

GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



GCSS Registration and Choice Enrollment



Gainesville City School System is pleased to offer school choice enrollment for the upcoming school year. The district has established elementary zone clusters in order to improve transportation services. This may result in parents having to provide transportation outside of their child(ren) assigned cluster. Gainesville City School System will provide transportation services within students' assigned cluster. Click [here](#) for the full press release.

- [2018-2019 Attendance Zones](#)
- [2018-2019 Attendance Clusters](#)

Guiding Students to Reach for the Stars



GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

A Georgia Charter System

Jeremy Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board Members

John Filson, Chair
Willie Mitchell, Vice Chair
Sammy Smith
Andy Stewart
Dr. Heather Ramsey

Important Dates

February 19-22

Winter Break
(Weather Make-up)

February 23

Teacher Planning
(Weather Make-up)



L to R: (Front Row) Betsy Escamilla, Stacey Cothren, Dr. Kim Hall, Dee Siphambili, Melody Granger - (Back Row) Michael Jackson, Rakia Marcus, JD Mutchler, Dr. Monica Hayman - Not pictured: Kayla Waters, Carol Ann Ligon, Tannia Wood, Matilde Garmley, Wendy Savitz

School counselors were honored nationally during National School Counseling Week held February 5th - 9th. This year's theme "School Counseling - Helping Students Reach for the Stars" focused national awareness on the many contributions of school counselors within school districts nationwide. National School Counseling Week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), recognizes the impact school counselors have in helping students reach academic success.

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

Leigh Sears, Director of Student Engagement and Intervention, states, "School counselors are advocates for students' success with Academics, Behavior, and Classroom Success (ABCs). School counselors help to bridge opportunities between K-12 education and successful futures. They teach each of us to use our voice, listen to our hearts, and remind us that we can live the kind of life we've always envisioned."

The school district appreciates our counselors' dedication and commitment to serving the needs of our students. The GCSS counseling team includes Kayla Waters (Centennial), Carol Ann Ligon (Enota), Dr. Kim Hall (Fair Street), Dee Siphambili (Gainesville Exploration), Stacey Cothren (Mundy Mill), Tannia Wood (New Holland), Matilde Garmley (GMS), Dr. Monica Hayman

March 8

End of Third Grading
Period

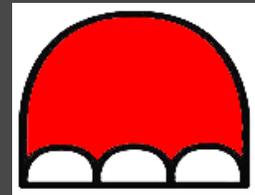
March 13

Report Cards

March 30

Teacher Planning
(Weather Make-up)

Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

Help us share our story

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

Points of Pride



[2017-18 District & School
Achievements](#)

[2017 GCSS Data Snapshot](#)

Alumni News

(GMS), Melody Granger (GMS), Betsy Escamilla (GHS), Michael Jackson (GHS), JD Mutchler (GHS), Rakia Marcus (GHS), and Wendy Savitz (GHS).



Empowering Girls To Better Themselves



Young ladies learn to establish healthy relationships

Several young ladies from Gainesville Middle School attended the 2018 Girl Power seminar on January 27th at the Brenau Downtown Center. Sponsored by WomenSource, Inc., Girl Power is an annual workshop for middle and high school-aged girls and the women who mentor them. The one-day workshop is provided at no cost to participants due to financial contributions from donors, sponsors, and grants.

With this year's theme being "Better Me Better We", keynote speaker Dr. LeeAnn Gardner encouraged middle and high school girls to establish "healthy relationships" within their lives. Breakout sessions focused on topics such as healthy friendships, romantic partnerships, and social media relationships, and discussions were held regarding how to understand and control emotions. Sessions were also offered to parents and educators, emphasizing the importance of building good relationships and communication with teenagers. The workshop was a great learning resource for the young ladies, providing invaluable advice and guidance on how to build and maintain healthy relationships with peers and adults.

Aspiring Artists Impress Local Art Experts

[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



Art students receive critiques from art professors

Gainesville High School Visual Arts students attended the second annual Portfolio Review Day hosted by the National Art Honors Society on January 28th at the Quinlan Arts Center in Gainesville. Art professors from the University of North Georgia, Brenau University, Savannah College of Arts and Design, Young Harris College and Piedmont College were onsite to review portfolios from these aspiring artists. The experts commented on their interaction with the students, describing them as inspirational, motivated, and talented. Approximately 20 participants, 15 from GHS and 5 from local area high schools, attended the event.

