



# GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

A Georgia Charter District

Have you "Herd"?

## Happy Thanksgiving

Gainesville City School System will be closed November 19th - 23rd for Thanksgiving break. The school district will re-open on Monday, November 26th. Have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving!

### National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist



l to r: Adam Jobson and GHS Principal Jamie Green

Gainesville High School senior Adam Jobson was selected as a Semi-finalist in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. He is the son of Andrew



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Jeremy Williams, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

### Board Members

John Filson, Chair  
Willie Mitchell, Vice Chair  
Sammy Smith  
Andy Stewart  
Dr. Heather Ramsey

### Important Dates

November 19-23

Thanksgiving Break

December 3

BOE Work Session &  
Regular Board Meeting  
6:00 p.m.

December 21-31

Winter Break

and Elizabeth Jobson of Gainesville.

Approximately 16,000 Semi-finalists were selected throughout the nation for an opportunity to be considered for 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth over \$31 million. They are among the top one percent of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2019 competition by taking the preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Adam represents an elite group of students who demonstrate academic excellence in high school, emerging as strong leaders of the future.

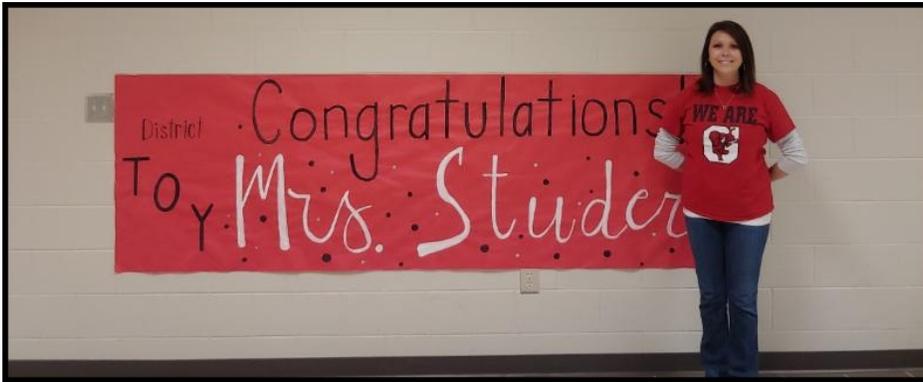
"Gainesville High School is very proud of Adam and all of his accomplishments. His selection as a semifinalist in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program is a reflection of his innate talents and abilities as well as a testament to the incredible support he has received from his family and his teachers," says GHS Principal Jamie Green. "As a semifinalist, he has already earned recognition for achieving in the top 1%. We wish him the best of luck on the next round of selections."

Fifteen thousand finalists will be selected in February 2019 based upon their outstanding academic achievement, high SAT scores, excellent leadership abilities, and participation in various school and community activities. From this group, National Merit Scholarship winners will be determined and announced in April. These scholarship recipients will be among the 338,000 distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title since the program's inception.

Best wishes to Adam in the next round of the competition!

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## District Teacher of the Year



District Teacher of the Year - Amanda Studer

Congratulations to Amanda Studer who was recently selected as the District Teacher of the Year for Gainesville City School System. Mrs. Studer is a third grade teacher at Mundy Mill Learning Academy where she was also chosen as the school's teacher of the year. She has taught in the school district for nine years, serving at Gainesville Exploration Academy for seven years and at Mundy Mill for the past two years.

"I can't put into words how honored I am to be chosen as the Gainesville City Teacher of the Year," says Mrs. Studer. "Over the years, I have been blessed to work with so many wonderful teachers in the system who have inspired and supported me. We are a community that puts our students'

January 1-2

Winter Break

January 3-4

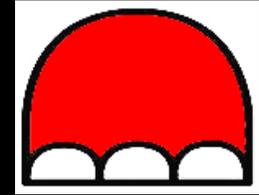
Teacher Planning Days  
Student Holiday

January 21

MLK Day Holiday

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## Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

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## Points of Pride



[2017-18 District & School Achievements](#)

[2017 GCSS Data Snapshot](#)

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[Class of 2018  
Achievements](#)

[Class of 2018 College  
Acceptances](#)

[View the GCSS Alumni Page](#)

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## 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

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## Our Schools

Gainesville High

Gainesville Middle

Centennial Arts Academy

Enota MI Academy

Fair Street International  
Academy

Gainesville  
Exploration Academy

Mundy Mill Academy

New Holland  
Knowledge Academy

needs first, and I couldn't be more proud to represent Gainesville." One of the most important elements in her teaching style is her ability to instill confidence within her students. By creating a comfortable setting in her classroom, Mrs. Studer's students feel secure to make mistakes and to learn from their mistakes. "Confidence is not natural, it's nurtured and teachers have a huge impact on how students see themselves," explains Mrs. Studer. "I teach my students how to show perseverance and to not give up. We celebrate our strengths and successes, but we also learn how to grow from our failures."

