



Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

January 26, 2018

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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Georgia
Academy
for the
Blind - GAB



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Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind provides quality education services to Georgia's students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of independence in transition to college and career readiness.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS *just added

January 29: Monday Media Mania and EECC Coffee Club

*January 30: 100th day of school. Students/staff: come dressed as a 100 year old!

February 2-3: GaDOE's Family Engagement UnConference, Macon

February 13: EECC Valentines Dance, Media Center

February 19: Presidents' Day Holiday

February 28: Braille Challenge - - Programs for parents/guardians are planned!

March 23: Spring Program

April 26-29: Senior Trip

March 26-30: Spring Break

May 1: Help a Child Smile Dental Clinic

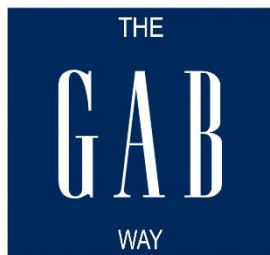
April 2: Easter Holiday

May 25: Graduation

Character Education

Empathy: the desire and ability to identify with or understand the perspective of others.

We're watching a video series about the importance of empathy! Families are encouraged to watch it at: <https://ideas.classdojo.com/i/empathy-the-maze-1>, and ask your child these questions: 1. What word describes how Mojo felt? Why did he feel this way? Name a time you felt like Mojo; why did you feel this way? 2. How was Katie feeling in this video? Do you think Mojo knew how she was feeling? 3. Share with your child if you have ever felt like Mojo. How did you handle it? Learn more about our **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** program by visiting: <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Positive-Behavioral-Interventions-and-Support.aspx>



Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful



Remaining January

~30th Sydney

~31st Jamari

~6th Stephen and Brian

~7th JaQavious

~11th Aschmid

~15th DaQuan

February

~18th Ambria

~22nd Roni

~24th Kayla and Dorrian

~26th TJ

Give us your feedback! This newsletter is produced by Sonya Milam, Parent Mentor. For comments and suggestions and news items please contact her at 478-262-3303 or smilam@doe.k12.ga.us

Parents/Guardians, Please Assist Us With These 3 Quick Surveys!



Call on
Sonya Milam if you need
any help!

Smilam@doe.k12.ga.us
478-262-3303

1 Georgia School Climate Parent Survey. This online, anonymous survey only takes about 5 minutes to complete and is your opportunity to provide feedback to GAB and the Georgia Department of Education. Georgia Parent Survey is important because the data will be used as part of the calculation of the **School Climate Star Rating**. Survey responses are anonymous and will be submitted directly to the Georgia Department of Education for analysis. Results from the Georgia Parent Survey will not be available to the public and will not be posted online. The Georgia Parent Survey link is posted below. The survey can be found at: <http://gshs.gadoe.org/parents> *The first line asks for School System. Here you scroll down to STATE SCHOOLS, not your county! You will then be prompted to choose Georgia Academy for the Blind.*

2 Georgia Special Education Services Parent Survey. This online anonymous survey with 10 questions also takes only 5 minutes to complete. It is available to all Georgia's families who have a student with a disability. This survey helps the state determine parents' perception of the success of parent engagement between them and schools. Georgia is required to conduct a parent survey collection process to measure parent/family perceptions. The information is gathered as a component of the **State Performance Plan, Indicator 8: Percent of parents with a student receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving results for children with disabilities**. The data collected is reported as a percentage of parental involvement in the **Annual Performance Report** for each district. This survey can be found here: <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Parent-Survey.aspx> *When prompted to select district, choose STATE SCHOOLS, not your county! You will then be prompted to choose Georgia Academy for the Blind.*

3 ASPIRE Parent Survey. This survey is conducted each year to determine parents' satisfaction in and involvement with Georgia's student led IEP program. Whether you attended your child's IEP on campus or on the phone, if you didn't complete this survey afterwards, please take a few minutes to do so now!
<https://goo.gl/oGU3oc>



Middle Georgia Families! Baseball Season at Miracle League of Macon is now accepting registration applications. Go to:
<http://www.mlmacon.org/Forms/PlayersReg2018.pdf>

**Deadline
Feb 4!**

★ Help others stay informed! Families throughout Georgia: Remember to share your community resources with Sonya Milam to help get the word out to other families! smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303



Last Week in Pictures



[Above] One of our Georgia Standards for Social Studies in elementary school is learning about our government. Our students had the privilege of touring the Houston County Superior Courthouse and meeting a judge and an attorney. We got to tour each department in the court house, ask many questions and explore an actual courtroom. We even put on a mock trial. Shown above is our group and students as a witness, attorney and judge.

SCASB

South Central Association of Schools for the Blind had their wrestling, cheer and mascot competition and musical showcase this past weekend at the Oklahoma School for the Blind. Our participants were able to put their O&M and other ECC skills to the test as they flew to and from Oklahoma, stayed in a hotel, and enjoyed restaurants.

Results:

Cheerleading
2nd Mascot-Quay Gibson
Outstanding Cheer-Sydney Brooks 5th
Team Cheer-5th
Ms. Congeniality-Jayla Jackson

Wrestling
Jartavious Primus - 1st
Felix Walker-2nd
Kevin Hall-3rd
Chris O'Neill-3rd
Joe Maxwell-4th





Calling all collectors: We are at 80% of our goal of 1,000 Box Tops and our February 16 deadline is fast approaching. **Remember the person who sends in the most in January gets a surprise.**



Remember, the money raised goes toward educational field trips! Thanks for your support and help! Sylvia Layson, Elementary Teacher 478-751-6083 ext. 1200
slayson@doe.k12.ga.us

Announcing the Georgia Lions Club Camp for the Blind's 2018 SUMMER SCHEDULE



- Session 1 June 10-15 Family Camp (ages 5-9)
- Session 2 June 17-22 Pre-teen (ages 6-12)
- Session 3 June 24-29 Older Adults (ages 35-up)
- Session 4 July 1-06 Young Adults (ages 18-34)
- Session 5 July 8-15 Teenagers (ages 13-17)

Deadline for completed applications is April 21! You may get a paper application from Sonya Milam, smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303 or go to <http://www.glcb.org/>



We will soon be announcing summer dates for:

- Camp Dream
- Camp Abilities
- BELL Day camps
- Blaze Sports Camps.

Come to the parent program at Braille Challenge to learn more!

