

Ninth Annual GCSS 5th Grade Honor Chorus



GCSS Fifth Grade Honor Chorus

On November 8th, the Brenau University Department of Music, in collaboration with the GCSS Choral Department, presented the 9th Annual GCSS 5th Grade Honor Chorus at Brenau University. For the past eight years, the 5th Grade Honor Chorus has been a tremendous success for the participating students and the GCSS choral program under the direction of Mr. Bobby Ivey, Brenau's music education professor, who has spearheaded this event since its inception in 2009. The event has been successful in transitioning 5th grade music students to continue their musical talents and skills as they transverse to middle school. GCSS staff members who were instrumental in coordinating this performance included Dory Moore (Gainesville Middle School Choral Director), Teresa Williams (Gainesville High School Choral Director) and Julia Hamilton (Mundy Mill Learning Academy Choral Director). Many thanks to our GCSS elementary music teachers who prepared their students for the event: Amber Brock (Gainesville Exploration Academy), Lacie Gilliam (Enota MI Academy), Katelyn Paul (New Holland Knowledge Academy), Fancy Pettit (Centennial Arts Academy) and Julia Hamilton (Mundy Mill Learning Academy).

Building School Culture Through Leadership



**GAINESVILLE
CITY SCHOOLS**

A Georgia Charter System

Jeremy Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board Members

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

Important Dates

December 3

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

December 21-31

Winter Break

January 1-2

Winter Break

January 3-4

Teacher Planning Days
Student Holiday

January 21

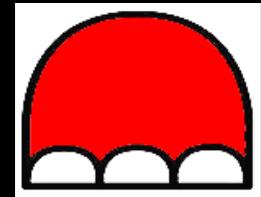
MLK Day Holiday



GHS Student Leadership Team

Student leadership members from Gainesville High School's PBIS STOMP Club, 500 Queens Club, GHS Yearbook, and HOPE Club recently attended the Jostens Renaissance workshop at Milton High School where they learned strategies on how to create and renew school climate and culture for the 21st century. The cohort represented GHS well, winning the dance and spirit competition while gaining invaluable knowledge on building and improving school culture to better serve students' needs and interests. The purpose of the workshop was to help the leadership team learn the best practices to enhance their school's culture and vision while enabling them to network and facilitate discussions with other student leaders from the metro Atlanta area.

Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

Help us share our story



Points of Pride



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

[2017 GCSS Data Snapshot](#)

Planting the Seeds for Student Achievement



GMS Sixth Grade Teacher - Ms. Laverne Duthie

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." This quote from Nelson Mandela is what Laverne Duthie, Gainesville Middle School's Heroes of the Herd award winner for certified staff, truly believes and instills within her students. "Children should always know they have value, worth, and a sense of purpose," says Ms. Duthie. "Each [student] has seeds within [him or her] which educators can nourish and aid [students] to blossom through the formative years to reach their purposes in life. My students know that the bar is high. I often tell them they can achieve more than I have in my own life." Being a member of the GMS

Alumni News

faculty for the past four years as a sixth grade teacher, Ms. Duthie initially entered the teaching profession in 2007 to be readily available to her special needs daughter, Angelica. "It was important for me to ensure her academic needs would be met without delay. I was able to see the education process up close and desired to be an instrument of change for kids no matter their academic level or their status within the community." As a self-described "workaholic", Ms. Duthie works tirelessly to ensure that her students are "change makers". She emphasizes, "They should not "settle" but explore opportunities beyond the normal scope. I want my students to always have the courage to try." Ms. Duthie is deeply invested in making a strong impact on the lives of her students; believing that in order to make a difference as an educator you have to make adjustments to successfully fulfill your students' educational needs. In other words, there has to be change within classroom strategies, instructional plans, and teaching behaviors to adapt to each individual student's learning style to foster academic success among all students.

Ms. Maribel Duarte, the GMS Heroes of the Herd award winner for the classified staff category, can also relate to what Ms. Duthie asserts. She, too, is dedicated to fostering a forceful impact on the lives of students and families. As the Student Services receptionist for GMS, she enjoys working with students and parents in the fast paced school environment in which she is constantly engaging with teachers, students, parents, and the community. Often times, she serves as a trusting mediator to parents and students, and she tries her best to make a lasting, meaningful impression! Her goal is to ensure that the needs of students and families are met serving as a communication liaison between parents and the school. "I love my job, and I am very passionate about what I do." She adds, "Every day I try to be the best and give it my all. Failure will never overtake me if my determination to succeed is strong enough."



GMS Student Services Receptionist - Ms. Maribel Duarte

It's the best of both worlds for the students (and parents) at Gainesville Middle School. They are fortunate to have loving, caring individuals who have a passion for what they do and who are willing to do whatever needed to ensure that students at GMS receive the best quality of education and services imaginable - in order to be the best that they can ever aspire to be!



[Class of 2018
Achievements](#)

[Class of 2018 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

Mundy Mill Academy

New Holland
Knowledge Academy

GHS Golf Alum Earns National Spotlight



GHS alum and UGA junior Spencer Ralston

It's no surprise that Gainesville High School graduate and former Red Elephant golfer Spencer Ralston finished second in the Sun Bowl Marathon All American Classic in El Paso, Texas. Great things are bound to happen with this University of Georgia golfer. During his high school career, Spencer was a key leader in the success of the GHS Boys Golf team, assisting the team in claiming several regional, county, and state titles as well as acquiring numerous individual awards for himself. His talents are undeniable as he continues to excel at the collegiate level as a fierce contender to be reckoned with on the golf course. The best is yet to come, and the "Big Red Nation" supports Spencer every step of the way!

Check Out the Latest Elephant Tracks News



Follow us on Twitter

Gainesville City Schools:
[@GCSSK12](https://twitter.com/GCSSK12)

Gainesville High School:
[@GCSS_GHS](https://twitter.com/GCSS_GHS)

Gainesville Middle School:
[@GCSS_GMS](https://twitter.com/GCSS_GMS)

Centennial:
[@GCSS_CAA](https://twitter.com/GCSS_CAA)

Enota:
[@enotamiacademy](https://twitter.com/enotamiacademy)

Fair Street:
[@GCSS_FS](https://twitter.com/GCSS_FS)

Gainesville Exploration:
[@GCSS_GEA](https://twitter.com/GCSS_GEA)

Mundy Mill:
[@GCSS_MMLA](https://twitter.com/GCSS_MMLA)

New Holland:
[@GCSS_NH](https://twitter.com/GCSS_NH)

Like Gainesville City School
System on
Facebook

**GAINESVILLE CITY
SCHOOL SYSTEM'S**
GRADUATION RATE

MAINTAINS ABOVE
STATE AVERAGE
AT
87.9%



SO PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS & STAFF!
INSPIRE - NURTURE - CHALLENGE - PREPARE



Join our
Mailing List

We are  **ainesville**