

GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



School Nutrition Meal Participation Increases



L to R: Annette King, Mayra Barajas, Donna Perron, and Louvenia Richardson

Three schools were recognized by the Georgia School Nutrition Association (GSNA) for outstanding participation in the National School Breakfast Program or National School Lunch Program. Centennial Arts Academy, Fair Street International Academy, and Gainesville Middle School were all awarded for their successful participation rates regarding their meal programs. The schools had to show consistently high or increased participation in one or both of the programs over the last three years. Breakfast and lunch participation can increase due to a number of factors such as food items being offered, taste testing with students, and customer service.

"I am happy to see that students enjoy our great menus, and I am grateful they choose to eat with us every day," says Annette King, Centennial's Cafeteria Manager. "I enjoy seeing all the little faces and big smiles each day - true happiness!" Centennial experienced a 3% increase in breakfast participation, and Fair Street maintained a consistently high breakfast participation with over 50% students eating. Lunch participation at Gainesville Middle School increased by 3%.

The district commends cafeteria managers Annette King (Centennial),



GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

A Georgia Charter System

Jeremy Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board Members

Brett Mercer, Chair
John Filson, Vice Chair
Delores Diaz
Willie Mitchell
Sammy Smith

Important Dates

October 22

Rockin' 50 Paint Party
4:30 p.m.
Location: At the Rock

October 26

GHS Homecoming Parade
On the Square
5:30 p.m.

Louvenia Richardson (Fair Street), Donna Perron (GMS), and their staffs for their accomplishments and recognizes their hard work and dedication in maintaining exceptional school nutrition programs.

GCSS Celebrates Georgia Pre-K's Birthday



Pre-K students enjoy fun activities during GA Pre-K week

The Gainesville City Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) program celebrated Pre-K Week on October 2nd through October 5th. This year marked the 25th birthday of Georgia's Pre-K, which has educated over 1.4 million of Georgia's youth since it began in 1992. The district's Pre-K program had several themed days and activities planned during the celebratory week which included literacy and math activities. On Guest Reader Day, New Holland welcomed guest readers Mr. Sammy Smith from the Board of Education and Mr. Wesley Roach from Enota Multiple Intelligences Academy. They each read a favorite children's book to students to demonstrate the importance of exposing children to reading and to high quality interactions with peers and adults. To culminate the week, Pre-K parents were invited to the classrooms to celebrate Georgia's Pre-K program with students and to experience the quality early learning that happens in our district's Pre-K program.

Making a Positive Impact in the Classroom

October 27

GHS Homecoming Game
City Park
7:30 p.m.

November 6

BOE Work Session
School Board Office
6:00 p.m.

November 10

Progress Reports

November 20-24

Thanksgiving Holidays

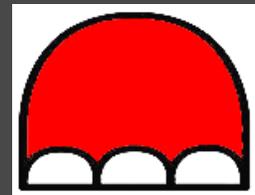
November 27

BOE Meeting
Public Safety Complex
6:00 p.m.

December 4

BOE Work Session/
Regular Meeting
Public Safety Complex
6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events



EVENT CALENDAR

ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS

Help us share our story



GEA's Faculty on Fire Winner - Taylor Lee Munoz

With a passion for serving others as well as for developing nurturing, meaningful relationships with students, Mrs. Taylor Lee Munoz has a unique way of inspiring those around her. Constantly wearing a radiant smile, she maintains a positive attitude and a selfless personality even when faced with challenging situations. As the Faculty on Fire Award winner for Gainesville Exploration Academy, Mrs. Munoz, a third grade teacher, exemplifies a model educator who inspires, nurtures, challenges, and prepares her students for success.

With this school year marking her fourth year teaching at GEA, Mrs. Munoz chose teaching as a profession to make a positive impact in students' lives academically, socially, and emotionally and to be a role model for children of all ages and backgrounds. During her childhood, there were a handful of teachers who strongly impacted her life, and now she wants to reciprocate what was given to her by impacting the lives of her students by building a caring and honest relationship with each student. "I make sure that I greet them every morning with a smile and a big hug, letting them know I missed them and that I am glad that they are at school," shares Mrs. Munoz. "I also make sure they know that I love them before they go home each day, which I feel is so important!"

