

GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



Teamwork Main Focus of Big Red Rally



GCSS Big Red Rally 2017

The district held a "Big Red Rally" for all new and returning employees on August 1st at the Gainesville High School gymnasium. Teachers and staff were transported to the event courtesy of the GCSS Transportation department and were greeted upon their arrival by the GHS "Big Red Machine" band and GHS cheerleaders. The GHS JROTC cadets opened the rally with a presentation of the colors. Dr. Jeremy Williams who served as the Master of Ceremony emphasized this year's theme "Teamwork" and the importance of working together as a team to achieve a common goal of educating all of our students. As part of the festivities, each school participated in fun, engaging games that required teamwork as well as critical thinking.

During the rally, the Teachers of the Year for each school were recognized as: Sissy Elliot (Centennial), Lindsey Gailey (Enota), Eve Reeves (Fair Street), Taylor Lee (Gainesville Exploration), Whitney McFalls (New Holland), Diane Fielden (GMS), and Susan Wooten (GHS). Several lucky winners won door prizes sponsored by Georgia Power, Office Pros, JGeyer, Lanier Islands, Chick-Fil-A, LongStreet Cafe, Jaemor Farms, Wilson Orthodontics, Brusters, Image Boutique, and Gainesville Parks and Recreation. Northeast Georgia Physicians Group (NGPG) provided treat bags for all of our employees.



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

August 7

BOE Work Session

August 21

BOE Meeting

September 4

Labor Day Holiday

The school that claimed the title as the "Big Red Rally Champions" and winner of the coveted red elephant trophy was Gainesville Exploration Academy. It was a great way to kick off the school year, and the message conveyed to our employees was "As a united team, we can achieve anything as One Gainesville"!



Teachers of the Year (L to R): Susan Wooten, Diane Fielden, Taylor Lee, Eve Reeves, Sissy Elliot, Lindsey Gailey, and Whitney McFalls

Much Excitement on First Day of School



First day of school goes smoothly at GCSS

Summer is officially over! The much anticipated day has finally arrived (and passed) - "the first day of school"! On August 2nd, the school system opened its doors to approximately 8000 students eager to begin a new year of learning. For those students entering the

September 6

Progress Reports

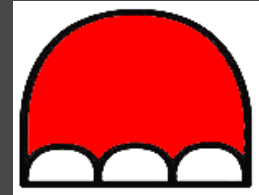
September 5

BOE Work Session

September 18

BOE Meeting

Upcoming Events



EVENT CALENDAR

ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS

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Points of Pride



[District & School Achievements](#)

[GCSS Data Facts](#)

Alumni News

middle school and high school, there was a bit of anxiety as they learned their way around their new schools. For many students, the day involved becoming familiar with new teachers, learning new class policies, seeing old friends, and trying to locate their classes.

Centennial Arts Academy and Enota MI Academy are sharing a campus this year until the construction of the new Enota school is completed. Although challenges were anticipated, the first day for both schools went extremely well. Leslie Frierson, principal of Centennial Arts Academy, stated, "For a year filled with "lots" of changes...the day was "fabulous"! She explained, "Both the Centennial and Enota staff have gone above and beyond to step in and help smooth transitions. This year is a living example of #OneGainesville!" Teachers and staff at Enota have created an interesting moniker for their school known as the Enota Adventure Campus. Enota Principal Wesley Roach shared, "We had a great first day at the Enota "Adventure Campus". I heard several parents comment about how pleased they were with how smoothly things went. With the first day behind us, we are prepared to make some adjustments that we believe will help make things even better. But, overall, the first day was a big success!"

Administrators at other school campuses all had positive reports about their first day experiences. Fair Street Principal Will Campbell said, "It was like a well-oiled machine. We only had one Kindergarten student cry and one Kindergarten student got home late on the bus. Today was like it was the 10th day of school. We have a great staff who readied themselves for our children and families today. Great job!"

"The first day of school at New Holland was filled with anticipation and excitement on the part of our teachers, students, and parents," stated New Holland principal Pam Wood. "The faculty and staff were well prepared and receptive as our students arrived either by bus or car. We truly feel that this school year is off to a great start and will continue to grow and expand in learning experiences for our students."

With fewer students than normal at Gainesville Exploration Academy due to them being enrolled at Mundy Mill Academy, everything went smoothly at both campuses. Renee Boatright, GEA Principal, stated, "GEA students had an amazing first day of school! Parents, students and teachers were all smiles! We look forward to the next 179 days with our students." Dr. Crystal Brown, principal of Mundy Mill Academy, confirmed that her students also had a wonderful day: "Our boys and girls had a chance to get to know their classmates better by sharing stories of their summer experiences. The students were given a tour of the building and were taught school-wide procedures. We're looking forward to a year of new beginnings."

Overall, all of our schools had a great first day, and if the first day is a precursor of what is yet to come, GCSS is going to have an outstanding school year!



[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

Baby Elephants are Ready to C-H-E-E-R



Baby Elephant Cheer Camp 2017

The GHS Varsity Football Cheerleaders hosted the Baby Elephant Cheer Camp at the GHS Alumni Gym on July 17th-20th. Over 45 campers ranging from ages 3 to 14 learned cheers and dance moves during the four day camp. The campers also created arts and crafts and cooked a variety of snacks. The young "cheerleaders to be" enjoyed learning new skills and techniques from the varsity cheerleaders who they consider as their role models. The community will have an opportunity to see the Baby Cheer Elephants in action during the Elephant Walk on August 18th at 6:00 p.m. at City Park! These young cheerleaders are ready to cheer their favorite chant for the Big Red Elephants - "Let's Go Big Red!!!"

Teachers Learn New Math Strategies



Teachers at New Holland engage in new classroom strategies

Can teachers learn new things at school? Of course, they can! Since

students are encouraged to learn new concepts, teachers can learn new teaching strategies too! New Holland teachers and staff spent their first day back to school participating in "Math in the Fast Lane" training with Suzy Pepper Rollins! Mrs. Rollins spent the day teaching math strategies to teachers and paraprofessionals to increase student engagement and rigor in the curriculum. The school's administrative team frequently provides professional development workshops to teachers and support staff to ensure that they remain knowledgeable about the best instructional strategies to maximize student learning.

GCSS Schedule Adjustment for Solar Eclipse



Please click [here](#) for important information regarding the adjustment to the regular school day schedule on August 21, 2017 due to the pending solar eclipse occurrence.

GCSS Proof of Residency Requirements



All students attending the Gainesville City School System are required to provide two updated proofs of residency to the school that they attend.

Acceptable proofs of residency include one of the following:

- non-contingent sales contract
- current lease/rental agreement
- most recent income tax return or IRS Form 1099
- current paycheck stub
- current warranty or quit claim deed
- current home purchase agreement
- current homeowner's insurance policy

Additionally, one of the following must be provided:

- current gas bill (within last 30 days)
- current water bill (within last 30 days)
- current electric bill (within last 30 days)
- current cable/internet bill (with service address within last 30 days)
- Students who are non-residents will be required to submit one proof of residency from the list in order to verify mailing address for the school.

Students who do not present valid proofs of residency by September 1st will be withdrawn as of that date.

Parents and guardians should contact their child's school for any questions concerning this process.

Online Donations Now Available for 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.

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. 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. For additional information regarding the GCSS REACH program, please click [here](#).

#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**