

GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



Counselors Help Students Reach Potential



GCSS School Counselors (l to r) - Wendy Savitz, Elizabeth Jones, Duduzile Siphambili, Carol Ann Ligon, Michael Jackson, Melody Granger, Matilde Garmley, JD Mutchler, Kayla Waters, Kim Hall, Rakia Marcus, Tannia Wood, and Monica Hayman

School counselors were honored nationally during National School Counseling Week held February 6th - 10th. This year's theme "School Counseling - Helping Students Realize Their Potential" focused public attention on the unique contributions of school counselors within the school systems nationwide. National School Counseling Week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), highlights the tremendous impact school counselors have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

Today's school counselors are vital members of the education team. They are qualified to address all students' academic, career and social/emotional development needs by designing, implementing, evaluating and enhancing a comprehensive school counseling program that promotes and enhances student success.

Dr. Ursula Harris, GCSS School Social Worker, states, "GCSS Professional School Counselors are on the front-line providing support and guidance to students, teachers, and parents regarding the academic success of our students as they work towards being college and career ready, while also addressing the social and



**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

February 20

Teacher Planning
(Weather Make-up)

BOE Meeting

March 6

BOE Work Session

emotional needs of a diverse student population. They are to be applauded for the tremendous work they do to inspire students and change lives!"

The school district appreciates our counselors' dedication in serving our students' needs. The GCSS counseling team includes Kayla Waters (Centennial), Carol Ann Ligon (Enota), Kim Hall (Fair Street), Duduzile Siphambili (Gainesville Exploration), Elizabeth Jones (Centennial/GEA), Tannia Wood (New Holland), Matilde Garmley (GMS), Monica Hayman (GMS), Melody Granger (GMS), Michael Jackson (GHS), JD Mutchler (GHS), Rakia Marcus (GHS), and Wendy Savitz (GHS). We thank each of our amazing counselors for their tremendous efforts in nurturing the wellbeing of all students.

Girls Have the Power to Succeed



Middle and high school students focus on "Girl Power"

Forty four young ladies from Gainesville Middle School and Gainesville High School attended "Girl Power" at Brenau University on January 28th. Girl Power is a workshop sponsored by Women Source Inc. offered each year to middle and high school girls. The purpose of the workshop is to provide educational resources to empower young women to achieve their goals. The workshop which targeted bullying included several sessions that focused on addressing issues and concerns that girls often face during their teenage years. Guest speaker Mrs. Tracie Berry-McGhee, founder of SistaKeeper Empowerment Center, discussed the effects of bullying and explained to the girls how to become their own unique person. She shared strategies to help the teens define themselves in a positive manner. From this workshop, the students gained a better insight on how to utilize their "power" to reach their dreams and to become successful young women in life.

Students Celebrate Academic Gains

[March 9](#)

End of 3rd Grading Period

[March 10](#)

Teacher Planning
(Weather Make-up)

[March 13](#)

4th Grading Period Begins

[March 14](#)

Report Cards

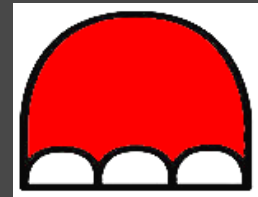
[March 20](#)

BOE Meeting

[April 3 - 7](#)

Spring Break Holidays

Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

Help us share our story

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

Points of Pride

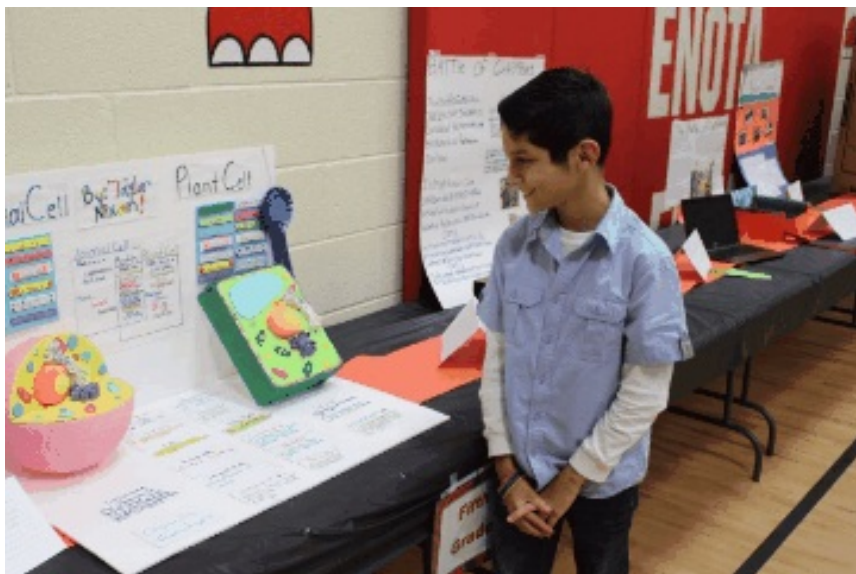




Students participate in school-wide parade

Fair Street students celebrated their academic growth in Reading, Math, and Classroom assessments on Friday, February 3rd with a celebratory parade in the school's hallways. All grade levels participated in the exciting event with students waving hand-made signs boldly displaying their achievements. It was a huge milestone for students especially for those who worked diligently in improving their academic performance. As they marched up and down the hallways, the students cheered for each other - proud of the accomplishments that they had achieved as a result of their hard work, determination, and perseverance.

