

GHS Honorary Diplomas

Purpose:

To acknowledge and celebrate individuals who are part of the GHS community who are not GHS graduates, but whose extraordinary achievements or support of GHS traditions represent the character and spirit of a legendary Red Elephant.

Criteria for selection of honorees:

- Candidates for an honorary diploma must be living and able to accept the diploma at GHS' graduation ceremony.
- Candidates may have attended but must not have graduated from Gainesville High School, EE Butler High or Fair Street High.
- Gainesville City School System faculty, staff or board members will not be eligible for nomination until three years after active service has ended.
- Honorees will be clearly aligned with the mission of GHS and will fulfill one or more of the following:
 - An individual who has made a notable contribution of time, talents or resources to GHS
 - An individual who inspires and encourages current and past GHS students
 - A community member who achieves state or national prominence
 - A member of the Gainesville business, civic, health, education or philanthropic community that makes a significant contribution to the local community
 - A non-community member with direct ties to GHS who achieves state or national prominence

General Guidelines:

- The selection committee will be the GHS Governance Council plus the honoree(s) from the previous year.
- Nominations may be made by any GHS student, alumni, past or present employee, and past or present member of GCSS School Board or GHS Governance Council.
- None or up to three Honorary Degrees will be conferred in any given year, but the GHS Governance Council may make exceptions.
- Nominees from one year may be considered in future years.
- Nomination forms will be available on the school's website.
- The deadline to receive completed nomination forms is April 15.
 - Please mail or email completed applications to GHS Principal, Tom Smith or Dawn Jordan.
 - 770-536-4441 – tom.smith@gcssk12.net – dawn.jordan@gcssk12.net
- The GHS Governance Council will decide and notify Honoree by May 1.
- The Honoree's name(s) will be announced prior to graduation.
- Honorary Diplomas will be presented annually during the GHS commencement ceremony, and the honoree will wear cap and gown to publicly receive the diploma.

Nomination Form
GHS Honorary Diploma

Nominee:

Name: _____

Address: _____

High school nominee attended or graduated _____

Business phone: _____ Home phone: _____

Email address: _____

Nominated by:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Business phone: _____ Home phone: _____

Email address: _____

GHS Mission:

The mission of Gainesville High School is to promote life-long learning, citizenship, and responsibility by providing challenging programs of study and activities in a nurturing learning environment while encouraging unity among diverse cultures and involving all stakeholders in the achievement of school goals.

Please provide the following in support of this nomination:

- 1) A brief biographical sketch of the nominee including education, career, accomplishments, awards, etc.

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- 2) A brief summary listing specific ways the nominee has met one or more of the following criteria:

- An individual who has made a notable contribution of time, talents or resources to GHS
- An individual who inspires and encourages current and past GHS students
- A community member who achieves state or national prominence
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- 3) Why you believe the nominee is aligned with the mission of GHS: