



Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

March 15, 2019

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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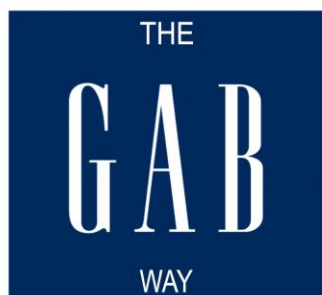
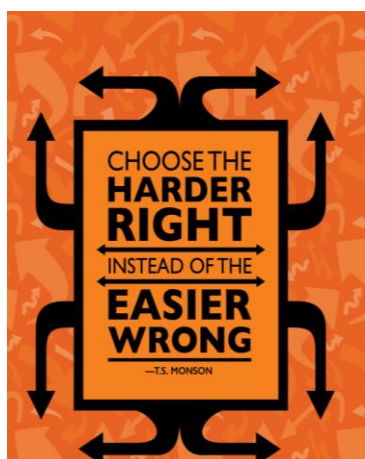
Georgia Academy for the
Blind - GAB



Follow our library:
[@gab_library](https://twitter.com/gab_library)

5 more days until Spring Break!

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>



Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful

Mark Your Calendars

Now through March 22: School Council Pet Food and Supplies Drive to benefit All About Animals Rescue.

March 22: 10 am Spring Music Program. **GREAT NEWS! WE ARE BACK IN OUR NEWLY RENOVATED GAB AUDITORIUM!** Student Art Show and Family meetings prior to and after the program. See note below:

GAB FAMILY MEETING 8:45 am in the Media Center and repeated following the Spring Program in the Auditorium

AGENDA:

- Greetings, facilities and 2019-20 calendar updates, Q&A session: Dr. Cindy Gibson, GAB's Superintendent
- Summer Camps, survey updates and 2019-20 Family Engagement documents: Sonya Milam, GAB's Parent Mentor
- Home reading and chore resources: Kim Smith, GAB's Media Specialist
- Transition updates:
 - Jackie Davis, Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency's (GaVRA) Career Specialist
 - Kenya Rose, Parent to Parent of Georgia and GaVRA's Transition Partner

So that we may have adequate seating, snacks and supplies, please rsvp to Sonya Milam, smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303. **NOTE: THOSE WHO RSVP AND COME TO THE 8:45 MEETING WILL RECEIVE RESERVED SEATING FOR THE 10 AM PROGRAM.**

March 25-29: Spring Break
 April 4: High School Prom
 April 9: Special Olympics
 April 11-14: SCASB, Alabama (Track & Field)
 April 22: Easter Holiday
 April 25-28: Senior Trip
 May 17: Graduation
 May 24: Last day of school

Character Education

Cheerfulness: being in pleasant spirit and actions. "Cheerfulness is a matter which depends fully as much on the state of things within, as on the state of things around us." — Charlotte Brontë

This newsletter is published by our Parent Mentor, Sonya Milam. Please send your ideas, news, and resources in your community to her. smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303

March Birthdays



Students:

Zy	03/01
Kameron	03/09
Jess	03/13
Harry	03/23
Angelica L	03/27
BJ	03/28
Sammy	03/29
	(correction)

Staff:

Ms. Orr	03/01
Ms. Rushing	03/01
Ms. Applebee	03/05
Ms. Mosley	03/10
Ms. Brown	03/11
Ms. Edenfield	03/14
Mr. Caldwell	03/19
Ms. Walker	03/21
Mr. Hudgins	03/24
Ms. Ezell	03/25
Mr. Lumpkin	03/25

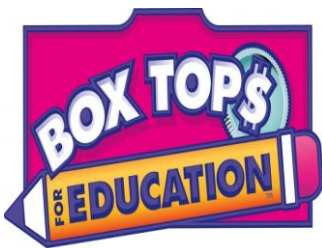


Families: Don't forget to encourage your child to check out books from our Media Center for spring break reading. There are other resources available here and through your local library too! <http://www.pathstoliteracy.org/resources/sources-free-braille-books?fbclid=IwAR1DxXoBBmw4N3rw9bcvujTsXJ2Mgwg19vCT9KPfkWoRiFj8pEnkCPkdIW0>