Enota Showcases Multiple Intelligences



Students and their families enjoy Enota's fair

What do wolves, Benjamin Franklin, and Enota students all have in common? They were all at Enota's Multiple Intelligences fair held on Thursday, January 26th at Enota. It was a great opportunity for students to showcase their unique "smarts" while having a great time.

[District & School Achievements](#)

[GCSS Data Facts](#)

Alumni News



[Class of 2016 Achievements](#)

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

There were many activities for students and their families to do and several exhibits for them to see at the annual event. Students enjoyed showing their "body" smarts in ballet and karate demonstrations. Students with more musical preferences demonstrated their ability to sing in the karaoke room. Artistic students enjoyed making "fair hair" - crazy hair creations for their friends and family.

One of the most popular attractions was the zoo. Located in the school gym, the zoo included wolves, armadillos, lemurs, and an albino snake over 12 feet in length! It was a wonderful time for the Enota community to see all the amazing things that Enota students had created and to be a part of a fun-filled event that united teachers, families, and the community.

Reading Bowl Team Advances To Divisionals



I to r: Ruth Moreno (Co-Captain), Esme Paez (Co-Captain), Sara Quinteros, Emma Fockele, Christy Nguyen, Michelle Razo, Hiram Martinez, Kathryn Smith, Jennifer Jimenez, and Natasha Enriquez

Congratulations to the Gainesville High School Reading Bowl team on capturing first place in the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl (HRRB) North Regional Competition on Saturday, February 4th hosted by Gainesville Middle School! There were 13 elementary schools, 12 middle schools, and 6 high schools participating in the event, with a total of 31 participating schools. The GHS team tied the first round of the competition and went on to win the remaining three rounds to secure their win for the high school division. The team advanced to the HRRB Divisional Competition to be held on February 25th. Team members include Ruth Moreno (Co-Captain), Esme Paez (Co-Captain), Sara Quinteros, Emma Fockele, Christy Nguyen, Michelle Razo, Hiram Martinez, Kathryn Smith, Jennifer Jimenez, Natasha Enriquez, and Pratyusha Karnati. GHS Media Specialist Ms. Susan Wooten serves as the team coach. The team worked extremely hard in preparation for the event and focused on achieving their end goal - which was to win. We wish them the best of luck at the divisional competition.

Also, congratulations to Centennial, Enota, and Gainesville Middle School Reading Bowl teams for their outstanding performances at the regional competition. We are proud of these teams for their amazing representation of our school district.

Gainesville City Board Work Session February 6, 2017

The Gainesville City Board of Education Work Session was held on Monday, February 6th at the School Board Office. Board Chair Brett Mercer welcomed Leadership Hall County guests in attendance. The Board reviewed and approved agenda items submitted by district staff.

To view the board agenda and reports, please click the links listed below.

- [Board Agenda](#)
- [Overnight Field Trips](#)
- [Update on Letters of Intent/Transfer Requests](#)
- [Stay Interview Results](#)
- [Donation Reports - Fourth Quarter 2016](#)
- [FY18 Budget Timeline](#)
- [Capital Projects Update](#)
- [Science and Social Studies Professional Development](#)
- [Reading Universal Screener Results, DIBELS Composite, Grade Level Report, Reading Inventory](#)
- [Personnel Report](#)
- [Second Reading of Policy EEC - Food Services Record](#)
- [Title IA Comparability](#)
- [Per Diem Rate for the Board](#)
- [Potential Master Plan - Tri-Campus](#) and [Minutes](#)
- [Superintendent Search Update](#)

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) 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 or 770-536-5275.

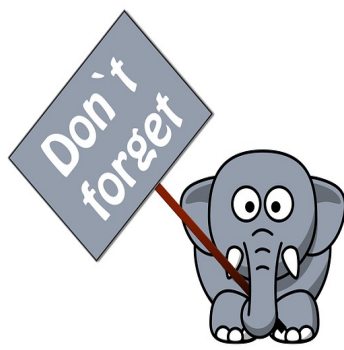
GCSS 125th Anniversary Celebration



The Gainesville City School System will host a celebration of the 125 year anniversary of the establishment of the system on Sunday, February 26, 2017, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Gainesville High School Front Lobby. All alumni, current and former faculty and staff, friends and family are invited. To submit pictures for the slideshow, please send to 125years@gcssk12.net. For additional information, please email beverly.nordholz@gcssk12.net.

#Cheersto125years

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



- **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:

 <p>Notifications 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>Calendar 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!

