

GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Have You "Herd"?



Local Supporters Awarded Honorary Diplomas



L to R: GHS Dean of Instruction Dawn Jordan, Judge J. D. Smith, David Shumake, and Heyward Gnann

For the ninth year, Gainesville High School conferred honorary diplomas to distinguished local citizens who were nominated for the honor. Heyward Gnann, David Shumake and Judge J.D. Smith were selected by the school's Governance Council as 2017 graduates based upon their commitment and support of the school's mission. The diplomas were conferred May 13, 2017 at First Baptist Church.

Heyward Gnann is a retired educator who taught at GHS and Gainesville College for thirty years then added twenty years of teaching at the BULLI program of Brenau University.

David Shumake was named principal of GHS in 1999 and later became Assistant Superintendent then Associate Superintendent of the city school system.

Judge J.D. Smith earned his law degree from the University of Georgia then returned to his hometown for the private practice of law. Formerly the chief judge of the Superior Court of the Northeastern Judicial Circuit, he became the only Hall Countian named to the Georgia Court of Appeals in 1993 where he served until 2011.



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

June 19

BOE Meeting

June 5-29

Summer Meals Program @
Fair Street & GMS

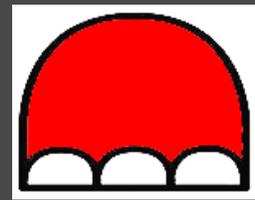
The honorary diplomas, conferred by Gainesville High as first in the nation, began in 2009. Recipients cannot have graduated from a Gainesville City high school, must be living and must support the mission of the school. Gnann, Shumake and Smith bring the total recipients of honorary diplomas to thirty.

Student Artwork at Atlanta's High Museum



Huynh Phan received a scholarship award at the Charles J. Thurmond Awards ceremony hosted by the Gainesville Kiwanis Club. She received this recognition for the "Best in Show" award for her artwork "Arbor" composed of encaustic and graphite on wood panel. Huynh's artwork was on display at the Quinlan Visual Arts Center during youth art month and will be featured at the Youth Metro Exhibition at the High Museum of Arts in Atlanta this summer.

Upcoming Events



[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

[ELEPHANT TRACKS NEWS](#)

Help us share our story

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Points of Pride



[District & School Achievements](#)

[GCSS Data Facts](#)

Alumni News



[125th Anniversary Slideshow](#)

[Class of 2017 Achievements](#)

[Class of 2017 College Acceptances](#)

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

Mundy Mill Academy

www.gcssk12.net

Leaders Embrace Performance Leadership



2017 GCSS Summer Leadership Summit

Approximately 150 district and school leaders convened at the district's third annual Summer Leadership Summit held June 5 - 7, 2017, at the Brenau Downtown Center and GHS Ninth Grade Center.

The event, focused on "Fostering a Culture and Climate of Performance Leadership", included professional learning segments featuring nationally renowned education experts in the areas of educational leadership development, school climate/culture, and school improvement.

The presenters included Dr. Anthony Muhammad, Jamie Almanzan, and Ann Hoffman. Keynote speaker Dr. Muhammad addressed the

importance of "Overcoming the Achievement Gap Trap", emphasizing the need to tailor educators' way of thinking to overcome the achievement gap. Ms. Hoffman centered her topic "Better Conversations" on improving the lines of communication at the school level with the need for better conversations among all school personnel. Second keynote speaker Jamie Almanzan addressed the topic of "Coaching Equity Focused Educators" in which he encouraged participants to engage in equity conversations that focus on "listening" to diagnose challenges and to enable educators to learn and grow in their instructional and leadership practices.

Aspiring school leaders from the district presented their Capstone presentations, highlighting key priorities and processes implemented within their school climate and culture. The summit concluded with collaborative school improvement planning sessions to identify the comprehensive needs assessment followed by the district's Comprehensive LEA Improvement Planning (CLIP) meeting which was open to the public for general feedback.

Alumni Donate Memorable Elephant Gift



If you have visited Gainesville High School over the past months, you may have noticed a difference around the flagpole. Two "elephant" benches now adorn the area and serve as a sitting area for students and staff. The Class of 1964 donated the benches as a tribute to their alma mater. The benches composed of stainless steel are designed with the school's infamous mascot and are built to last for many years. The class also provided a new cement pad foundation for the benches and upgraded the surrounding landscaping. GHS alum Dr. Patricia Fargason stated, "[The benches] represent our loyalty and love for GHS. GHS gave us each so much, and we wanted to return some of that to the school. The project was truly a labor of love for GHS."

Gainesville City Board Work Session

June 5, 2017



The Gainesville City Board of Education Work Session was held on June 5th at the School Board Office. Board recognitions included 2017 Shuler Hensley Award Nominees (GHS Musical Production *Fame*, Ramiro Salinas, Jazmine Ellison, Louisa Gille, Sara Cook, and Pam Ware) with Mrs. Ware and Jazmine in attendance. 2017 GHS graduate Nicolas Anderson was recognized for his outstanding achievement in maintaining perfect attendance throughout grades K - 12.