Mrs. Munoz aims for all of her students to be on grade level academically and ready for the next level at the end of the year. Her goals for her students stem from their individual needs which can be extensive given that different students have different needs. "First and foremost, every student in my class [should feel] like they matter," she states. "They are good enough, smart enough, and brave enough to tackle any assignment or obstacle that may come their way, [and] I believe if I can instill confidence both academically and socially then any student can achieve any goal they set for themselves or that is set for them."

When she is not serving as a Team Leader at GEA, assisting with PBIS projects, or volunteering as a tutor at the Boys and Girls Club, Mrs. Munoz spends her spare time with her husband and family, playing and coaching soccer, and hanging out with her four dogs.

Points of Pride



[District & School Achievements](#)

[GCSS Data Facts](#)

Alumni News



[125th Anniversary Slideshow](#)

[Class of 2017 Achievements](#)

[Class of 2017 College Acceptances](#)

[View the GCSS Alumni Page.](#)

Vision

Our students will think critically, act compassionately, work meaningfully, choose wisely, and live joyfully.

Mission

As *ONE GAINESVILLE*,
we will
INSPIRE,
NURTURE,
CHALLENGE &
PREPARE
our students

She and her husband, Alex, are expecting their first child in April.

In the future, she would be interested in pursuing a leadership role such as an academic coach or counselor but for now she enjoys being on the "front line" which is in the classroom. "I am truly honored to be chosen for the [Faculty on Fire Award]. GEA is filled with such caring and remarkable teachers and staff who deeply love our students," states Mrs. Munoz. "I am surrounded by incredible men and women who are all deserving of recognition, so thank you for this honor!"

Five Scholars Reach for a Higher Education



GCSS 2017 REACH Georgia Scholars

Gainesville City School System hosted its second annual REACH Georgia Signing Day Ceremony on October 16th at the Public Safety Complex. Five Gainesville Middle School scholars along with their parents signed "contracts" committing to satisfying program requirements. Gemima Ntekawa Deko, Abigail Goss, Naomi Reese, Cristian Reyes, and Jonathan Velasquez pledged to maintain good grades, behavior, and attendance as well as to graduate from high school and to enroll into college. Upon the satisfactory completion of all program requirements, these scholars will be awarded a \$10,000 scholarship to a Georgia college or post-secondary institution of their choice.

Gainesville Middle School principal Dr. Rose Prejean-Harris welcomed guests to the ceremony and shared the purpose of the scholarship program. Mayor Danny Dunagan presented the Governor's commendation followed by remarks from Superintendent Jeremy Williams. Ms. Jennifer Herring of the Georgia Student Finance Commission initiated the signing of the commitment forms, and Mr. Bill Kokaly, Field Representative for Congressman Doug Collins, issued Certificates of Congressional Recognition to each scholar. The ceremony concluded with closing remarks and the presentation of chords by Gainesville High School principal Tom Smith. The event

Our Schools

Gainesville High

Gainesville Middle

Centennial Arts Academy

Enota MI Academy

Fair Street International
Academy

Gainesville
Exploration Academy

New Holland
Knowledge Academy

Mundy Mill Academy

www.gcssk12.net

was well attended by city and school officials, business representatives, mentors, families, and supporters.

The school district extends its sincerest gratitude to everyone who made this event possible and to those who provided financial contributions! Thank you for your continued support of our REACH scholarship program!

To view the video featuring our 2017 scholars, please click [here](#).

Gainesville City Board of Education Meeting October 16, 2017



Board Recognitions

The Gainesville City Board of Education meeting was held on Monday, October 16th at the Public Safety Complex. At the start of the meeting, Board Chair Brett Mercer requested for a moment of silence in honor of Dr. Michael Zinn, former GMS assistant principal, followed by the presentation of colors by the GHS NJROTC Color Guard unit.

