

# GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



## Gainesville High Earns Local History Award



L to R: Kim Davis, Helen Perry, and Jean Brannon

Gainesville High School was awarded the 2017 Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council (GHRAC) Award for Local History Advocacy in recognition of its 125th Anniversary Celebration event. Nineteen awards were presented by GHRAC and Executive Vice Chancellor Tristan Denley at the 15th Annual GHRAC Archives Ceremony on October 26th in Morrow, GA. The award honors outstanding efforts in archives and records work in Georgia. The individuals who were instrumental in GHS receiving the award due to their roles as members of the 125th Anniversary Committee include: Erin Still, Kim Davis, Helen Perry, Jeff Pierce, Kris Nordholz, Jean Brannon, Neal Hughs, Chip Frierson, Violet Waldrip, Andrea Gilbert, Beverly Nordholz, Janice Young, Linda Hutchens, Linda Cornett, Tom Smith, Sammy Smith, Susan Wooten, Nathan Bourdeau, and Scott Thomson. Special thanks to Kim Davis, Helen Perry, and Jean Brannon for representing Gainesville High School at the awards



**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**

November 6

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

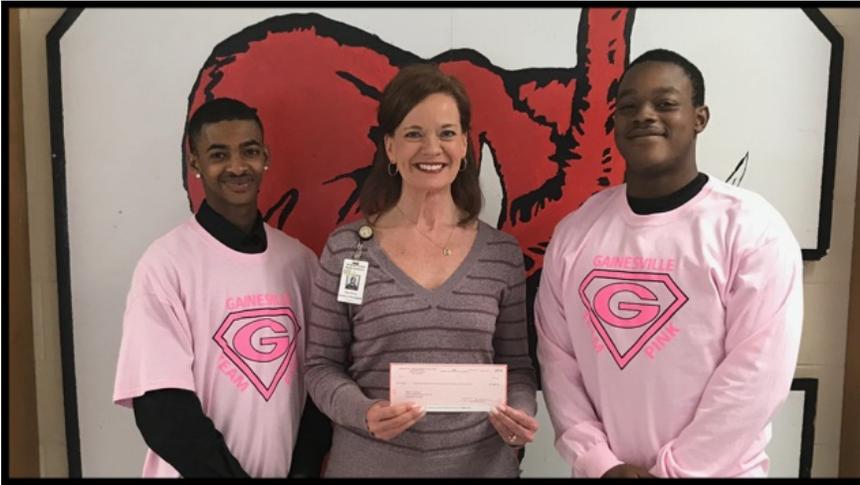
November 10

Progress Reports

November 20-24

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## Stomping Out Breast Cancer with Pretty Pink



L to R: GHS School Store Manager Malik Jones, NEGMC Foundation representative Ellen Defoor, and GHS School Store Associate Daniel Bedingfield

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness month, the GHS Marketing program and GHS Stompin' Grounds school store, led by Steven Cornett, Store Manager Malik Jones, and Sales Associate Daniel Bedingfield, has sold over \$4,700 worth of pink out apparel over the past few weeks. Seventy five percent of all profits was donated to the Northeast Georgia Medical Center Breast Cancer Navigator Program.

The Breast Cancer Navigator program is a free service that extends beyond clinical care by providing guidance, education, emotional support and coordination of care with health care providers to breast cancer patients as they make challenging decisions about their cancer treatment options. Through the program, donations raised by the GHS school store will provide supplies for post-mastectomy patients for medical supplies such as drain belts, bath cloths, and shampoo caps. This contribution will make a tremendous difference in the lives of many breast cancer patients and their families.

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## GMS Thespians Inducted Into New Troupe

November 27

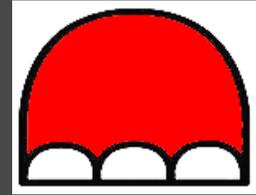
BOE Meeting  
Public Safety Complex  
6:00 p.m.

December 4

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

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## Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS;](#)

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## Points of Pride



[District & School  
Achievements](#)

[GCSS Data Facts](#)

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[Alumni News](#)



**Junior International Thespian Society (l to r):** Steffany Franco, Vince Kiesel, Francine Mohele, Callie Patterson, Brooke Massey, Caroline Bruner, and Makayla Wright

Gainesville Middle School has reinstated the Junior International Thespian Society Troupe under the leadership of Ashley Ware, GMS drama teacher. This is the first time since 2002 that this organization has been active at GMS. Seven new members have been inducted and are eligible to attend the Georgia Junior Thespian Festival in Warner Robins in February. The new members are Caroline Bruner, Vince Kiesel, Steffany Franco, Makayla Wright, Callie Patterson, Brooke Massey, and Francine Mohele.

Members of the Junior International Thespian Society (JITS) are exposed to leadership opportunities at school, state, and international levels, and are eligible for state and international Thespian opportunities including training, mentoring, and assessment from theatre arts educators and stage professionals. JITS encourages student achievement and recognizes the theatrical works of students in all aspects of theatre including performance and production.

