



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, April 23rd, 2021

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent

2895 Vineville Avenue

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478-751-6083



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. *Check out this student produced video featuring this Mission Statement:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRbhhkGSe98>

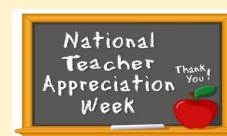
Mark your Calendars

4/27 - School Bus Drivers Appreciation Day!



5/1 - Summer Program Applications due!

5/3 through 5/7 - Teacher Appreciation Week!



5/20 - Prom at Morgan View Farm.

Limited Attendance for GAB Prom and Graduation 2021

Prom and Graduation are for GAB staff, students, students' two representatives and GaDOE officials only. These are closed events, not open to the public. The Senior Committee is communicating procedures for inclusion on the guest lists. Your name must be on the approved guest list to be admitted. Please contact Supt. Dr. Cindy Gibson for additional information cgibson@doe.k12.ga.us 478-751-6083 X 1110.

5/21 - Graduation on GAB campus



This newsletter is published by our Parent Mentor/Family Engagement Specialist, Jennifer Minter. Please send your ideas, news and resources in your community to her: JMinter@doe.k12.ga.us or call **478-262-3303**. ***Please remember to contact her if you've had a change in address, phone number and/or email!***

<div> <div>GEORGIA ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND</div> <div>2021-2022 School Calendar</div> <div>180 Student/ 200 Day Teacher and Para</div> </div>																
<div> <div>Holidays</div> <div>Regular School Days</div> <div>Graduation TBA</div> </div>							<div> <div>First and Last Day for Students</div> <div>Open House</div> <div>Required Professional Learning</div> </div>									
2021								2022								
Jul-21	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Jan-22
Work Days: 5																1 Work Days: 20
School Days: 0						1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	School Days: 19
Special Days:	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Special Days:
26-30 Pre-planning	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	3rd PL
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	17th MLK Jr. Holiday
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		30	31						
Aug-21	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Feb-22
Work Days: 23											1	2	3	4	5	Work Days: 19
School Days: 17		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	School Days: 19
Special Days:	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Special Days:
8th Open House	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21st President's Day
9th First Day of School	22	23	25	25	26	27	28		27	28						
	29	30	31													
Sep-21	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Mar-22
Work Days: 21				1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4	5	Work Days: 19
School Days: 21	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	School Days: 18
Special Days:	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Special Days:
8th Labor Day	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	28-31 Spring Break
	26	27	28	29	30				27	28	29	30	31			
Oct-21	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Apr-22
Work Days: 21						1	2							1	2	Work Days: 19
School Days: 20	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	School Days: 19
Special Days:	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Special Days:
15th PL	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	1st Spring Break
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	18th Easter Holiday
	31															
Nov-21	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	May-22
Work Days: 17			1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Work Days: 21
School Days: 17	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	School Days: 18
Special Days:	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Graduation TBA
22-26 Thanksgiving Holidays	21	22	23</													



Girls in Cottage 7 have fun with their Residential Advisors:

Heide > (She is on the swing with her glasses on and enjoying the breeze while swinging.)

Morgan > (She is sitting on the bend with a red blouse on enjoying the sunshine.)

Savannah > (She is outside bouncing on her ball for her exercise.)

Dashia > (She is sitting on the swing next to Morgan and they are relaxing after a long day in class.)

Angelica & Kimberly > have numerous pictures because their primary Residential Advisor is Authurene Easley who took the pictures...LOL!

Angelica (pink & black tops and ***Kimberly*** with a black top are on the swing.) They are enjoying swinging on the swing, the see- saw and they are striking their pose in varies areas of the campus.

The following RA's assist the girls in Cottage (7):

Authurene Easley

Wendy Williams

Cynthia Cotton

Tamara Adams

Clara Mosley

Lions Camp is BACK! Please see the schedule below and come by my office if you want to go to camp. I will have all the forms or parents can now fill them out online.
Just let me know: Jennifer Minter 478-262-3303 or email me: jminter@doe.k12.ga.us

GEORGIA LIONS CAMP INC.

5626 Laura Walker Road; Waycross, Georgia 31503-6488

Phone (912) 283-4320/Fax (912) 283-5130/Email: Director@glcb.org/www.glcb.org

Dear Campers, Parents, & Teachers:

The administration of the Georgia Lions Camp is very excited to invite you to join us for our 2021 summer program! We are looking forward to our summer camp with eager anticipation and with hopes of seeing you all there!

Please complete the application to ensure your reservation. No camper will have a secure spot until ALL paperwork and FEE is submitted back to the camp, including the physical, which is the Healthcare Form 2, which is known as the; **"Physical", must be filled out and signed by licensed medical personnel.**

NOTES:

- 1- You can now go to CampDoc.com online to register and complete your application process. You will need an email and a password to sign in.
- 2- Carefully view the following 2021 Summer Schedule information carefully as changes may occur, such as sessions, dates, and age groups.

