

# GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



## National School Counseling Week February 5 - 9, 2018



Please show some "love" for our amazing School Counselors during National School Counseling Week on February 5th through 9th by sending a kind note or words of gratitude. Our School Counselors put their hearts into their profession! They go above and beyond in helping all of our students with their individual needs each and every day! We love our School Counselors!

## Multiple Intelligences Showcased At Enota



**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

### February 5

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

### February 6

Progress Report



Students and their families enjoy annual Enota fair

Enota MI Academy recently held its annual Multiple Intelligences Fair on January 25th. This year the school decided on a carnival theme in which students created their own carnival games. All fourth and fifth graders researched, drew blueprints, and created games made of recycled materials. The top twenty games were then chosen to be displayed and played at the MI Fair. Second and third graders brainstormed and created their own putt-putt courses. Kindergarten and first grade students got in on the fun and made slime to hand out as prizes for the games.

Many students and their families came out to the event to enjoy an evening of fun for all ages. It was a wonderful time for Enota parents to see all the amazing things that students had created and to be a part of a fun-filled event that united teachers, families, and the community.

## Reading Teams Compete In District Bowl



February 19-22

Winter Break  
(Weather Make-up)

February 23

Teacher Planning  
(Weather Make-up)

March 8

End of Third Grading  
Period

March 13

Report Cards

March 30

Teacher Planning  
(Weather Make-up)


## Upcoming Events



EVENT CALENDAR

ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS

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## Points of Pride



2017-18 District & School

On January 30th, the GHS Reading Bowl Team hosted its third annual GCSS District Reading Bowl Competition of the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl (HRRB) Program. Gainesville Middle School and the elementary teams were responsible for reading the Georgia Children's Book Nominees for the 2017-2018 year. Gainesville High School also competed for the preparation of the regional level of competition and was responsible for reading all of the Georgia Peach Nominees for 2017-2018.

The competition consisted of three rounds of questions with 5-person teams playing each other. GHS and GMS advanced to the regional competition by virtue of being the only schools in their division. Centennial Arts Academy, Fair Street International Academy, and Gainesville Exploration Academy competed in the elementary division. Centennial won first place and Fair Street claimed second place, with both schools advancing to the next level. The teams will compete in the North Regional Reading Bowl Competition at Pickens County Middle School on Saturday, February 3rd. The top two schools in each level will then advance to the Divisional Bowl on March 3rd.

This year the Most Valuable Players for each team were also awarded and were the following: Kinsleigh Teasley (Centennial), Thomas Podkaritovas (Fair Street), Lorena Davila and Will Tims (Gainesville Exploration), Gabriella Campbell (Gainesville Middle), and Christy Nguyen (Gainesville High).

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## Alumni News



[125th Anniversary Slideshow](#)

[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

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## Students Tackle Homework Debate



Students debate an interesting topic

Fourth graders at Fair Street International Academy had an interesting class activity. Students were engaged in a real debate with a real judge - Judge Elizabeth Reisman of Hall County Magistrate Court. The debate was in regard to whether students should or should not have homework. Debaters were able to share their persuasive arguments regarding their views on homework. It would have been an even more interesting debate if parents had joined in the arguments - since they know how much students prefer to NOT have homework! Of course, this was an interesting challenge for Judge Reisman considering that she had to preside over this hot topic!

Fair Street teacher Ms. Karen McCusker along with Ms. Joy Holeman decided to conduct the debate as a method to assist students working on Opinion Writing to help them gain reasons and examples for their papers. The day prior to the debate, students worked in small groups to determine the pros and cons of having homework. For the debate, the room was set up as a mock courtroom with those students who agreed that they should have homework on one side and those who opposed homework on the other side. Students were then individually asked by Judge Reisman to take an oath prior to stating their opinions which was: "Do you promise to state your opinion and provide details and examples to support your opinion?" After each student made his or her statement, the opposing side was allowed to ask questions.

At the end of the debate, Judge Reisman made her verdict. While she agreed that both sides made some great points, she ruled in favor of students having homework. She clarified that students should have meaningful homework to establish a routine that would help them when they enter middle and high school.

The debate was a great learning strategy that allowed students to hear their peers' thoughts on the topic and helped them to get ideas to write their papers. The students enjoyed completing the writing assignment but hoped that it would not become homework!

Academy

Gainesville  
Exploration Academy

New Holland  
Knowledge Academy

Mundy Mill Academy

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



**Check Out the  
Elephant Tracks News  
Each Week**





**(Located in the Right Sidebar)**

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