



Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

April 12, 2019

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent
2895 Vineville Avenue
Macon, GA 31204
478-751-6083
www.gabmacon.org



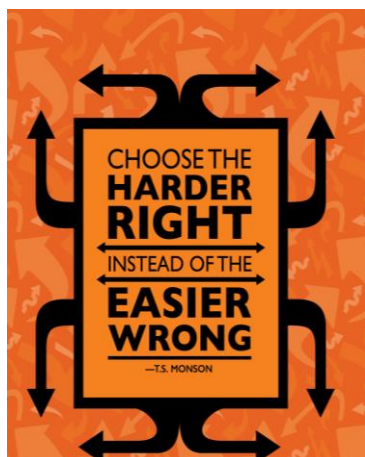
Georgia Academy for the
Blind - GAB



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

Last day of school countdown: 6 more weeks!

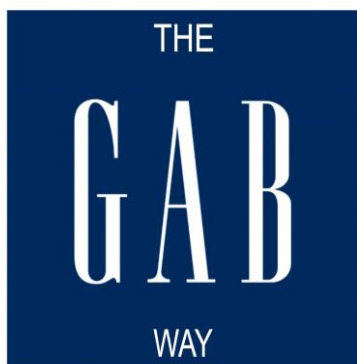
Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind provides quality education services to Georgia's students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of independence in transition to college and career readiness. *Check out this student produced video featuring this Mission Statement:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRrbhkGSe98>



Mark Your Calendars

**just added*

April 11-14: SCASB, Alabama (Track & Field)
April 16 Drop in RPM, Floyd County (details, page 3)
April 22: Easter Holiday
April 25-28: Senior Trip
*May 2: GAB students attend Macon Little Theatre's "Miracle Worker" (details, page 3)
May 16: 10 am Awards Day
*May 16: 4 pm Project SEARCH graduation lobby of the Navicent Health Heart Tower
May 17: 11 am Graduation in our new and improved auditorium!
May 24: Last day of school



**Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful**

Georgia Milestones Assessments Continue

April 15 & 16 – Math (grades 3-8)
April 17 – Science (grades 5 and 8 only)
April 18 – Social Studies (grades 5 and 8 only)
April 19 – Make-up Day
April 23 & 24 – ACT
April 29 – Literature – Writing (grade 9)
April 30 – Literature (grade 9) and American Literature
May 1– Algebra I
May 2 – Geometry
May 3 – Make-up
May 6 – Biology
May 7 – Physical Science
May 8 – US History
May 9 – Economics
May 10– Make-up

Learn more here: <http://www.gadoe.org/curriculum-instruction-andassessment/assessment/pages/georgia-milestones-assessment-system.aspx>



Parents/guardians, you can help your child by assuring he/she:

- Gets a good's night sleep.
- Eats a healthy breakfast.
- Gets to school on time.

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 **Please remember, to contact us if you've had a change in address, phone number and/or email!**

Character Education

Honesty: truthfulness and sincerity.



The Case of the Missing 1000 Box Tops Mission 2: April 12, 2019



Our GAB Box Top detectives have been busy this week. Ms. Applebee brought in 55 Box Tops. A total of \$5.50 that would have been thrown in the trash. Let's get everyone involved in collecting and maybe we can reach our goal. Now, I am asking that in the few weeks we have left of the school year that you try and make it a goal of collecting 200 Box Tops. This will get us close to meeting half of our goal of 1,000. Please look closely at everything you throw away and check for any Box Tops. Also please be aware of the expiration dates. Dates on Box Tops expire on the date shown, so no Box Tops earlier than April 2019. Thanks for all the hard work. Sylvia Layson, slayson@doe.k12.ga.us, 478751- 6083, ext. 1200



April Student Birthdays

Pierce April 2	Ashlyn April 21
Caden W April 4	Joshiah April 25
Quaderrius April 7	Marquez April 26
Dillon April 17	Majestic April 27
Frankie April 18	Hope D. April 28
Eugene April 21	Joe April 30

April Staff Birthdays:

Ms. Stroud April 4	Ms. Scott April 22
Mr. Harris April 8	Ms. Easley April 19
Ms. Vaughn April 9	Ms. Bronner April 25
Ms. Hawkins April 12	Ms. Minick April 25
Ms. Y. Gibson April 12	Ms. Thompson April 30
Ms. Sullivan April 20	

