



# Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

**Friday, May 10, 2024**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

2895 Vineville Ave.

Macon, GA



Georgia Academy for the Blind

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## Mark your Calendars

**5/10** - Spring Musical at 10:30AM in the Auditorium

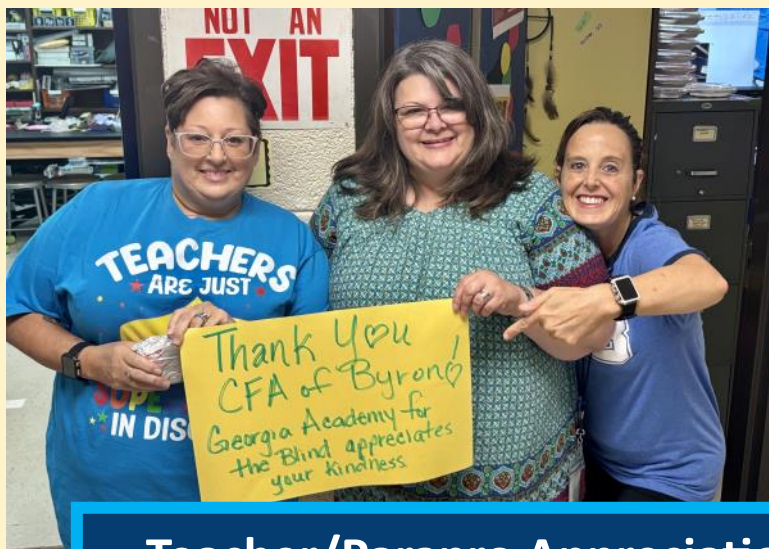
**5/16** - Prom at GAB 

**5/21** - Water Day fun activities, bring swimwear

**5/22** - Awards Day Ceremony in the Auditorium at 10:30AM

**5/23** - Graduation at GAB, 11:00AM

**5/24** - Last Day of School



**Teacher/Parapro Appreciation Celebration Week!**



It's been a **BIG week** of **BIG installation** art pieces for [Mrs. Applebee's Art students!](#) We glazed and installed our totem pole in the sensory garden. It's our third totem pole in four years and this one focuses on the history of



architecture with world famous buildings like the Eiffel Tower and Taj Mahal. We also installed a 10-foot wooden sculpture on the Art patio, entitled Tree of Learning, to remind us that we attend GAB to grow and become better versions of ourselves. Thank you Mr. Blackwell and Mr. Brett for helping with these projects!

Large prom decorations are also filling the days and Art room as students have painted large waves, surf boards,



signposts, and a surf shack. They've previously made 16 palm trees and a giant Tiki head. We're excited about creating a Luau vibe and life-long memories at next week's **prom!**













# CATCH THE WAVE.....PROM 2024









# Dual Enrollment Students Rock!

2023-2024 Hutchings College & Career Academy Honors Day Ceremony on May 1, 2024 was filled with recognition of students for the impact that each one made during the 2023-2024 school year. GAB's Dual Enrollment students, Emily Stiles and Destiny Butts were recognized during the ceremony.

Emily is a student in the Teaching as a Profession Pathway. She received the *Unsung Hero Award*. Emily was selected based on this criterion: "These are the students who quietly work for the betterment of the whole." Definitely this is a well-deserved award! The award was presented to her by Mrs. Jennifer Davis, TAAP Pathway Instructor.

Destiny received the *Principal's Award* in recognition for her achievements in her studies in the Culinary Arts I Pathway. The

inscription on Destiny's plaque reflects the honor of this award: "Because of you, our school is a better place to learn. You have proved that one person can make a difference. I applaud you for what you have accomplished and look forward to hearing even more great things about you in the future."

The award was presented to Destiny by Dr. Jason Weiss, Principal / Director of Hutchings College & Career Academy.



# MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

GEORGIA PARENT SURVEY FOR STUDENTS WITH AN IEP



1. CHOOSE STATE SCHOOLS (FOR COUNTY)
2. CHOOSE GEORGIA ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND

## Why are you being asked to complete a Statewide Survey?

In order for all students to graduate prepared to achieve a lifetime of success, families need to be an important part of the school team. It is critical that the GaDOE assist local school systems in partnering with families to raise the achievement rate for students with disabilities. Completing this survey will assist in achieving this goal.

## Who is being surveyed?

The GaDOE is surveying parents of students with disabilities throughout Georgia.

## What will be done with the information collected?

GaDOE Division of Special Education will work collaboratively with Parent to Parent of Georgia (P2P), the statewide Parent Training Information Center, to identify needs in family involvement within the state and local districts based on statewide survey results.

## Who will see your answers?

Individual answers are kept confidential. The GaDOE has contracted with evaluators at the Georgia Center for Assessment (GCA) to guarantee confidentiality. Each response will be coded by a number – not a name.

## How do you complete the survey?

You may complete the survey online in English and Spanish at [www.gadoe.org/Parent-Survey](http://www.gadoe.org/Parent-Survey) or scan the QR code above.

## Who do you contact for help with completing the survey?

GaDOE Special Education Help Desk at 404-657-9968. You may also call your Parent Mentor, Jennifer Minter at [Jminter@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:Jminter@doe.k12.ga.us) or 478-262-3303.