Keep math and literacy alive during Spring Break! Check out the membership offerings from Described and Captioned Media Program here: <https://dcmp.org/>

The Case of the Missing 1000 Box Tops Mission 2: March 15, 2019



Our GAB Box Top detectives have collected about 30 Box Tops in a month. We only have 2 months left to collect and try to make our new goal of 1000 Box Tops before we leave for the summer. I have confidence that our detectives will find those Box Tops in various places. When our GAB family works together just think what we can do. We have 100 students in our school. Just think what we can do if each student just brought in one Box Top. That would be \$10.00.

What if 100 students brought in 10 Box Tops (which is not hard to find) that would be \$100.00 dollars and our goal would be met of 1,000 Box Tops. So, please as you do your weekly shopping take a moment to look for Box Tops. Calling all detectives to get on the trail to find some Box Tops because our GAB students appreciate it. A list of participating products can be found on our website:

<https://ga02225912.schoolwires.net/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=22&dataid=186&FileName=BoxTopsParticipating-Products-Flyer-mar2015.pdf>

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



THIRD NOTICE: Summer Camps!



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/> **DEADLINE IS APRIL 15 – no late applications will be considered!**

CAMP ABILITIES



COLUMBUS, GA

"A LOSS OF SIGHT, NEVER A LOSS OF VISION"

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.p](https://kinhs.columbusstate.edu/camp_abilities/camper_registration.php)

[hp](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, **Location Correction: 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>



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.

www.blazesports.org/what-we-do/programs/2019-blazesports-star-camp/



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> 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

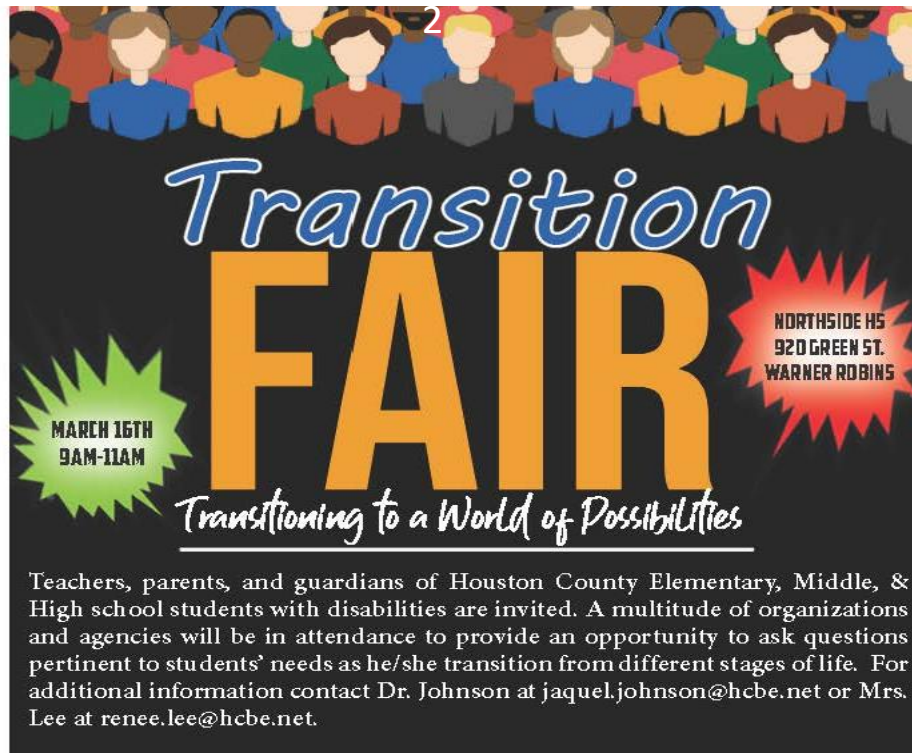
Week 3 - June 17 to 21 . . . Sports and Recreation

Week 4 - June 24 to 28 . . . ECC Week, with a focus on Activities of Daily Living, Transition, Social Skills & more!



