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. Check out this student produced video featuring this Mission Statement: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lRrbhkGSe98

Mark Your Calendars

*just added
April 1: High School prom packets and money due!
April 4: High School Prom
April 9: Special Olympics
April 11-14: SCASB, Alabama (Track & Field)
*April 16 Drop In RPM, Floyd County (details, page 3)
April 22: Easter Holiday
April 25–28: Senior Trip
May 17: Graduation
May 24: Last day of school

Two Weeks Ago in Pictures

(Left) another photo from the trip to Mercedes-Benz stadium. These two high school students in Falcons’ protective wear. More pre-spring break photos on page 6.
Families: On this final and fleeting day of Spring Break, don't forget to encourage your child read and perhaps read along with them. There are resources available below and through your local library too!

http://www.pathstoliteracy.org/resources/sources-free-braille-books?fbclid=IwAR1DxXoBBmw4N3rw9bcvujTsXJ2Mgw19vCT9KPIkWoRiFj8pEnkCPkdIW0

Keep math and literacy alive this spring and get prepared for the summer! Check out the membership offerings from Described and Captioned Media Program here:

https://dcmp.org/

We hope our detectives have found some of missing box tops over spring break! Remember, the money we raise goes towards our educational field trips like the ones you read about in Panther Press! Thanks for all you have done for our students. Click below to see list of participating products.


Sylvia Layson, TVI slayson@doe.k12.ga.us  (478) 751-6083 Ext. 1200

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April Student Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pierce</td>
<td>April 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caden W</td>
<td>April 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quaderrius</td>
<td>April 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dillon</td>
<td>April 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankie</td>
<td>April 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene</td>
<td>April 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashlyn</td>
<td>April 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josiah</td>
<td>April 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marquez</td>
<td>April 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majestic</td>
<td>April 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope D.</td>
<td>April 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe</td>
<td>April 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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April Staff Birthdays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Stroud</td>
<td>April 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Harris</td>
<td>April 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Yaughn</td>
<td>April 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Hawkins</td>
<td>April 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Easley</td>
<td>April 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Bronner</td>
<td>April 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Minick</td>
<td>April 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Thompson</td>
<td>April 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Happy Birthday
Join the members of Georgia’s State Schools’ Family Engagment Team and other parents/guardians from the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf, the Georgia Academy for the Blind and the Georgia School for the Deaf for a “Drop-In RPM” (Regional Parent/Guardian Meeting) in YOUR community!

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Drop in anytime between 6-7:30
Georgia School for the Deaf
232 Perry Farm Rd. Cave Spring, GA 30124

- Get the latest updates and give your feedback on your child’s school including Family Engagement Plan, School Improvement Plan and the School/Student/Parent-Guardian Compact
- Learn ways to help your child with school and daily living skills
  - Learn of valuable resources in your own community
    - Light refreshments served
    - Door prize given

So that we know who to plan for, please RSVP: (AASD) Patti Lombardi 404-300-5858, plombardi@doe.k12.ga.us or (GAB) Sonya Milam: 478-262-3303 smilam@doe.k12.ga.us or (GSD) Marie Dickinson (706) 777-2200 mdickinson@doe.k12.ga.us Also, let us know if you want a RPM in your community!
Act fast as spots are limited. Scholarships are available! Contact Sonya for details! Note: these camp resources are simply provided as a courtesy to our families. Though we are confident that they are appropriate for and accessible to our students, GAB does not endorse or sponsor any camp.

**Georgia Lions Club Camp**, Waycross, GA

- June 23~28: Family Camp, age 5-12
- June 30~ July 5: Teens, age 13-17
- July 7~14: Young Adults, age 18-30

Get your application by contacting Sonya Milam, Smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303 or get it from their website: [https://www.glcb.org/](https://www.glcb.org/) **DEADLINE IS APRIL 15 – no late applications will be considered**!

**Camp Abilities** Columbus, GA May 24, 2019 - May 27, 2019 at Columbus State University

Camp Abilities Columbus, GA is a residential camp that will be open for a maximum of 16 campers, ages 9 to 18 years old who are blind or visually impaired. Sports and recreational activities include: goalball, beep baseball, beep kickball, tandem biking, rock climbing, swimming, soccer, tennis, track & field and team building activities. Learn more from their website: [https://kinhs.columbusstate.edu/camp_abilities/camper_registration.php](https://kinhs.columbusstate.edu/camp_abilities/camper_registration.php) Contact Jeanine Fittipaldi-Wert at wert_jeanine@columbusstate.edu for information regarding camp registration.

**Camp Dreams, (Camp Grace, Roberta, GA)**

- July 21st – July 24th (Sun. - Wed.) and July 25th – July 28th (Thur. - Sun.) Only online applications are accepted. See the link below. Let Sonya know if you would like assistance in registering.
- [http://www.campdreamga.org/summer-camp](http://www.campdreamga.org/summer-camp)

**Blaze Adaptive Sports Camp**, Camp Twin Lakes, Winder, GA

- July 21-26 Ages 7-17 Only online applications are accepted. See the link below. Let Sonya know if you would like assistance in registering.