# Unstable Housing Happens! Now what?



GAB Families,

Times are tough! We realize that we are in a season of change and challenges with our economy that lead to temporary living situations or “doubling up” with others. Though we have no solutions for this, we have many other ways to support our students and their families, including expediting school transportation and assuring our students miss as little school as reasonable.

1. There is a federal law that aims to protect our students by keeping them in school in a stable and consistent manner. Learn more in this video: [what is mckinney vento program - - Video Search Results \(yahoo.com\)](#)
2. This PRIVATE survey is designed to help us meet your needs. Complete from this link and we will be in touch with you promptly. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V53SCGZ>
3. We are working with the Georgia Alliance to end homelessness where there is a person dedicated to helping our families. Please reach out to Sonya Milam [sonya.milam@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:sonya.milam@doe.k12.ga.us) 478-751-6083, ext 1142 so that she may connect you to this viable resource.





**PROM**



**Who: Students in Grades 9  
through 12**

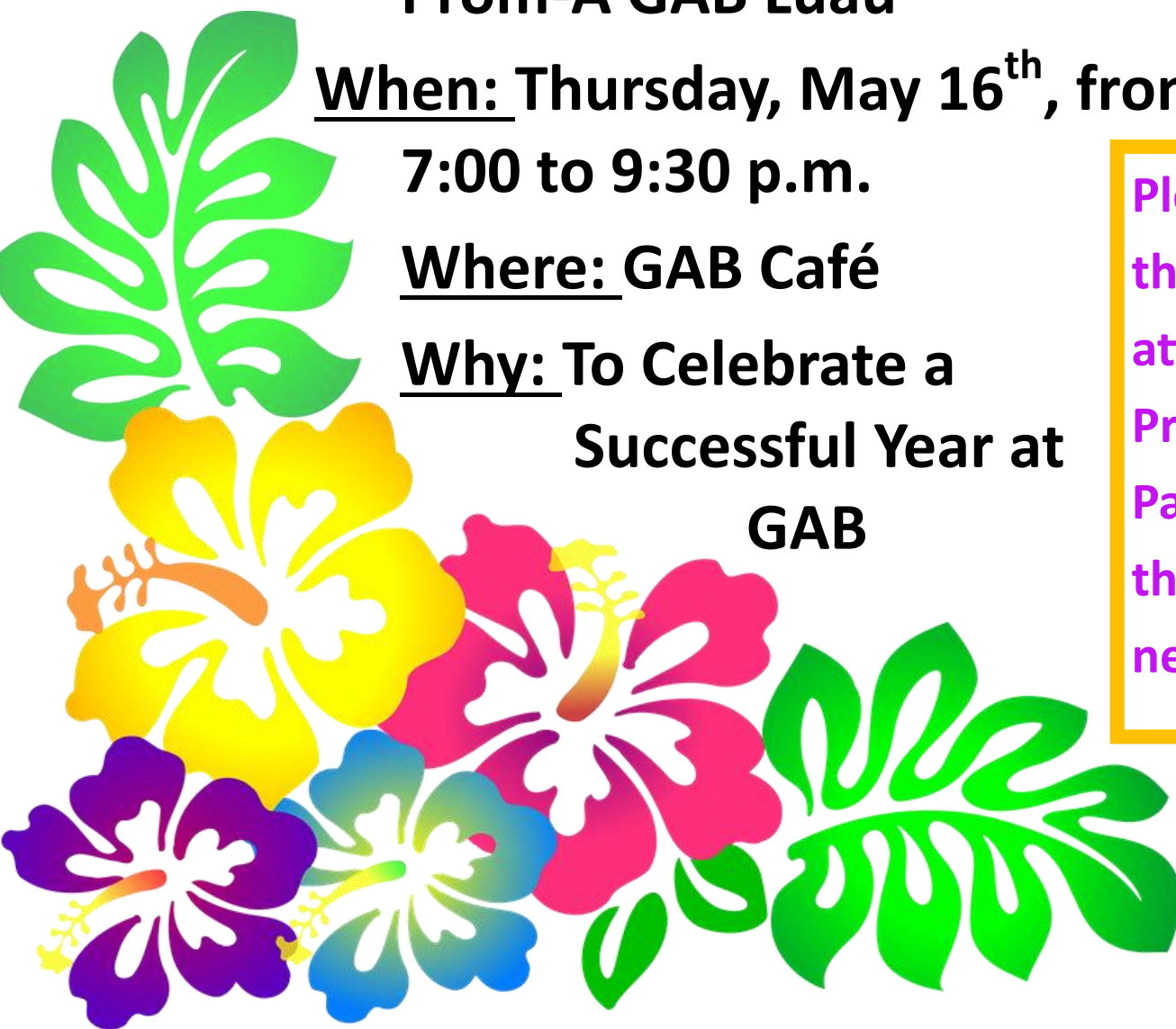
**What: Aloha Ohana,  
Prom-A GAB Luau**

**When: Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, from  
7:00 to 9:30 p.m.**

**Where: GAB Café**

**Why: To Celebrate a  
Successful Year at  
GAB**

Please see  
the  
attached  
Prom  
Packet in  
this  
newsletter





# May 2024

## Birthdays

Adam	5/1	William	5/20
Taryn	5/1	Heidi	5/20
Mary	5/4	Lukas	5/25