Middle Georgia Families

FINAL NOTICE: All GAB families living in middle Georgia are invited! Please let Sonya Milam know if you plan to go! smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303



THIRD NOTICE: Middle Georgia families: The Annual Self-Determination Conference will be returning to the Goodwill Conference Center on **Saturday, April 13 from 8 am – 1 pm**. Save this date! High school students and families, you don't want to miss this opportunity!

Metro Atlanta/North Georgia Families

FINAL NOTICE:! Please let Sonya Milam know if you plan to go! smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303

March 21 2:30-5:00 pm

Cherokee County Agency Fair and Parent University
7545 Main Street, Building 200
Woodstock, GA 30188

Join other families to learn of services and programs in your community which will be of service to your student after graduation. It is never too early to plan for this transition!



Last Week in Pictures

Below: (Top to bottom, left to right) Students enjoying Lunch in the Library to celebrate good behavior.

Mrs. Applebee's students preparing props and back drops for the upcoming High School Prom

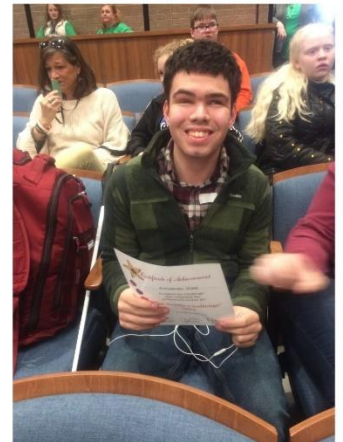
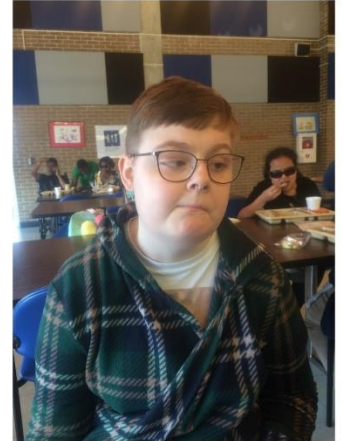
Mrs. Rushing's ECC class enjoying an outdoor picnic they prepared in their food prep class.

A mother enjoying a GAB lunch with her child.



More of Last Week in Pictures

At the end of last week, GAB hosted Georgia's statewide Braille Challenge. We had many GAB student winners. (left to right) Sophomore: 1st Kayleigh; Freshman: 2nd Shyann M.; Apprentice: 1st Berkley and 2nd Jesse M.; Junior Varsity: 1st Sebastin; Varsity: 2nd Armando; two of our elementary students posing with their fellow Rookies.



This Week in Pictures

Ms. Bechtal's class is continuing to read Dr. Seuss books this month. We read ***Hop on Pop*** and used all kinds of action words to describe how we were getting on Pop. Some hopped, stomped, knelt, sat, stepped, and canoed on Pop! One student even hid from Pop. We enjoyed having our housekeepers, Assistant Principal and Speech Therapist join in on all the action.



(Left) A sneak peek into our beautiful newly renovated auditorium that is eagerly awaiting our Spring Program on March 22 at 10. New lights, sound, curtain, carpet and seating! See page one for details about the Family Meetings taking place prior to the program in our Media Center then repeated after the program. Our Student Art Show will also be taking place!



More of This Week in Pictures

(Below) On Wednesday the entire staff and student body participated in Walk to School Day by walking our entire campus during recess. We were joined by Keliesha Jones from Georgia Safe Routes to School Resource Center arranged by our Physical Therapist, Mrs. Yaughn.

