

# GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



## District Governor's Honors Nominees Selected



From left to right: Standing-Back Row - Ella Tucker, Joseph Diaz, Ben Burns, Adam Jobson, Delaney Benson - Front Row: Anna Newkirk, Emma Fockele, Grayson Wagner, Matthew Penado, Anne Marie Dye, Mary Nelson Bell - Kneeling: Michael Nguyen, Catie Cook, Kingsley Owusu Otoo

Fifteen Gainesville High School students were recently selected as the Gainesville City District Governor's Honors nominees and will compete at the state level for an opportunity to attend the prestigious Governor's Honors Program. The following students were selected in five categories:

- **Communicative Arts:** Emma Fockele, Adam Jobson, Kingsley Owusu Otoo and Anna Newkirk.
- **Mathematics:** Ben Burns, Grayson Wagner, Ella Tucker and Joseph Diaz.
- **Science:** Mary Nelson Bell and Anne Marie Dye
- **Fine Arts:** Delaney Benson (Theatre) and Mark Toth (Music - piano)



**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**

### December 4

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

### December 4-15

HS Milestone Testing

- **Visual Arts:** Catie Cook, Michael Nguyen, and Matthew Penado

The district nominees will complete an online application and a task/performance related to their subject area. After online submissions from students throughout the state of Georgia have been evaluated, a select number of qualified students will interview at the state semi-finals. State finalists will travel to Berry College in Rome, Georgia during the summer to participate in an intensive four-week program in their areas of study.

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## Centennial Hosts First Spanish Spelling Bee



Spanish Spelling Bee Champions

On November 17th, Centennial Arts Academy held its first Spanish Spelling Bee for grades 1 through 5. To prepare for the event, students studied review sheets of Spanish vocabulary such as days of the week, numbers, colors, and other categories. Students played classroom games to practice, then finally, they participated in formal classroom competitions. In grade 1, the competition was very informal. Grade 2 was more formal, but competitions were held only in each individual classroom since it was some students' first experience participating in a spelling bee.

Grades 3 through 5 each had formal classroom spelling bees. There were two classroom champions for each homeroom (first place and second place). Both champions then competed in the grade level competitions that were held in the gym. Students from all ethnicities enjoyed the friendly competitions, and several parents came out to

December 15

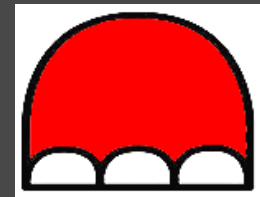
1st Semester Ends

December 18

Winter Break Begins

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## Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

Help us share our story

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## Points of Pride



[District & School Achievements](#)

[GCSS Data Facts](#)

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## Alumni News



[125th Anniversary Slideshow](#)

watch their children compete.

It was exciting to see the students rally around their classroom champions who were the stars for the day! The four grand champions won an ice cream party for their homeroom. The grand champions were Maylene Cortes (3rd grade), Abigail Maldonado (4th grade), and Lesly Chavez and Bryan Perez Juarez (5th grade champions -tie).

Congratulations to the champions and to all of the participants for their outstanding performance in Centennial's first ever Spanish Spelling Bee competition!

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## Gainesville Exploration Earns State Award



Congratulations to Gainesville Exploration Academy on being selected for the Greatest Gains Award at the Gold level by the Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA).

Governor Nathan Deal, along with GOSA, recently announced that 226 Georgia public schools in 54 districts will receive Highest Performing or Greatest Gains school awards, an increase of 8 schools over last year.

"Congratulations to the educators and administrators in Georgia's award-winning schools who have exceeded expectations in preparing their students," said Deal. "By implementing the best methods for teaching young minds, educators at Highest Performing and Greatest Gains schools are going above and beyond to help their students develop the skills needed for future success. Young minds are Georgia's most valuable resource and we appreciate the schools across the state working to provide each student with an opportunity to succeed."

[Class of 2017  
Achievements](#)

[Class of 2017 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

New Holland  
Knowledge Academy

Mundy Mill Academy

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

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The school awards, developed by GOSA and approved by the State Board of Education, are part of Georgia's Single Statewide Accountability System (SSAS). Highest Performing schools must earn a three-year average College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) Achievement Score that ranks in at least the 93rd percentile. Greatest Gains schools must earn a three-year average CCRPI Progress Score that ranks in at least the 93rd percentile. Each award category has a Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze tier.

The 2017 Greatest Gains award winners consist of 139 schools across 50 districts and the 2017 Highest Performing award winners consist of 142 schools across 24 districts. Fifty-five schools in 17 districts are award winners in both categories.

The district is proud of the students and staff of Gainesville Exploration Academy for their hard work and tremendous efforts in focusing on continuous academic achievement within the classroom.

## **Gainesville City Board of Education Meeting November 27, 2017**



**Board of Education Special Recognitions**

The Gainesville City Board of Education Meeting was held on Monday, November 27th at the Public Safety Complex. Special guests recognized by the Board included: Mundy Mill Academy (Highest Student Attendance), Gainesville Exploration Academy (Highest School Employee Attendance), GCSS Maintenance and Operations Department (Highest System Support Staff Attendance), National Art Society and Sarah Claussen, AP Science Students and Teacher Laura Elsarelli (Chemoween Celebration), Sarah Claussen (Faculty on Fire Award), GCSS School Nutrition Department (GaDOE Golden Radish Award - Silver Level), GHS One Act Play Cast & Crew, Mrs. Pamela Ware, and Ms. Teresa Williams (Region winner and State Qualifier), GHS Boys Varsity Cross Country Team and Coach Adam Miller (Region winner and State Qualifier), GMS Boys Cross Country Team and Coach John Corbett (Hall County Champions), GMS Girls Cross Country Team and Coach John

Corbett (Hall County Runner-up), and GHS Competition Cheer Team and Coach Brett Dillin (Third Place Finish in Region and State Qualifier).

The Board reviewed, discussed, and approved agenda reports as submitted by district staff. To view the agenda and reports, please click the links listed below.

- [Board Agenda](#)
- [2018 Meeting Dates](#)
- [Overnight Field Trip Requests](#)
- [School Choice and Zoning for FY18](#)
- [AED's](#)
- [Personnel Report](#)
- [Policy JBC - School Admissions](#)
- [Policy JBCCA \(2\) - Unsafe School Choice Option](#)
- [October 2017 Financial Statements](#)
- [Cooling Tower Repair \(GEA\)](#)
- [Food Service Equipment \(New Enota School\)](#)
- [2018 Legislative Priorities](#)
- [Superintendent's Report](#)

To view the video of the meeting, 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**