

GHS Graduation Ceremony - May 24, 2019



Gainesville High School will host its Graduation Ceremony for the 125th Graduating Class of 2019 on **Friday, May 24th** at 7:30 p.m. at City Park Stadium. To commemorate the school's 125th graduating class, a special badge will be worn on the graduation robes. Please join us as we celebrate our seniors in achieving this remarkable milestone.

The ceremony will be streamed live starting at 7:15 p.m. and can be viewed at www.ghsfilmschool.com.



**GAINESVILLE
CITY SCHOOLS**

A Georgia Charter System

Jeremy Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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Andy Stewart
Dr. Heather Ramsey

Important Dates

May 24

Last Day of School

GHS Graduation

May 27

Memorial Day Holiday

May 28-29

Class of 2019 Leaders of the Herd



Congratulations to the "academic leaders of the Herd" for their outstanding achievement in maintaining academic excellence throughout their four years at Gainesville High School. The following students have earned the highest academic honors for their class:

Valedictorian - Kingsley Owusu Otoo

Salutatorian - Mary Nelson Bell

Third Honor Graduates (Tied) - Bennett Burns & Anne Marie Dye

Other individual senior awards include the following:

- 2019 STAR Student for GHS and for the Northeast Region - Grayson Wagner
- 2019 National Merit Finalist - Adam Jobson
- Governor's Honors Finalists:
 - Catie Cook (Visual Arts)
 - Anne Marie Dye (Communicative Arts)
 - Grace O'Keefe (Communicative Arts)
 - Math Toth (Music - Piano)
 - Grayson Wagner (Mathematics)

Class of 2019 Academic Achievements

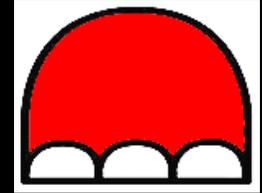


With 450 graduating seniors, the GHS Class of 2019 has excelled in academics, athletics, and the arts - continuing the school's strong tradition of excellence.

Of our 450 GHS Seniors:

- 55% will be attending 4 year colleges

Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

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Points of Pride



[2018 District & School Achievements](#)

Alumni News



[Class of 2019 College Acceptances](#)

[View the GCSS Alumni Page](#)

- 21% will be attending 2 year colleges or technical colleges
- 17% will be entering into the workforce
- 7% will be entering the military

Of our 114 Honor Graduates:

- 20 - Summa Cum Laude (4.0 +)
- 45 - Magna Cum Laude (3.7 - 3.999)
- 49 - Cum Laude (3.5 - 3.6999)

There was a total of 37 students eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship and 160 students eligible for the HOPE Scholarship. The Class of 2019 earned credit for over 500 college courses totaling over 1500 college hours through dual enrollment courses at the University of North Georgia, Lanier Technical College, Brenau University, Georgia Tech, Truett-McConnell University, and Toccoa Falls College. Ten seniors will graduate with 28 or more college credit hours, and fifteen seniors earned one or more Technical College Certificates.

Class of 2019 Scholarship Awards



This year the Class of 2019 earned over \$1.7 million in scholarship awards in academics, athletics, and arts. The following seniors earned academic scholarships: Taylor Clark, Nafuraha Nyamuteto, Katherine Edwards, Cesar Martinez, Savannah Polley, Abigail Mowbray, Divin Mabruki, Jeniah Jeffers, LaNaya Goss, Glorene Ejikeme, Ra'Nica Phillips, Adam Jobson, Caitlin Pirkle, Tamijah Tyson, Doris Toledo, Mauricio Picazo, Gebermeskel Elsabet, Mary Nelson Bell, Kingsley Owusu Otoo, Karyme Ramirez, Daniela Tamayo, Rocio Sanchez, Haylee Stephens, Ella Tucker, Anne Dye, and Gustavo Lopez.

The following seniors earned athletic scholarships: Quintavious Hayes, Zymere Dukes, Rassie Littlejohn, DeMarquez Brown, Tija Blackwell, Tia Shelton, Kyle Barrett, Carly Buffington, Miguel Lopez, Byankha Cavazos, Hinton Chandler, Max Brand, and Morgan Nichol.

Congratulations to these students for their outstanding achievement!

