



# Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

**Thursday, March 2, 2023**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider*

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent

2895 Vineville Ave. Macon, GA





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Georgia Academy for the Blind

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## Mark your Calendar

- 3/3 - Out of school, Professional learning for staff
- 3/4 - Cornhole Tournament at GAB on Saturday
- 3/8 - Construction attire- Dig into school breakfast celebrating National School Breakfast Week
- 3/9 - Braille Challenge at GAB, see flier on pg.12
- 3/10 - School Council Meeting at 1:00 on Zoom
- 3/13 - Visit from State & National Dignitaries, Nutrition
- 3/13 through 3/16 - Haylie Miller will be visiting campus
- TBA - Art Show & Spring Musical in the Auditorium at 10:30 "Junie B. Jones Jr. the Musical"
- 3/27 through 3/31 - Spring Break Week 
- 4/10 - Easter Holiday
- 4/12 - Spring Festival near cottages from 5pm - 8pm.
- 5/18 - Prom Night
- 5/25 - Graduation at GAB 

# A message from our Superintendent

Dear GAB Families,

We have some big events upon us that you will want to note and participate in if available and appropriate. First, March is a month of celebrating the School Nutrition Program. March 8 we are going all out for Dig Into School Breakfast. Students will be encouraged to dress in clothes that compliment a construction theme – overalls, work hats, etc. State and National School Nutrition dignitaries will visit and tour on Monday, March 13, 2023. The Georgia Academy for the Blind is very pleased to be the chosen site!

Regional Braille Challenge is an outreach service of GAB, and we welcome to competition students from other Georgia districts. It is a wild and crazy day of brailleing and waiting for the results – March 9.

Please join us for School Council at 1:00 p.m. by zoom or in person Friday, March 10, 2023, you will find out the latest on new windows and doors, school security and cottage renovations.

Autism specialist Dr. Haylie Miller will be with us Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, March 12, 13, and 14. Haylie is eager for families to reach out to her as we provide wrap-around services for eligible students. Parent/guardians are always invited!

Administrators attended the GaDOE Instructional Leadership Conference held in Macon this week.

Fabulous things are happening around the state that drive school improvement for Georgians! We are little, but we're LOUD when we say we are PROUD to receive support and focus equivalent to other Georgia Public Schools to serve our low incidence population! We could not do what we do without federal funds in addition to state funds for GAB k-12 students.

Join us for the Cornhole Tournament THIS SATURDAY, March 4, 10:00 – 2:00.

You may be the grand winner and support senior events and myriad Expanded Core Curriculum activities at GAB!

As ever,  
Cindy





### March 6-10th Celebration

**GAB has been selected by GaDOE and the USDA for a site visit on March 13th. This visit was originally planned for the celebration of National School Breakfast Week; however, GAB garnered the attention of USDA for a much bigger mission. We are very pleased and honored to have the opportunity to shine the light on our nutrition program.**

*From:*

*Dr. Cindy Gibson, School Level Superintendent*

*The Georgia Academy for the Blind welcomes state and national dignitaries to campus on Monday, March 13, 2023, to celebrate the National School Nutrition Program and its contribution to student health and safety. Among invited guests are Stacy Dean, Deputy Under Secretary USDA Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services; Richard Woods, Georgia School Superintendent; Dr. Kenney Moore, State Schools Director, Division of State Schools; and a host of Georgia Department of Education representatives. This is a wonderful opportunity for the GAB School Nutrition Program to shine under the direction of Andrea Johnson, Business Operations Manager School Nutrition Unit; Karla Stovall, Culinary Coordinator, School Nutrition Unit; and our very own GAB School Nutrition Manager Kristie Robinson and staff.*

*Georgia thrives as an agrarian state, and as such, the Farm to Table concept of purity and freshness is at the hub of all nutritional planning and implementation. At GAB one will see 'round the clock teaching and learning with much focus on essential skills for optimum independence in daily living skills. Expanded Core Curriculum is embedded in mealtime where students enjoy a modern serving line and dining decor with braille accommodation for independent selection of serving items. The Occupational Therapist, Allison Hawkins takes mealtime to work individually with students on their OT/IEP goals. Also, teachers and paraprofessionals practice IEP skills including, feeding tasks, social tasks, and other self-care tasks, all based on dining and daily routine. The menu is a definite hit of the GAB morning news, and students may access the menu in braille or using screen readers. Communication and Accessibility are the keys to instruction and independence. The GAB Family welcomes you to our Family Gathering, where you will see firsthand the child who eats well, learns well, and the child who learns well seeks their highest potential.*



# Celebrate National School Breakfast Week!

## March 6–10, 2023

### PARENTS:

Did you know? Your child can **DIG IN** to healthy breakfast options at school!

