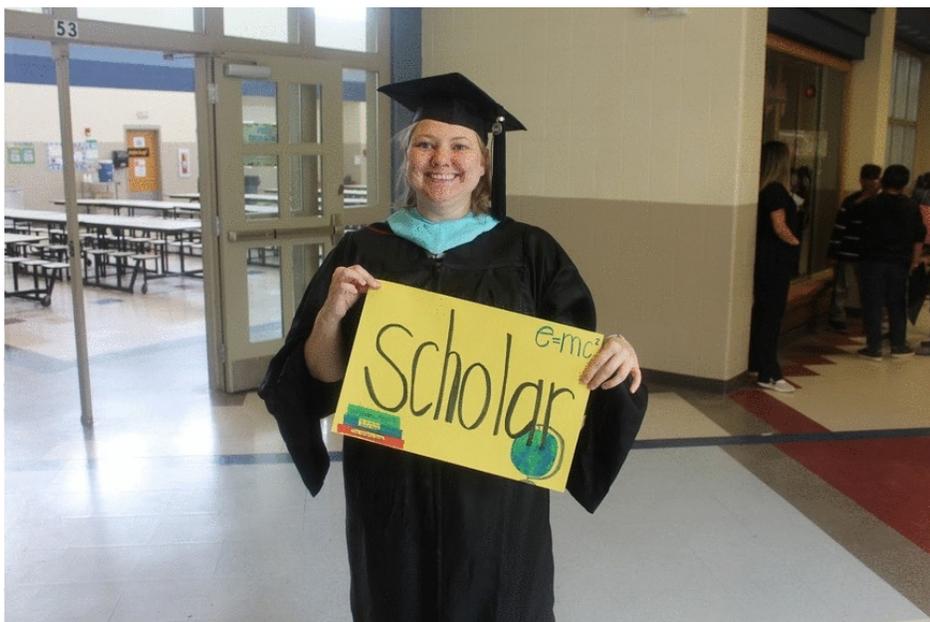


A Parade That's Worth A Thousand Words



New Holland students and teachers march in their first Vocabulary Parade

Students at New Holland Knowledge Academy have learned thousands of words this year! On March 29th, they had an opportunity to show off some of their words at the first New Holland Vocabulary Parade. Students and teachers created posters to show one of the words they have learned in various ways. Many students chose to wear costumes that represented their words as well. Everyone paraded through the halls celebrating and showing off their new words with parents cheering the students along the way as they proudly marched in their first ever vocabulary parade.

Taking the First Step to the Staircase to Success



**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

May 6

BOE Work Session &
Board Training
School Board Office
6:00 p.m.

May 20

May 24

Last Day of School

GHS Graduation

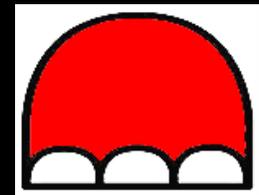
May 27

Memorial Day Holiday

May 28-29

Staff Planning Days

Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

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Points of Pride



[2018 District & School
Achievements](#)



GEA's Heroes of the Herd Winner (Certified Staff) - Ms. Suzanne Cindea

"For as long as I can remember, I have wanted to be a teacher," shared Suzanne Cindea, a third grade teacher at Gainesville Exploration Academy and 2009 graduate of Gainesville High School. "My teachers in elementary school inspired me to be a teacher because I wanted to impact students the way they impacted my own life. When I was in their classes, I felt so valued and that I could do anything, and it's because of those teachers."

Ms. Cindea, who was selected for the Heroes of the Herd Award for certified staff at Gainesville Exploration Academy, focuses on influencing her students and impacting their learning by inspiring them to go out into the world and make it a better place. "You don't always have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step (a quote that she often uses from Dr. Martin Luther King). I want my students to believe in themselves and their ability to succeed. I want them to go into every experience excited for the new knowledge they will gain through that experience," she stated. "I try my hardest to meet my students where they are and find what encourages them, as well as make the learning opportunities in my class applicable to their lives. I use their background knowledge to shape my instruction. I also meet with my students on a regular basis to discuss with them their goals for their learning. I show them the goals I have for them and ask them to create their own goals. This has really helped my students' enthusiasm for learning!"

Ms. Cindea wants to inspire her students in the same way that her mother inspires her. "My mother is my inspiration for her strength and courage. Even as she battled cancer, she always had a smile on her face and still went out of her way to help others. She inspires me to face my battles head-on and help others when I can," she stated. "Simply put, my students inspire me. I strive to be a better teacher and person each day so that I can help them as they grow."

Community Molds Future Student Leaders



Alumni News



[Class of 2018
Achievements](#)

[Class of 2018 College
Acceptances](#)

[View the GCSS Alumni Page](#)

Gainesville High School students who were selected for the 2018-2019 Featherbone Communiversy Academy recently completed their participation in the academy which was commemorated at the 2019 Masters in Teaching...Life Changers at Work event at Brenau University. Georgia's State Teacher of the Year, Allison Kerley, served as the keynote speaker at the event where eight local teachers in Gainesville and Hall County were also honored including GCSS teachers Loredana Simonca of Gainesville Exploration Academy and Jessica Chambers of New Holland Academy.

