

# GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



Happy Spring Break

The Gainesville City School System will be closed for Spring Break, April 3 - 7th.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday!

## GMS Highlights Academic Excellence



GMS Junior Beta Club Induction Ceremony

Gainesville Middle School students participated in induction ceremonies for Junior Beta Club and the Junior Honor Society on March 24th in the school's gymnasium. Scholar students were honored for their academic excellence and outstanding character in front of their families and friends. Both programs began with a welcome by GMS principal Dr. Rose Prejean-Harris, followed by



**GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS**

A Georgia Charter System

Wanda Creel, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

### Board Members

Brett Mercer, Chair  
John Filson, Vice Chair  
Delores Diaz  
Willie Mitchell  
Sammy Smith

## Important Dates

April 3 - 7

Spring Break Holidays

April 10

BOE Work Session

April 17

BOE Meeting

remarks from Superintendent Dr. Wanda Creel who highlighted the significance of academic achievement. Junior Beta Club inductees pledged to maintain honesty, truthfulness, credible scholastic achievement, ethical manners and to be good representatives of their school and community. Junior Honor Society inductees pledged to maintain high standards for scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character. The new members agreed to be "Ready, Respectful, Responsible Role Models" and to act in good faith as ambassadors of their school.



GMS Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony

## Young Artists Showcase Creativity in Art



GHS art students showcase their artwork

Gainesville High School artists featured their unique artworks in the Charles J. Thurmond Youth Art Scholarship Competition and the Kiwanis Club of Gainesville's Visual Arts Showcase. Students entered

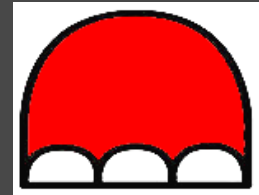
April 17-21

ES & MS Milestone Testing

April 18

Progress Reports

## Upcoming Events



EVENT CALENDAR

ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS

Help us share our story

 Forward to a Friend

## Points of Pride



District & School  
Achievements

GCSS Data Facts

## Alumni News



125th Anniversary  
Slideshow

over 70 works of art in the event and won 10 out of the 24 Youth Month Awards offered to Hall County and Gainesville City schools. The following students won awards: Catie Cook (Second Place), Esmeralda Paez (Honorable Mention), Huynh Phan (Second Place), Sarah Hastings (Third Place), and Arianna Alvarado (Honorable Mention). Huynh Phan's artwork "Arbor" also won the "Best in Show" award, and Huynh was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to her college choice.

Artists who won the National Marine Society Awards will have the opportunity for their art to be featured at the state level which will be on display at the National Marine Exhibition this fall. The winners are Jose Hernandez (Second Place), Zuliana Hererra (Third Place), Sarah Hastings (Honorable Mention), and Amy Velazquez (Honorable Mention).

The students' artworks are currently on display at the Quinlan Visual Arts Center now through April 8th. The community is invited to come out to view the remarkable art collection created by these talented young artists.

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## FCCLA Heads To Nashville for Nationals



FCCLA winners advance to Nationals

FCCLA students are ready to hit the road to visit the "Music City of the USA" to compete in the southern city known for its connection to the country music industry. In July, FCCLA Star Event competitors will travel to Nashville, Tennessee to compete in the FCCLA National Leadership Competition and Conference. During the recent FCCLA state competition, Gainesville High School's FCCLA chapter won the Honor Roll with Distinction Award for the group's hard work and participation in local, state, and national programs.

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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

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

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The state competition winners include the following: Riley White and Caroline Reames (First Place), Arianna Alvarado, Bianca Ortiz and Danna Flores (First Place), Ashley Dabney (First Place), Emy Bueno (Second Place). All first and second place winners advanced to the national competition.

Students who excelled in the region and state competitions were: Daniel Bedingfield (Fifth Place), Lizbeth Martinez (Sixth Place), and Aaron Sosa (Third Place). Ashley Cruz competed in the Baking and Pastry division and did an excellent job.

Congratulations to each of these students for their remarkable achievements! We are proud of them!

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## **Building A Foundation That's Family Strong**



**Mighty STOMP Leader Award  
Renee Boatright**

One of the most significant roles of a school administrator is building a solid relationship with students, teachers, support staff, parents, and the community. School leaders must establish relationships that bring everyone together as if they were a close knit family. Gainesville Exploration Academy prides itself on being a school that is "Family Strong" under the strong leadership of Ms. Renee Boatright. Ms. Boatright, the district's Mighty STOMP Leader Award winner for this quarter, aims to create a nurturing learning environment by listening to students and families and establishing lasting relationships with them.

"As an administrator, I want to build on the importance of collaboration and teamwork," says Ms. Boatright. "A positive attitude begins with you and spreads throughout the school."

As the principal of Gainesville Exploration Academy for the past five years, Ms. Boatright supports, coaches, and guides her staff so that they are equipped with the resources needed to help GEA students succeed. Motivated by professional growth in teachers and academic growth in students, Ms. Boatright says, "A strong school team with a

shared vision can make a difference in student growth and achievement. Having served twelve years within the Gainesville City School System, her past positions as a second grade teacher, EIP teacher, and assistant principal have given her much insight on the key elements needed to run a great school. "We must trust, support and lift each other daily," says Ms. Boatright. In fact, her primary advice for school leaders is to "listen intently, set high expectations, and build lasting relationships with staff".

