

# GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



## GCSS 125th Anniversary Celebration



It's time for a celebration!! The community is invited to attend the 125th anniversary celebration of the Gainesville City School System on Sunday, February 26th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Gainesville High School. Admission is free. There will be many artifacts on display in various locations throughout the high school spanning over 125 years. A dedication ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the event to officially commemorate Deshaun Watson Way (formerly Touchdown Drive). To view a map of the event, please click [here](#).

Please come out and bring the entire family to enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, refreshments, and an opportunity to view memorabilia collected over many decades! You will not want to miss this exciting event!

## Centennial Jumps with A Lot of Heart



**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

### March 6

BOE Work Session

### March 9

End of 3rd Grading Period

### March 10

Teacher Planning



Students jump rope for a "hearty" cause

Students at Centennial Arts Academy raised approximately \$8,000 through Jump Rope for Heart for the American Heart Association. The fundraising event enabled students to show their jump roping skills while raising money to help children with heart conditions. The students had lots of fun jumping rope but, most importantly, they learned the importance of staying healthy and the value in making a difference in the lives of others.

Coach Kirklan Moore and Coach Lewis Perry got students pumped up for the fundraiser by offering creative rewards like sliming their teachers and principal. For each grade level, the class that raised the most money got a chance to "pour on the slime". The students really enjoyed sliming Principal Leslie Frierson; and although she was not totally thrilled about being "slimed", she eagerly relented since it was for a worthy cause. Without a doubt, Centennial students, teachers, and staff give back to the community with a lot of "heart"!

### March 13

4th Grading Period Begins

### March 14

Report Cards

### March 20

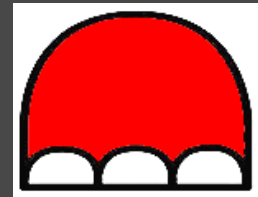
BOE Meeting

### April 3 - 7

Spring Break Holidays

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## Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

Help us share our story

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

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## Points of Pride



[District & School Achievements](#)

[GCSS Data Facts](#)

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[Class of 2016 Achievements](#)

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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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Teachers and principal get slimed

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## GHS Track Teams Dominate Relay Event



Track teams compete at West Hall

On Friday, February 17th, the Gainesville High School Boys and Girls Track teams competed in the West Hall Relay Invitational at West Hall High School where the girls finished third place overall and the boys finished in first place overall. A total of twelve teams around the region competed in the event.

In the Girls' Mile relay event, Sophie Rosetti set a personal record (PR) and finished in fourth place, and Kore Johnson finished ninth. The Girls' 4x200m and 4x600m relay teams finished a strong third place while the Sprint Medley Relay teams finished third as well, narrowly missing out on second place.

For the boys' team, Daniel Ruiz, Jaquay Thompson, and Daniel Constantini finished fourth, sixth, and seventh in the mile relay respectively. The boys swept the 4x100m relays, 4x200m relays, 4x800m relays and the 4x400m relays with first place finishes in each event. The Distance Medley relay team and Sprint Medley relay teams finished second overall, and the 800m Sprint Medley Relay team also finished in second place overall.

Congratulations to all of the Gainesville High track stars who set personal records at the event. The teams competed exceptionally well in the first outdoor meet of the season, and Track Head Coach Wayne Jones is anticipating a great year with this talented group of athletes.

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## Classes Unite To Create Unique Garden



Classes design and create an aquaponic garden

Have you ever seen an aquaponic garden? In case you haven't, stop by the GHS main office to see the school's new garden, a joint project by students in FCCLA, AP Human Geography, Culinary Arts & Construction. An aquaponic garden is a self-sustaining garden that uses the waste from fish to feed plants and the roots of the plants to clean the water before it filters back to the fish.

AP Human Geography teacher Sandy Rivera and FCCLA sponsor/Culinary Arts instructor Whittney McPherson co-taught their classes on the topic of sustainability. They then paired with GHS Construction teacher Darrell Lucas to learn how to build the garden. The project was an excellent hands-on learning experience for both the students and teachers involved. If you ever need assistance building an aquaponic garden, you may want to request the services of our GHS students and teachers - since they are now expert gardeners!

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## **New Elephant Unveiled At City Park**



**Several people attend the unveiling at City Park**

On Monday, February 20th, approximately one hundred people gathered for the unveiling of the new marble elephant at City Park Stadium. The magnificent figure was donated by Mr. Jack Frost, owner of Memorial Park Funeral Home, after receiving input from the late Mr. James "Bimbo" Brewer, a former GHS Red Elephant alum.

"It was a celebration of Red Elephant tradition with lots of old timers mingling with newcomers," said Mrs. Beverly Nordholz. "It brought back so many memories of the past along with a feeling that those who have passed are still with us in spirit." The five ton elephant now sits majestically at the "elephant walk" entrance of its new location affectionately known as the "home of the Big Red Elephants"!

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## **Gainesville City Board of Education Meeting February 20, 2017**



Special guests recognized at BOE meeting

The Gainesville City Board of Education Meeting was held on Monday, February 20th at the Public Safety Complex. Special guests recognized by the Board included the following: Gainesville Exploration Academy (Highest Student Attendance), Gainesville High School (Highest School Employee Attendance), GCSS School Nutrition (Highest System Staff Employee), GMS Regional Stock Market Winners (Andy Arias, Martin Panuco-Zuniga, Noe Vasquez, Jose Vargas, and Ever Ramirez) and Coach Cara Mulkey, GMS Regional Science Fair Winners (Silver Medalists: Sebastian Martinez and Pablo Tamayo and Bronze Medalists: Ansley Nolan and Dannya Pacheco) and Coach Hannah Reaume, GMS Robopachyderms and Coach Troy Nasworthy (Lego Robot Design Award), GMS Spelling Bee Winner Emily Mosqueda-Calderon and Runner-Up Jomaris Maldonado, Elementary System Spelling Bee Winner Erick Willock and Runner-Up Kamyab Cornett, Enota Reading Bowl Team and Coaches Kyle Sanders, Jenny Mathes, Denise McConnell (District Reading Bowl Winners) and Centennial Reading Bowl Team and Coach Katherine Anglin (District Reading Bowl Runner-up), Mr. & Mrs. Arana and Daliyah Arana (Fair Street Book Donation), Fair Street International Academy and Dr. Kim Hall (2016-2017 RAMP School).

Board Chair Brett Mercer recognized the Leadership Hall guests in attendance. The Board reviewed and approved the agenda reports as submitted by district staff. To view the agenda and reports, please click the links below.

- [Board Agenda](#)
- [Gainesville Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer Facility Use Requests](#) and [Addendum](#)
- [Personnel Report](#)
- [Second Reading of Policy GBRIB\(1\) - R\(0\) - Regulation for Professional Personnel Sick Leave Bank](#)
- [Final Adoption of Policy EEC: Food Services Records](#)
- [January 2017 Financials](#)
- [Gainesville High School Technology](#)

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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**  
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.

**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!

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!