## Homecoming 2017 Travels To New Heights



[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

### Our Schools

Gainesville High

Gainesville Middle

Centennial Arts Academy

Enota MI Academy

Fair Street International Academy

Gainesville Exploration Academy

New Holland Knowledge Academy



GHS Homecoming Week 2017

Gainesville High School and the GHS Student Council had a successful 2017 Homecoming! The theme was Around the World in 7 Days with a week full of exciting events. Homecoming Week kicked off with the celebration of the Rock's 50th birthday! Students participated in spirit days, a parade, pep rally, and a homecoming dance. Themed spirit days included Tourist Day, Backwards Day, and "Who Am I?" Day. The week concluded with a huge game win by the Red Elephants football team over Appalachian High School, with the announcement of Homecoming Queen Jada Harrison and Homecoming King Rentavious Buffington during the game's halftime presentation. There was a lot of spirit and fun throughout the week with everyone celebrating Homecoming in "Big Red" style!

## No Tricks and All Treats at New Holland



Halloween was all treats with no tricks at New Holland Knowledge Academy. Students showed off their colorful costumes and received delicious treats during the day. Several teachers joined the excitement, dressing up as Disney princess characters! It was a great day of fun at New Holland then students headed home for an exciting evening of trick-or-treating!

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## **Fostering & Nurturing A Love For Learning**



**Fair Street Academy Faculty on Fire Winner - Jessica Miller**

As a Team Leader at Fair Street International Academy and a tutor for the Boys and Girls Club after-school program, Mrs. Jessica Miller has the model attitude for doing whatever it takes for her students to be successful. She describes herself as a "determined person always seeking ways to improve as a teacher". As the Faculty on Fire Award winner for Fair Street Academy, Mrs. Miller works hard to build a sense of community within her classroom to help her students value themselves and others.

"I believe the best way to engage and foster student learning is for the teacher to become a facilitator," states Mrs. Miller. "Students that take ownership of their learning are actively engaged. I try to allow as much student-directed learning and choice into my classroom as possible." Having worked in the school district for nine years as both a fourth and fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Miller understands the importance of encouraging students and fostering a love for learning through self learning, self motivation, and by letting students know that

it's fine to make mistakes. "I believe that we learn the most when we make a mistake and figure out how to correct it on our own. Students that correct themselves always remember what they have learned." she states. "Self correction also leads to a higher order of thinking and problem solving. Problem solving is a life skill that is very important and can really help students become independent adults."

In her spare time, Mrs. Miller enjoys going to the mountains with her family which includes husband, Terry, and their 14 year-old daughter, Codie. She also enjoys visiting small towns touring through locally owned shops and curling up with a good book to read when her schedule permits. Most of her students and peers may be surprised to know that she is a huge Sci-Fi nerd! "My father, daughter, and I will get a huge bowl of popcorn and watch the cheesiest movie we can find. It is such a fun family treat," she exclaims! It is through her love for family bonding that Mrs. Miller creates that same atmosphere within her classroom - allowing her students to be a part of one big, happy family!

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## **GaDOE Release of 2017 CCRPI Results**

On November 2, 2017, the Georgia Department of Education released the 2017 CCRPI results for districts and schools. The CCRPI is Georgia's statewide accountability system. It measures schools and school districts on a 100-point scale based on multiple indicators of performance, helping parents and the public better understand how schools are performing.

While it is important to note that CCRPI calculations change each year thus limiting the use of true year-to-year comparisons, the district is pleased to report that CCRPI scores have increased at all levels. As a district, the Gainesville City School System scored a 72.2 on the CCRPI, increasing 4.1 points from last year's score of 68.1. Combined elementary scores increased 3.4 points; middle school scores increased 4.5 while high school scores increased 5.4 points. In addition to each school experiencing gains on their overall achievement scores, they also each experienced gains in the percentage of students reading on grade level at the 5th, 8th, and high school levels. These results directly reflect the work our schools have done with implementing the district's Balanced Literacy Framework as well as the intentional focus on providing support to struggling readers through the Read 180 and System 44 reading programs.

Equally pleasing is the recognition that all schools received either a four or five star rating on their climate rating. Climate rating is calculated using data from the Georgia Student Health Survey, Georgia School Personnel Survey, Georgia Parent Survey, student discipline data and attendance records for students, teachers, staff, and administrators. The district applauds the efforts of our schools with implementation of PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and

Supports) and ABCs (Attendance, Behavior, and Classroom Success).

As has been the case in the past, we will continue to analyze the CCRPI data to determine areas of strength as well as opportunities for improvement. We will seek to replicate the strategies that are producing results in order to enhance both growth and achievement for all Gainesville City students.



## **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](http://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](mailto:marie.davis@centerpointga.org). For additional information regarding the GCSS REACH program, please click [here](#).

To hear the heartfelt stories of our 2017 Reach Scholars, please click [here](#).

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#OneGainesville**

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- **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**