



Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

April 21, 2017

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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Georgia Academy
for the Blind - GAB

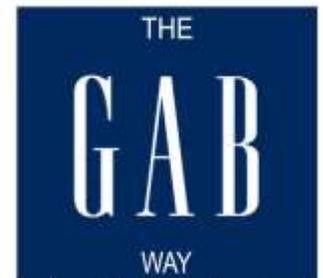


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Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind will provide quality education services to Georgia's students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of independence in transition to college and career readiness. **Success! Nothing Less!**

- April 24: SCASB participants return from Texas (Track and Field)
- April 25-26: Milestones Testing: High School, English/Language Arts
- April 27 – Milestones Testing: High School, Math
- April 26: Help a Child Smile Mobile Dental Clinic
- April 27-30: Senior Trip
- May 2-3: Milestones Testing: High School, Science & Social Studies
- May 9: Memorial for Ebonyse Stafford, 9 a.m., Sensory Garden
- May 15: Mother's Day Holiday
- May 26: Last day of school and Graduation

The spring plant sell is underway! Greenhouse hours are 8-4 Contact Mr. Keith Blackwell, kblackwell@doe.k12.ga.us (478) 751-6083, extension 7110. **REMEMBER, you must come to the office to get a visitor's badge before going to greenhouse.**



Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful

Character Education

Word of the quarter: **INTEGRITY** Steadfast adherence to a strict code of moral, ethical and artistic values; to consistently be truthful and fair.

Word of the week: **LOYALTY** Faithful to a person, organization or country.

Respect is earned.
Honesty is appreciated.
Trust is gained.
Loyalty is returned.



- Eugene ~ April 21
- Ashlyn ~ April 21
- Marquez ~ April 26
- Joseph ~ April 30

This newsletter is produced by Sonya Milam, Parent Mentor. Send news and suggestions to smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303. Student Editor is Caleb Burdette.

This week in pictures:



TEAM WORK! On Thursday, we had 45 Olympians, 36 staff members (including 4 different bus drivers), and 5 parents to participate. All together we brought back 90 medals. Thanks to all who made this a very enjoyable and successful event!



William "Billy" Clisby Ford, III Fine Art Series had their third event of the year on Thursday, April 13. The students had the opportunity to eat at **Buffalo's Cafe** and then attend the new showing of **Beauty and the Beast** at Amstar Theater in Macon. The students had a great time as we attended the movie and were able to sing with the songs as this version was a sing along.



April is Occupational Therapy Month! Allison Hawkins and Dodi Good provided our staff with cookies with a reminder to use our "Pincer Grasps"! We appreciate the way they both support our students at school helping them with their fine motor skills, coordination, sensory processing/body awareness, activities of daily living and much more. They also help support and educate our staff on the importance of providing movement opportunities in the classroom as well as improving student positioning/posture.





This week in pictures:

Our elementary students participated in Pizza Hut's Book It program. All who met their reading goals this school year were treated to a personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut on Thursday! To learn more about this program and to get pointers on summer reading, click here: <http://www.bookitprogram.com/parents/get-involved.asp>



On Thursday, 17 athletes, 7 staff members and 2 parents departed GAB for Track and Field competitions at Texas School for the Blind. They will return on Monday.



Media Center News!

Check out (and share) this wonderful project by our Media Specialist, Mrs. Smith to help us get a 3D printer at GAB!

<https://www.donorschoose.org/project/help-us-see-3d/2490978/>

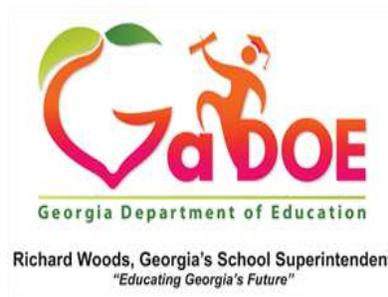


Family Engagement News!

The deadline for participation in the online Georgia Department of Education's Parent Survey has been extended to **May 15**. Please go to this link and take just a few minutes to complete. REMEMBER: Where it says to **Select child's**

school district, scroll down to:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Parent-Survey.aspx>



If you didn't complete a survey after your child's IEP this year, please do so now. If you can't remember if you did or not, go ahead and do anyway.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSev_rHWZoH0VaN0nZPRPtLHUqErF3iOinMruc4kUASOKeLakQ/viewform



Check out this great article about the importance of labeling things in your home with Braille and other tactile symbols to help with both literacy and independent skills! We can provide you with Braille labels simply by emailing

smilam@doe.k12.ga.us with the words you want brailled!

<http://www.pathstoliteracy.org/newsletter/promoting-independent-living-skills-using-braille>