The Featherbone Communiversy Academy is comprised of students from Gainesville High School, Lakeview Academy, and East Hall High School. The objectives of the academy are to teach students to grow personally and professionally, discover future community builders, give back to the community, understand mastery in all careers, and understand the concepts of "Communiversy".

A \$2500 scholarship was awarded to GHS student Jeniah Jeffers. The scholarship is given annually to a member of the Featherbone Communiversy Academy in memory of Gus Whalen, who was the founder of Communiversy.

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

Mundy Mill Academy

**Follow us on
Twitter**



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@GCSSK12

Gainesville High School:
@GCSS_GHS

Gainesville Middle School:
@GCSS_GMS

Centennial:
@GCSS_CAA

Enota:
@enotamiacademy

Fair Street:
@GCSS_FS

Gainesville Exploration:
@GCSS_GEA

Mundy Mill:
@GCSS_MMLA

New Holland:
@GCSS_NH

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System on
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Utilizing Strategies that Make Learning Fun



GEA's Heroes of the Herd Winner (Classified Staff) - Ms. Dulce Miranda

Ms. Dulce Miranda was selected as the Heroes of the Herd winner for classified staff at Gainesville Exploration Academy where she has served as a paraprofessional for the past three years. Her job responsibilities entail her to work with various students requiring additional instructional time to assist them in getting where they need to be academically. "I love to see how my work with [students] helps them grow throughout the year," said Ms. Miranda. "Seeing how they have improved makes me feel that I did my work. Even on those days [when] I feel drained or I feel like I couldn't get a student to understand everything on that topic, I try my hardest to help them in all sorts of ways."

By incorporating games as part of her teaching strategy, Ms. Miranda has discovered that her students often perform better academically. Not only does this improve their test scores, but it also makes them enjoy learning. "By making it fun for the students, they tend to remember more than if we just sit and repeat everything a thousand times," she said. "Every student is unique in [his or her] own way. Every child will do different things, and those little things are what makes me laugh everyday."

New Principal Named for New Holland Academy



Mrs. Bertha Shields

Gainesville City School System welcomes Mrs. Bertha Shields as the new principal of New Holland Knowledge Academy for the 2019-2020 school year effective July 1st. Her extensive knowledge and impressive leadership are invaluable assets that she will utilize as the school's new leader. Mrs. Shields will replace Mrs. Pamela Wood who is retiring in June. New Holland's School Governance Council participated in the selection of the new principal and was directly involved in the review of applicants and in the interview process.

Mrs. Shields earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech and Communications from West Georgia College, Certification in Early Childhood Education from Brenau University, and a Master of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education from Piedmont College. In 2007, she received an Educational Specialist degree in Education Administration and Supervision from Lincoln Memorial University.

With over 30 years in education, Mrs. Shields has held several leadership positions within the school district; serving as Assistant Principal of Centennial Arts Academy for 3 years prior to retiring in June 2018. She has served as an Assistant Principal and Gifted Coordinator at Gainesville Exploration Academy and K-5 ESOL/Talent Development Specialist at New Holland Knowledge Academy. She has also taught kindergarten and first grade at Enota MI Academy where she first began her teaching career

as a paraprofessional.

Mrs. Shields states, "Gainesville City School System has been my home for years, and I have been afforded many opportunities throughout my career. One of which was being privileged to be part of the start-up team at New Holland and being there when the doors opened on the very first day. Since that time, I have also had the opportunity to be a part of and learn from the staff and leadership teams at Gainesville Exploration Academy and Centennial Arts Academy. Those years have been invaluable in shaping me as a leader who is now excited and honored to lead a school that is so near and dear to my heart. I am thankful and look forward to coming home."

"Mrs. Shields' dedication to our community and school system is the perfect fit for New Holland's new phase," states Dr. Jeremy Williams, Gainesville City School System Superintendent. "Beginning as a paraprofessional for us years ago and now becoming a principal, Mrs. Shields is a true testament of being a servant leader. We wish Mrs. Wood the best in her retirement, and we look forward to continuing great instruction at New Holland. "

Check Out the Latest Elephant Tracks News



Regional Transportation Survey



The Gainesville - Hall County Metropolitan Planning Organization is developing the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan and would like input from the Gainesville/Hall County community which entails completing an online survey. Projects will include a wide variety of transportation related improvements including potential new roads, road widenings, and intersection improvements as well as improvements for transit, bicycles, and

pedestrians. Please click [here](#) to access the survey in English or Spanish. Thank you in advance for your assistance. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.



A promotional graphic for Instagram. It features a large Instagram logo in the center, which is a camera icon with a white circle in the middle, set against a purple-to-orange gradient background. To the left of the logo is a purple circle containing the text "Follow Us! Like Us! Share Us!" in white, cursive font. Below the logo, the text "GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM IS ON INSTAGRAM!" is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font. To the right of this text is a small logo of a red elephant standing on a white letter 'G'. At the bottom left, there is a small red rectangular box with the text "Find us at gainesvillecityschools" in white.A red banner with a white border. On the left, the text "We are" is written in a white, cursive font. In the center is a large white letter 'G' with a red elephant standing on it. To the right of the 'G', the text "ainesville" is written in a white, sans-serif font, completing the word "Gainesville".