Fair Street International Academy was the guest school for the evening. Principal Will Campbell recognized the Fair Street Philosophy Reading Club, the Fair Street After School Math Club, and the Faculty on Fire Award winner for Fair Street - Ms. Jessica Miller. Other guests recognized by the Board included: GMS 2017 Reach Scholars, John Kaufman (2018 National Merit Commended Student), Jaileen Brown and Family, Lt. Nathan Bourdeau, SCPO Scott Thomson, Robert Yadon, Jason Nierenhausen (Lifesaving Efforts/Brave HERO Award), New Holland Knowledge Academy (Highest Student Attendance), Mundy Mill Academy (Highest School Employee Attendance), and GCSS Maintenance and Operations Department (Highest System Support Staff Attendance). Board member Sammy Smith presented a board resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of "The Rock", and Board Chair Mercer welcomed Leadership Hall guests in attendance. The Board reviewed,

discussed, and approved the agenda reports submitted by district staff.

To view the board agenda and reports, please click the links listed below.

- [Board Agenda](#)
- [Rock50 Resolution](#)
- [First Quarter System Donation Report](#)
- [Resolution - Mundy Mill Academy Certification of Paid Obligations](#)
- [September 2017 Financial Statements](#)
- [Superintendent's Report](#)
- [Personnel Report](#)

To view the televised meeting, please click [here](#).

Let's ROCK at the Rockin' 50th Paint Party



GCSS will celebrate the 50th birthday of "The Rock" with a "**Rockin' 50th Paint Party**" on Sunday, October 22nd at 4:30 p.m. at "The Rock". The community is invited to join us in celebrating this special occasion.

Community members are asked to bring a rock to paint which will be added to our schools' rock gardens. All GCSS schools will have a tent and/or table at the event, and GCSS alumni are encouraged to visit

their former school's or the Alumni's tent or table to participate in painting activities. Shuttle services will be provided by the GCSS Transportation department from the Gainesville High School parking lot to the Rock to reduce traffic congestion and parking limitations.

To commemorate the 50th birthday of "The Rock", the community is encouraged to send photos of the Rock taken over the past 50 years to rock50@gcssk12.net or click [here](#) to submit photos.

Online Donations Now Available for REACH Scholarship Program



GCSS 2017 REACH Georgia Scholars

Gainesville City School System encourages the community to support our REACH Georgia Scholars program by making a financial contribution to provide an opportunity for select GCSS students to pursue a college education. REACH Georgia is a needs-based scholarship program that pairs middle school students (Scholars) with mentors, coaches and additional resources to prepare them for college and careers. REACH Scholars who successfully complete the program and graduate from high school earn a \$10,000 scholarship paid over four years at a Georgia college or technical college of their choice. 100% of all donations collected will contribute toward REACH scholarships.

Gainesville City School System and Hall County Schools have joined efforts in raising donations for our REACH scholars. Donations can now be made online at www.ngcf.org. Monetary donations to REACH can be made in the Gainesville-Hall Fund at the North Georgia Community Foundation and are tax deductible (501c3). Checks may be mailed to NGCF at 615 Oak Street, Suite 1300, Gainesville, Georgia 30501. (When submitting checks, please note REACH: Gainesville-Hall Fund on the check memo line).

For individuals interested in mentoring REACH scholars, please contact Marie Davis at marie.davis@centerpointga.org. For additional information regarding the GCSS REACH program, please

click [here](#).

**Share your photos & great news @
#OneGainesville**



- **Gainesville City School System - @GCSSK12**
- **Centennial - @GCSS_CAA**
- **Enota - @enotamiacademy**
- **Fair Street - @GCSS_FS**
- **Gainesville Exploration - @GCSS_GEA**
- **Mundy Mill Academy - @GCSS_MMLA**
- **New Holland - @GCSS_NH**
- **Gainesville Middle School - @GCSS_GMS**
- **Gainesville High School - @GCSS_GHS**