As a veteran teacher, Mrs. Studer has had many opportunities to learn what works and what doesn't work; and she isn't afraid to evolve her teaching style or strategies to tailor to the needs of her students. Her advice to first year teachers: "Believe in yourself! It can be overwhelming at times, but [you] are making a difference. Take the time to build authentic relationships with students and their families. This will help build the foundation of trust within the classroom."

There are several reasons why Mrs. Studer enjoys being a teacher. She loves the challenge of instilling a passion to learn within her students, enabling them to evolve into lifelong learners when they continue their journey beyond her classroom. "Being a teacher is more than just numbers, letters, and test scores. It is about inspiring the children who represent the future of our community and building their confidence so they can do anything they set their minds to. Being a part of that journey makes me love coming to work every day."

Earlier in the school year, the district recognized the teachers of the year per school as: Heather Weiser (Centennial), Carolyn Stribling (Enota), Adondra Little (Fair Street), Charity Manomano (Gainesville Exploration), Brianna Caldwell (New Holland), Steven London (Gainesville Middle), and Chandra Karnati (Gainesville High).

The district commends Mrs. Studer and our schools' teachers of the year for inspiring, nurturing, challenging, and preparing our students to be successful within the classroom and beyond.



I to r: Steven London, Chandra Karnati, Adondra Little, Heather Weiser, Carolyn Stribling, Brianna Caldwell, Charity Manomano, and Amanda Studer

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## Schools Honor Veterans For Their Service



Veterans Day celebrated throughout the school district

In recognition of Veterans Day observed on November 11th, GCSS schools honored our military veterans. With student-led programs and patriotic bulletin boards on display, local veterans in our community and schools were celebrated for their service and many sacrifices to our country. Mundy Mill Learning Academy featured a program with a keynote address from Mr. Mark P. Krieger, a Vietnam and Gulf War veteran. Other special presentations included songs from the MMLA chorus, a performance by the GHS NJROTC cadets, and a student recitation. Veterans participated in a Walk of Honor and were treated with a reception after the ceremony. New Holland celebrated similarly with songs from the fifth grade chorus, a drill team presentation, and remarks from Ms. Andreka Thompson, Assistant Principal. Gainesville Middle School had a huge turnout for its Veterans Day celebration which was led by GMS Teacher of the Year and veteran, Mr. Steven London, and student leaders with inspirational messages and speeches.

Overall, our schools hosted memorable celebrations in honor of our veterans. Students and staff showed their appreciation of the many brave men and women who fought for our country so that we can continue to live in the "land of the free".

[www.gcssk12.net](http://www.gcssk12.net)

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## Follow us on Twitter

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@GCSS\_GHS

Gainesville Middle School:  
@GCSS\_GMS

Centennial:  
@GCSS\_CAA

Enota:  
@enotamiacademy

Fair Street:  
@GCSS\_FS

Gainesville Exploration:  
@GCSS\_GEA

Mundy Mill:  
@GCSS\_MMLA

New Holland:  
@GCSS\_NH

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## First Lady Deal Visits Gainesville, Again



First Lady Sandra Deal reads at New Holland

There are two things that we know about Georgia's First Lady - Mrs. Sandra Deal. She enjoys reading to students, and she loves visiting Gainesville! Last month Mrs. Deal visited Enota to read to the Pre-K classes. Last week she visited two of our elementary schools, Centennial Arts Academy and New Holland Knowledge Academy. At Centennial, Mrs. Randi Moore's second grade class had the opportunity to join Mrs. Deal, and at New Holland all of the Kindergarten classes were able to meet her. For both groups, she read one of her favorite books "Buzzy the Bumblebee". She encouraged them to continue learning and reading, explaining to them that "reading can take you anywhere you want to go".

Mrs. Deal is a strong advocate of literacy and early learning and has traveled extensively throughout Georgia reading to students of all ages while promoting the importance of literacy. GCSS is always eager to host Mrs. Deal, and we look forward to her returning to Gainesville soon!



First Lady Deal at Centennial

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## Check Out the Latest Elephant Tracks News



# GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM'S GRADUATION RATE

MAINTAINS ABOVE  
STATE AVERAGE  
AT

# 87.9%



SO PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS & STAFF!

INSPIRE - NURTURE - CHALLENGE - PREPARE



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*We are*



**ainesville**