**STARS Day Camp at the Center for the Visually Impaired**, Atlanta. Transportation from 7 points in Atlanta area provided. All grades for day camp 9 am-3pm. To register go to [https://www.cviga.org/userFiles/en/STARS%20Summer%20Enrichment%20Registration%202019.pdf](https://www.cviga.org/userFiles/en/STARS%20Summer%20Enrichment%20Registration%202019.pdf) Sonya has paper applications available as well. **Deadline is May 3!**

- Week 1 - June 3 to 7 . . . STARS & the Arts
- Week 2 - June 10 to 14 . . . STARS & the Arts
- Week 3 - June 17 to 21 . . . Sports and Recreation
- Week 4 - June 24 to 28 . . . ECC Week, with a focus on Activities of Daily Living, Transition, Social Skills & more!
Middle Georgia Families

Mapping a Self-Determined Future
"Where Transition Meets Real Life"

Saturday, April 13, 2019

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Registration and Continental Breakfast 8:30
Anderson Conference Center
5171 Eisenhower Parkway
Macon, GA 31206

Youth Leadership Track
Work and Job Training
College Bound Information
Community Resources

Register NOW! Space is limited.
DEADLINE to register is April 5, 2019
Register at: http://tinyurl.com/SDConf19
Or use your QR Reader to register:

Questions? 478-988-7177

This is a one day conference designed
to allow parents, students with
disabilities, teachers and other professionals to dream about the possibilities for a full life after graduation. There will be a youth leadership track and opportunities for parents and others to learn more about post-secondary transitions, including college, technical school, job training, day programs, and independent living.

Welcome by Dr. Curtis Jones, National Superintendent of the Year.

Note from our Parent Mentor: I will be attending and presenting at this conference and would love to see our high school students and parents join me. Be sure to register both you and your student. Let me know if you need assistance with this. Smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303
(Below) Ms. Bechtal’s and Ms. Brown’s classes enjoyed some pre-spring break fun at a picnic in the park.
DID YOU KNOW? Strawberries are in season in Georgia from April through June. In 2015, the top three Georgia counties producing strawberries were Hall, Appling and Wilcox. Strawberries are ready to harvest about 30-45 days after flowering. In Georgia, much of the strawberry production is from small, family owned farms. Visit a farm to pick your own strawberries! You can read more fun facts about strawberries and other fruits and other fruits and vegetables and view our menus from our website:  
https://ga02225912.schoolwires.net/domain/20
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich, Entrée Salad, Peas n Carrots, Macaroni and Cheese, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Pulled Pork Sandwich, Entrée Salad, Butter Corn, Italian Vegetables, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Oven Roasted Chicken, Grilled Ham and Cheese, Entrée Salad, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Cheese Pizza, Pepperoni Pizza, Chicken Wings w/ Dinner Roll, Entrée Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Brown Rice</td>
<td>Roasted Side Pork, Peanut Butter Jell Sandwich, Entrée Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Brown Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chick’n Boom Sandwich, Peanut Butter Jelly Sandwich, Entrée Salad, French Fries, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Homestyle Hamburger, Italian Soft Hoagie, Entrée Salad, Red Beans n’ Rice, Macaroni and Cheese, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Orange Chicken, Grill Hot Ham n Cheese Sandwich, Egg Roll, Entrée Salad, Vegetable Fried Rice, Stir Fry Vegetables, Braised Cabbage, Mixed Green Side Salad, Sugar Cookie Tart</td>
<td>Cheese Pizza, Pepperoni Pizza, Chicken Wings w/ Dinner Roll, Sweet Potato Fries, Steam Broccoli, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Turkey w/ Gravy, Chicken Salad on Croissant, Entrée Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Holiday</td>
<td>Oven Roasted Chicken, BBQ Pulled Pork, Entrée Salad, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Peas, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Chicken Nacho, Beef Nacho, Entrée Salad, Spanish Rice, Black Beans, Fiesta Corn, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Cheese Pizza, Pepperoni Pizza, Chicken Wings w/ Dinner Roll, Sweet Potato Fries, Steam Broccoli, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Salisbury Steak, Mozzarella Cheese Sticks, Entrée Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Roasted Vegetables, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish Sandwich, Corn Dog, Entrée Salad, Baked Beans, Sautéed Spinach, Cole Slaw, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
<td>Meat Loaf, Popcorn Chicken, Entrée Salad, Creamy Macaroni and Cheese, Mixed Vegetables, Savory Carrots, Mixed Green Side Salad</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DID YOU KNOW? Mushrooms are in season in Georgia all year. They are grown indoors and do not need light to grow. You can read more fun facts about mushrooms and other fruits and vegetables and view our menus from our website: [https://ga02225912.schoolwires.net/domain/20](https://ga02225912.schoolwires.net/domain/20)