Memorable Senior Moments

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

New Holland Knowledge Academy

www.gcssk12.net

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As the GHS graduating class begins to embark on a new journey - a journey that takes them far beyond the high school's doors, they will be met with new adventures, new challenges, new milestones, and new aspirations. They will always remember their time spent at Gainesville High School - a school that is undeniably steeped with rich tradition, a strong culture, and excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts. They will forever remember the friendships made, lessons learned, and challenges overcome. And from their experiences at GHS, they will use their knowledge gained to help steer them in life as they take on the world ready to create new memories, new friendships, and new achievements. Three seniors, Kingsley Owusu Otoo, Grayson Wagner and Doris Toledo, were able to reflect on their time at GHS and shared their fondest moments and greatest achievements, and offered advice for their younger peers.

"My greatest achievement during my high school career was receiving a full scholarship to the University of Notre Dame along with becoming the class of 2019's Valedictorian," said Kingsley. "I remember a time when both of these accomplishments were just dreams. I remember when my mom would pray about me getting a scholarship and becoming the head and not the tail in school. At this moment I can truly say that I have witnessed the Grace of God upon my life. He shared, "The biggest highlight of my senior year was the AWARE banquet. African Americans Working to Achieve Relevance and Excellence (AWARE) is a club at Gainesville High School that seeks to promote the well-being of minority individuals in the academic and community setting. Being a part of the group since my freshman year and being honored for the last time during my senior year made me realize how far not only the club has come, but also how far I have come since then."

Grayson said, "I have been blessed with many opportunities throughout high school, but my favorite would have to be attending the Governor's Honors Program as a Mathematics major. I feel as though I had to really stretch myself intellectually in order to get accepted as well as expand my perception of education while I was there. I had such a great time and met several incredible students and professors that taught me so much."

"It is incredibly important to remember the value of balance in your life. Find what is important to you and what you are passionate about, and then make sure none of it gets overshadowed," she said. "It is so easy to get distracted or overwhelmed in high school, but if you can keep your priorities on what you value personally, it will all become easier."

"My greatest achievement would have to be challenging myself with rigorous classes and coming out with a 4.0 GPA," said Doris. "While it was difficult

@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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at times, I was able to push myself and in turn obtain a greater education." Doris also shared good advice for next year's incoming freshman and underclassmen. "While it may seem that you have a long time left in high school, believe me it'll be over before you know it. If you ever find yourself debating if you should go to that football game, that dance, or that musical, just go. You never know what you're missing out on unless you go. Make the most of your time in high school because soon enough you'll be saying goodbye to it."

Kingsley also elaborated on what underclassmen should consider as they continue their journey at GHS. "Don't worry if you are not naturally brilliant or intuitive," he said. "I'm not, but that did not keep me from doing well in school - and it shouldn't keep you! "

Class of 2019 College Acceptances



Gainesville City School System salutes our graduates for their hard work and dedication as they have been accepted into the following colleges and universities:

Yale University, Duke University, Northwestern University, Rice University, University of Notre Dame, Emory University, New York University, Georgia Tech, University of Georgia, University of California Berkeley, University of California San Diego, Clemson University, Howard University, Auburn University, Delaware State University, University of Tennessee, Louisiana State University, Mercer University, University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, University of Mississippi, Georgia State University, Augusta University, Savannah College of Art & Design, Georgia Southern University, Kennesaw State University, University of North Georgia, University of the Cumberland, University of West Georgia, Clark Atlanta University, Valdosta State University, Oglethorpe University, Paine College, William Peace University, Georgia College & State University, Stetson University, Austin Peay State University, Greensboro College, Brenau University, Lanier Technical College, Ohio Valley University, Georgia Gwinnett College, University of North Georgia, Webber International University, Piedmont University, Anderson University, Tuskegee University, Alabama A & M University, Albany State University, Fort Valley State University, Miami Dade College, Troy University, Southeast Missouri State University

Jerry Castleberry Road Scholarship



Jerry Castleberry, GCSS Transportation Director, will retire this year after serving many years with the Gainesville City School System. In honor of his 24-year career, the Jerry Castleberry Road Scholarship was established in his honor to recognize his outstanding service to our students, staff, and the community. The scholarship will award funds to a graduating Gainesville High School senior who seeks a career in logistics, public service, or a cause "close to his heart". The community has an opportunity to invest in the scholarship fund, and interested donors can make their tax-deductible contributions payable to "Gainesville High School" and mail to Gainesville High School, 830 Century Place NW, Gainesville, Georgia. Please state "Castleberry Road Scholar" on the check memo line. Contributions in any amount would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for honoring Mr. Castleberry as we celebrate his notable milestone and for your support of our Gainesville High School students.

Check Out the Latest Elephant Tracks News



Regional Transportation Survey



GAINESVILLE-HALL
Metropolitan Planning Organization

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.



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IS ON INSTAGRAM!

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We are



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