The benefit of a portfolio review is to guide art students toward their creative destination. The opportunity of a professional critique and mentorship helps to prepare the students for post secondary transition. Each student gets approximately 10-15 minutes with each art professor for a meaningful review of strengths and areas of growth, and time to learn about various degree programs that match their interests.

GHS Visual Arts instructor Sarah Claussen states, "I network with regional high school art teachers so that the event benefits other like minded students, plus our National Art Honor Society group enjoys mingling with artists of their age range. This is my second year hosting the event at the Quinlan Arts Center. I am also a board member and one of my objectives is to create educational opportunities for youth artists. It is an invaluable experience for our youth artist community, and we are grateful that these professionals volunteer to dedicate time with us! "

Other visual arts accomplishments include student awards for GHS students Anakate Lloyd and Luis Castaneda for their photography work. These students submitted work into the 37th Annual College & High School Photography Contest by Photographer's Forum Magazine. As a result, both students' work will be featured in the 2017 Best of College & High School Photography publication which is a national publication and honorable achievement. Additionally, Anakate and Luis are finalists of the Photographer's Forum contest which awards monetary and equipment prizes.

Congratulations to all of the Visual Arts students for their outstanding artwork and excellent representation of Gainesville High School!

The Elephant in the Room



Basketball players assist students with class assignments

Let's talk about the RED Elephant in the room. The GHS Boys Basketball team decided to take a break from the court and go to a different classroom this week at Enota MI Academy. Players spent time talking, reading, and working on classwork with fifth grade students. By volunteering their time, the high school players gave back to a community that supports them every season on and off the court.

KaJuan Hale stated, "Helping the elementary students in class and talking about being a high school student gave me a chance to see just how far I have come as a student." As the players took time to read with students, they were able to influence the fifth graders regarding the importance of learning as much as they can now so that this becomes a continuous routine. Brent Kelly encouraged the students to "read as much as they can, anything they can" and emphasized that "it will make a difference".

As the team enters region competition this week, they took time from their busy schedules to reach out to their young fans and share the pride of being a RED ELEPHANT with the future stars in the classroom and on the court.

**Gainesville City Board of Education Meeting
February 5, 2018**



Board Recognitions for February

The Gainesville City Board of Education Work Session/Regular Meeting was held on February 5th at the Public Safety Complex. Gainesville Middle School was the guest school with recognitions highlighting the GMS Student Council, GMS Science Fair Regional Qualifiers, and Faculty on Fire Award winner Charles Graham. Special guests recognized by the Board included: Mundy Mill Learning Academy (Highest Student Attendance), Gainesville Exploration Academy (Highest School Employee Attendance), GCSS School Board Office (Highest System Support Staff Attendance), Teachers of the Year (Sissy Elliott (District and Centennial), Lindsey Gailey (Enota), Eve Reeves (Fair Street), Taylor Lee Munoz (Gainesville Exploration), Whitney McFalls (New Holland), Diane Fielden (GMS), Susan Wooten (GHS)), Mr. Barry Stinson (GHS Teacher Grant Donor), Grant Recipients (Teresa Leach, Kristy Smith, Lara Mallard, Sarah Densmore, Yolanda Gomez), Robotics Team Volunteer (Dawn Watkins), and GCSS School Counselors (Kayla Waters, Carol Ann Ligon, Dr. Kim Hall, Dee Siphambili, Stacey Cothren, Tannia Wood, Matilde Garmley, Melody Granger, Dr. Monica Hayman, Betsy Escamilla, Michael Jackson, Rakia Marcus, JD Mutchler, Wendy Savitz).

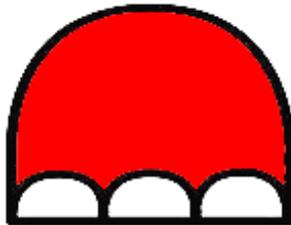
The Board reviewed, discussed, and approved the agenda reports as submitted by district staff. To view the agenda and reports, please click the links below.

- [Board Agenda](#)
- [Overnight Field Trips](#)
- [Facility Request](#)
- [Technology Update](#)
- [Academic and Student Services Plans and External Funding Update](#)
- [Letter of Intent Summary](#)
- [2018-2019 Attendance Zones](#) and [Attendance Clusters](#)

- [Personnel Report](#)
- [Budget Approval for GHS](#)
- [Superintendent's Report](#)



**Check Out the
Elephant Tracks News
Each Week**



(Located in the Right Sidebar)

**Share your photos & great news @
#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**