# DIG IN TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Be a School  
Breakfast  
Builder!

WAFFLE  
CROSSING

Studies show that students who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- ✓ Reach higher levels of achievement in reading and math
- ✓ Score higher on standardized tests
- ✓ Have better concentration and memory
- ✓ Be more alert
- ✓ Maintain a healthy weight

BREAKFAST  
ZONE

STOP

EAT SCHOOL  
BREAKFAST

BREAKFAST  
FUEL  
STATION

Follow SNA and #NSBW23 on Social Media to learn more about #schoolbreakfast!



facebook.com/TrayTalk



@SchoolNutritionassoc



@SchoolLunch



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.®

Kellogg's

NSBW resources are made possible by:



# MYPLATE GUIDE TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST

*for Families*

Fruit

## FRUITS

A full cup of fruit is available every day, providing nutrients that are important for kids' health, such as potassium, dietary fiber, vitamin C, and folate (folic acid).

MILK

Dairy

Kids and teens need the calcium, protein, and vitamin D found in milk for strong bones, teeth, and muscles.

Vegetables

## VEGETABLES

Every breakfast does not include vegetables, but schools may offer them in place of fruits.

Protein

## PROTEIN FOODS

Some breakfast menus may offer items such as eggs, nuts, or meats to pair with whole-grain options.

GRAINS

Grains

Starting every day the whole grains way gives kids and teens B vitamins, minerals, and fiber to feel fuller longer so they stay alert to concentrate at school.



visit [teamnutrition.usda.gov](http://teamnutrition.usda.gov) for additional tips and activities.







Churchwell/Jordan and Barfield/Lynch's class went to the Tubman Museum to celebrate Black History Month. While they were there, they got to experience the new Tyler Perry exhibit that just opened!





# Georgia Academy for the Blind



## TOURNAMENT

To benefit the class of 2023

**When:** Saturday, March 4, 2023

Registration 10:00 a.m.

\$40 per team of two (**cash or check**)

Tournament 11:00 a.m.

**Where:** Georgia Academy for the Blind  
2895 Vineville Ave, Macon

This fun-filled day will feature a world class tournament, snacks, beverages, and other contests. This an event you won't want to miss!

### **\$1000 Cash Payout:**

1<sup>st</sup> place - \$500

2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$300

3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$200

**Shot in the  
Dark Contest**

**Family Fun**



# Braille Challenge

Date: March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Time: 8:30 – 3:00

Place: Georgia Academy for the Blind  
2895 Vineville Ave. 31204



Macon Georgia



## Georgia Academy for the Blind



## BOOT SCOOTIN' BRAILLERS

2023  
BRAILLE  
CHALLENGE



Contact for Parents: Jennifer Minter

478-751-6083 ext.1140

Contact for TVIs & students is Dawn Day  
email: [mday@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mday@doe.k12.ga.us)



Middle Georgia GLRS and RESA presents



# Middle Georgia GLRS Transition Resource Fair



**Saturday, April 29, 2023**  
**9 am -12 pm**

Roy H "Sonny" Watson Health Science Building  
80 Cohen Walker Drive Warner Robins, Ga 31088



**Post-Secondary Resources**



**Community Agencies**



**Q & A time to ask questions**

**This event is designed to provide students with disabilities, their families, or guardians with resources for transitioning from school into the community**

For additional information, contact the Middle GA GLRS Transition Consortia:

Larissa Beecher

478-988-7170

[lbeecher@mgresa.us](mailto:lbeecher@mgresa.us)

**Save  
the  
date**

**March 18, 2023**

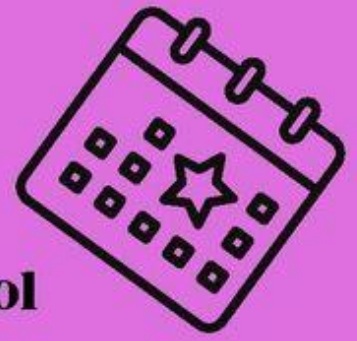
**9 am - 12 pm**

**at**

**Crawford County High School**

**400 East Agency Street**

**Roberta, Ga 31078**



**Spring Resource Fair  
for  
students with special needs  
and  
their supporters**



**FREE event for families to connect with a  
variety of vendors and discover the wonderful  
resources that Central Georgia has to offer its  
Special Needs Community.**



**FACEBOOK  
EVENT  
PAGE**



For more information contact the CCSD Parent Mentor

April Baxley

[april.baxley@crawfordschools.org](mailto:april.baxley@crawfordschools.org)

478-552-2222



# March Birthdays

Zy	3/4	BJ	3/28
Destiny	3/14	Sammy	3/29
Ja'Mikel	3/17	Noble	3/31