2021 Summer Schedule

Session 1– June 20-25	Pre-teens Camp (6-12)
Session 2- June 27- July 2	Senior Adults Camp (40-plus)
No Camp- July 3-8	4 th of July Break
Session 3- July 09-18	Teenager Group (13-17)
Session 4- July 18-23	Adults (18-39)

Anyone under 6 years of age will require a guardian/parent. Fee will be required for the guardian/parent.



April 16, 2021 Email Blast

Office of Federal Programs - Division for Special Education



Directors,

Governor Brian P. Kemp has issued a press release regarding Applications for Families of Children with Special Needs Reimbursement. You may access the press release by [Clicking Here](#). For additional information, you may watch a brief training video: [Click Here](#). Please assist us in sharing this information with your local families. You may access additional information on the Georgia Department of Education webpage: [Click Here](#).

On Tuesday, April 20, the Georgia Department of Education will host jointly an awareness session with Parent to Parent of Georgia. You may access the information using the following link: [Click Here](#).

Thank you for joining the Directors' Webinar on April 13; you may access the recording on the Directors' Webinar Webpage: [Click Here](#).

2021 Special Needs Summer Camp and Respite Directory

Each year, Metro East Georgia Learning Resources System (GLRS) provides a special needs summer camp and respite directory. Here is the link to the new FY21 Summer Opportunities Directory for Students with Special Needs.

Feel free to print and send to parents or simply provide them with the online link. As needed, additional updates will be made the the directory and available using in the webpage link: [Click Here](#)

Georgia's Special Education Teacher Induction Program

Beginning in Fall 2021, the Georgia Department of Education will provide a Special Education Teacher Induction Program for local school systems identified induction level Special Education Teachers. The induction program will be supported regionally through GLRS to improve the retention of new special education teachers through the development and implementation of high-quality mentoring and induction programs.

Training Objectives:

Increase innovation in teaching the high-leverage practices (HLPs) using mixed-reality simulation labs

Increase coaching and immediate performance feedback for new special education teachers

Induction Flyer: [Click Here](#).

To facilitate planning, please complete the survey by April 30, 2021 to indicate your school system's interest. **[Click Here](#)**

Collaborative Leadership Launch

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and School and District Effectiveness (SDE) Collaborative Leadership Launch.

The purpose of the Leadership Launch is to provide updates on the SSIP collaborative work with School and District Effectiveness and to highlight local best practices.

We will showcase Georgia's Implementation of Check and Connect mentoring program, which is a proven evidence-based intervention to increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates for all students. Crisp County School District and Dekalb County School District will provide an overview and share the benefits, successes, and challenges they have experienced with implementing Check and Connect.

The SSIP/SDE Leadership Launch will be held on Wednesday, May 5th at 2:00 pm. Please register using the following link: **[SSIP/SDE Leadership Launch-Check and Connect](#)**.

FY21 Student Record (SR) Warnings and Reports

There are several SR Warnings and SR Reports listed below that should be closely reviewed in Student Record before submission in June. A careful review can prevent reporting errors in discipline which can result in Disproportionality

and inaccurate reporting for Continuation of Services. After SR is signed off/closed by your Superintendent, it cannot be reopened to correct these reporting errors.

SR Warnings

- W861- ACTION CODE is either '20' (ISS) or '30' (OSS), NUMBER OF DAYS suspended normally is not greater than 20 days.
- W862- Possible duplicate- the SYSTEM CODE, SCHOOL CODE, GTID, INCIDENT DATE, INCIDENT TYPE, ACTION and AUXILARY CODE are the same for more than one discipline record. For most current data, see Report DIS092.
- W863- Multiple suspensions reported for same student and date. For most current data, see Report DIS091. See SR Reports below.
- DIS090 Suspensions with the Same Date and Days
- DIS092 Possible Duplicated Safety Records
- DIS095 OSS Greater than 10 days w/out Services
- DIS097 SWD System Totals by Discipline Action

Positive Behavior Support (Parent Training)

Parent to Parent of Georgia in partnership with Center for Leadership in Disability is hosting a series of virtual training sessions for parents/caregivers on Positive Behavior Supports. The sessions will include understanding the purpose/function of behavior and practical tips and suggestions on managing and preventing challenging behavior.

Flyer: [Click Here](#)

Parent to Parent of Georgia Trainings

Webinar: Georgia Medicaid - NOW/COMP

Thursday, April 22 at 12 pm

Calendar link: [Click Here](#)

Facebook photo link: [Click Here](#)

Webinar: Georgia Medicaid Basics and Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver

Tuesday, April 27 at 2 pm

Calendar link: [Click Here](#)

Webinar: Peace, Love and Harmony and the IFSP/IEP

Thursday, April 29 at 6 pm

Calendar link: [Click Here](#)

April

Birthdays

4/2	Pierce	4/17	Dillion
4/2	Bentlee	4/21	Ashlyn
4/4	Caden W.	4/28	Hope
4/11	Landyn		