With a passion for serving her students and their families, Ms. Boatright was destined to be a leader who leads with a kind heart, always sharing words of encouragement and finding the positive side in any situation. "I believe that sometimes in life, we are led down different paths for a reason. My path lead me to GCSS," says Ms. Boatright. "I [am] impressed by the closeness of the GEA families and willingness of the staff to go beyond academics to build relationships with their students. What a powerful and humbling experience it is to be a part of Gainesville Exploration Academy." Ms. Boatright is notable for being the loving matriarch of the GEA family. Because of her warm personality and endearing leadership style, GEA is a school that is "#FamilyStrong", built with a strong foundation that will last a lifetime.



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## Join Us For Enota's Heritage Celebration



Enota Multiple Intelligences Academy will host a Heritage Celebration on Sunday, April 30th from 1:30- 3:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to come out and celebrate Enota's rich heritage as the school prepares for a new chapter in its history - the construction of the new Enota school. For additional information about the event, please click [here](#).

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## Recruiting Seminar and Sports Physicals



The Gainesville High School Athletic Department will host a Recruiting Seminar and Sports Physicals Session on Tuesday, April 11th at GHS. The seminar will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Pam Ware Performing Arts Center and will feature recruiting expert and former coach AJ Gwyn. As part of the school's partnership with Northeast Georgia Physicians Group, all middle and high school athletes will be provided physicals at 3:30 p.m. in the GHS new gym.

For additional information, please view the attached flyers.

- [GHS Recruiting Seminar Information](#)
- [GHS Sports Physicals Information](#)

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## Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessments



Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessments are coming soon. Students in grades 3 through 8 will be administered English Language Arts and Mathematics assessments while students in grades 5 and 8 will also be administered Science and Social Studies assessments. For additional information, please click [here](#).

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## Job Fair for GHS Seniors



Gainesville High School will host a Job Fair for the GHS Senior Class on Friday, April 21st from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the GHS Alumni Gym. This event is open to all Gainesville/Hall County businesses or organizations that are interested in hiring students for full-time or summer employment. Please contact Helen Perry at [helen.perry@gcssk12.net](mailto:helen.perry@gcssk12.net) or 770-503-5090 by Friday, March 31st for additional information and to register your business or organization for the event.

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## Support Our REACH Scholarship Program



2016 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. To download a pledge form, please click [here](#). For additional information regarding the REACH program, please click [here](#).

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## GHS Honorary Diploma Nominations



2016 HD Graduates: Jackie Wallace, Dr. Bill Coates and Mary Ellen Murray

Gainesville High School is currently accepting nominations for 2017 Honorary Diploma nominations. This honor is bestowed to individuals who are part of the GHS community but who are not GHS graduates and whose achievements and strong support of GHS traditions are reflective of the true Red Elephant pride and spirit. Nominations are due by April 15th and should be submitted to GHS principal Tom Smith via email at [tom.smith@gcssk12.net](mailto:tom.smith@gcssk12.net) or via mail at 830 Century Place, Gainesville, Georgia, 30501. Please click [here](#) for additional information.

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## Your Opinion Matters To Us





Parents and guardians of GCSS students are strongly encouraged to complete the online AdvancED parent survey to share opinions to help target areas of improvement for the school system. The survey can be accessed on the district website ([www.gcssk12.net](http://www.gcssk12.net)) or by clicking [here](#). Please be assured that responses will be anonymous, and parental input is greatly appreciated. For additional information or if there are any questions, please contact Priscilla Collins at [priscilla.collins@gcssk12.net](mailto:priscilla.collins@gcssk12.net) or 770-536-5275.

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**#Cheersto125years**

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**Advancing  
A Tradition of Excellence!  
#OneGainesville  
#RoadtoGraduation**

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- **Gainesville City School System - @GCSSK12**
- **Centennial - @GCSS\_CAA**
- **Enota - @enotamiacademy**
- **Fair Street - @GCSS\_FS**
- **Gainesville Exploration - @GCSS\_GEA**
- **New Holland - @GCSS\_NH**
- **Gainesville Middle School - @GCSS\_GMS**
- **Gainesville High School - @GCSS\_GHS**

**GCSS Mobile App**  
GCSS is proud to announce its very own mobile app!

*GCSS is now live!*

*Here are some amazing features to look forward to and things you can do with the GCSS app:*

Notifications	Calendar
<p>Make sure you select "Yes" to receive Push Notifications so you can receive all breaking school news. These notifications will be used to provide information on early/late start and school closings.</p>	<p>The school wide calendar of events and athletic events at the tip of your finger! Add the events that you are interested in to your native phone calendar so you never miss them!</p>

Download the GCSS Mobile App through **App Store**, **Google Play**, or **Window Store** to access the latest information while on the go! Features such as Calendar of Events, Directions, Faculty and Staff Directory, Emergency and District Alerts, Helpful Links, and Current News can be accessed through our mobile application. **"Go Mobile"** with GCSS!