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

- [Board Agenda](#)
- [Overnight Field Trips](#)
- [Facility Requests](#)
- [Enota Building Site Update](#)
- [Prioritized Capital Outlay Projects](#)
- [Universal Screeners Report \(Data, Demographics\)](#)
- [New Teacher Orientation Agenda](#)
- [Personnel Report](#)
- [Student Code of Conduct](#)
- [School Nutrition Program Grocery Bid](#)
- [School Nutrition Program Uniform Bid](#)

- [First Reading of Policy EEE: Wellness Program Policy](#)
- [Vehicle Disposals](#)



Several Gainesville High School athletic teams will be hosting summer camps. The following camps will be held:

- Baby Elephant Cheer Camp - July 17th - 20th at GHS Alumni Gym
- GHS Volleyball Junior Elephant Camp - July 17th - 21st at GHS
- GHS Soccer Camp - June 19th - 23rd at Cabbell Field/Frances Meadows Center

For additional information regarding registration and camp costs, please click [here](#).



During the summer months, parents should find ways to keep children motivated and actively engaged in fun, educational activities. Parent involvement is crucial to student success. According to the National Education Association, "Parents who are actively involved in their children's learning at home help their children become more successful learners in and out of school."

Tips for Parents to Keep Children Engaged and Motivated:

1 . **Set aside time each day to read.** Track the books your child reads and reward him or her with a special activity or treat when he or she reaches certain milestones (for example, every 10th book). Do art projects based on favorite titles, such as drawing a favorite scene, or making paper bag puppets. Free books can be downloaded from Get Georgia Reading by clicking [here](#).

2 . **Visit the local library.** Many libraries have wonderful summer reading programs that reward children for the number of books they read. A visit to the library can also become a fun field trip for the entire family.

3 . **Make every day educational.** Children learn problem-solving, math, science, and vocabulary as they help with groceries, laundry, and cooking. For additional educational activities, please click [here](#).

4. **Create a summer scrapbook.** Save postcards and movie tickets, record family stories or interesting events from each day, whether you're going on vacation or just going to your neighborhood park.

5. **Take a virtual CampusTour of colleges and universities your high school student might be considering.** Tour the schools' grounds, look at maps, view videos and photos, and request information about those institutions of higher learning. If you don't have Internet access at home, take your tour at the local library.



Gainesville City School System would like to say "**Thank You**" to our many sponsors who support our district. Your support and generosity allow us to provide incentives and resources to our students and personnel. We are grateful for your dedication and commitment in making Gainesville City School System a great place to learn and work!

Thank you to our district Partners:

- * **Northeast Georgia Physicians Group**
- * **Carroll Daniel Construction**
- * **Chick-Fil-A (Gainesville)**
- * **The Collegiate Grill**
- * **Dress Up**
- * **GLISI**
- * **LPBC**
- * **Robertson Loia Roof Architects & Engineers**
- * **Dairy Queen (Gainesville)**

- * Frances Meadows Aquatic and Community Center
- * JGeyer Advertising
- * SS
- * Office Pros
- * Athens Janitor Supply Company
- * Kroger
- * J & J Foods
- * Ingles

Free Meals Available During Summer



Gainesville City School Nutrition will be serving Summer Meals starting June 5th - June 29th, Monday through Thursday. Meals are free to children 18 years and younger. All children are invited to take advantage of this opportunity for a free breakfast and lunch at Fair Street International Academy or Gainesville Middle School cafeterias.

The meal program is also available for day cares and churches. Times vary at each location, so please visit the School Nutrition web page for more details at www.gcssk12.net or click [here](#). Adult meals are also available onsite at a cost of \$1.50 for breakfast and \$2.75 for lunch. For additional information, please contact Penny Fowler at 770-536-5275 or via email at penny.fowler@gcssk12.net.

Support Our REACH Scholarship Program

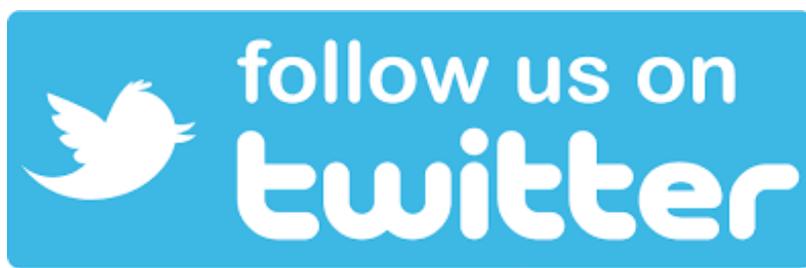


2016 REACH Georgia Scholars

Gainesville City School System encourages the community to support our REACH Georgia Scholars program by making a financial contribution to provide an opportunity for select GCSS students to pursue a college education. REACH Georgia is a needs-based scholarship program that pairs middle school students (Scholars) with mentors, coaches and additional resources to prepare them for college and careers. REACH Scholars who successfully complete the program and graduate from high school earn a \$10,000 scholarship paid over four years at a Georgia college or technical college of their choice. 100% of all donations collected will contribute toward REACH scholarships. To download a pledge form, please click [here](#). For additional information regarding the REACH program, please click [here](#).

**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:

Notifications	Calendar
<p>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>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!