, but she also creates décor for special events.

Carla Taylor, the Freshman Center dean of students, hired Ms. Hopson to design the centerpieces and favors for Prom when it was held at the Indianapolis Zoo in 2020.

“She did a phenomenal job,” Mrs. Taylor said. “I am one of those people that can envision what I want, but when I execute those visions I need her help. She put anything together and make it look beautiful.”

Michael Ruth, an exceptional learners teacher, asked Ms. Hopson to help organize the senior breakfast. She made invitations and programs, created a color theme, chose the gifts and decorated the venue, which was the school library.

“I do not have the skills to make the senior breakfast look nice. So I asked Ms. Hopson because she has those skills,” Mr. Ruth said. “She is a very wonderful person and she loves the kids.”

Assistant principal Kurt Benjamin hired Ms. Hopson to create a shadow box for the senior members of Style, the club she sponsors. During previous years, Mrs. Benjamin had bought these gifts from sellers on the website Etsy.

“I knew that Ms. Hopson was creative. So, I asked her to make a shadow box for a reasonable price,” Mrs. Benjamin said.