Second Notice



Atlanta Area Families

Join the Center for the Visually Impaired for this FREE Field Day at Coan Park. Learn how many sports are adapted for the blind or visually impaired, and then try them out for yourself. Everyone can enjoy this day of fun so be sure to invite your family and friends to register, too! Blindfolds will be available for any sighted participants who want to experience what it is like for their family member or friend to play a sport with a visual impairment. **Registration preferred by April 19.**

Participants will have a chance to meet two medal-winning Paralympian Goalball Players – Atlanta resident Amanda Dennis and Tyler Merren. They will both share their journey to becoming a medal-winning Paralympic athlete and what they are doing now. Get your FREE tickets while they last here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cvi-field-day-tickets-59771173188>

Saturday, April 27

Registration/Check-In: 9:30 a.m. Activities: 10 a.m. to Noon

Location: Coan Park 1530 Woodbine Ave., SE, Atlanta, GA 30317



Announcing a Special Event:



The **Macon Little Theatre** has invited GAB to attend their final dress rehearsal for *The Miracle Worker* on Thursday, May 2 at 7 pm. Families of day students: if you want your child to attend, you must make arrangements to pick them up from GAB by 9:15 pm, OR make arrangements with Mr. Reynolds to stay in cottages this night. Our art students will be displaying their work during the duration of the play May 3-12. See their website for ticket information and show times.

<https://www.maconlittletheatre.org/> We are so thankful for these good neighbors!

**FINAL NOTICE: North
Georgia Families**



REGIONAL PARENT MEETINGS

Join the members of **Georgia's State Schools' Family Engagement Team** and other parents/guardians from the **Atlanta Area School for the Deaf**, the **Georgia Academy for the Blind** and the **Georgia School for the Deaf** for a **"Drop-In RPM"** (Regional Parent/Guardian Meeting) in YOUR community!

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, *rop in anytime between 6-7:30*

Georgia School for the Deaf
232 Perry Farm Rd. Cave Spring, GA 30124

- Get the latest updates and give your feedback on your child's school including **Family Engagement Plan**, **School Improvement Plan** and the **School/Student/Parent-Guardian Compact**
 - Learn ways to help your child with **school** and **daily living skills**
 - Learn of **valuable resources** in your own **community**
 - Light refreshments served
 - Door prize given

So that we know who to plan for, please RSVP: (AASD) Patti Lombardi 404-300-5858, plombardi@doe.k12.ga.us or (GAB) Sonya Milam: 478-262-3303 smilam@doe.k12.ga.us or (GSD) Marie Dickinson (706) 777-2200 mdickinson@doe.k12.ga.us Also, let us know if you want a RPM in your community!



7th 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.



FINAL NOTICE 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!**

FINAL NOTICE 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.php Contact Jeanine Fittipaldi-Wert at wert_jeanine@columbusstate.edu for information regarding camp registration

CAMP ABILITIES



COLUMBUS, GA

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



Camp Dreams, (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

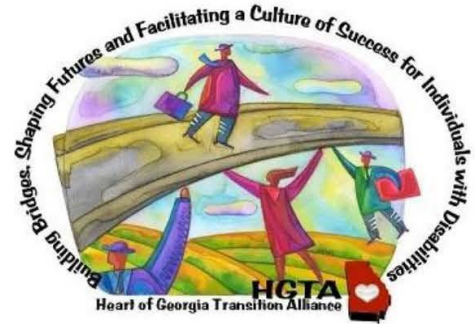
Week 3 - June 17 to 21 . . . Sports and Recreation

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



FINAL Notice: Middle Georgia Families!

HEART OF GEORGIA TRANSITION ALLIANCE



Students With Disabilities Rights and Responsibilities... Navigating the Legal System as a Parent and/or Guardian

Date: April 16, 2019

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Old West Laurens High School Room 1
338 West Laurens School Road
Dublin, GA 31021

Refreshments
will be served.

Parents of students / individuals with disabilities are invited to join us for a night of sharing information, resources, and advocacy opportunities.

Featured presenters:

- The Parent Mentor Partnership ~ Panel
- Region 5 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) ~ Panel
- Attorney - Charles C. "Buddy" Butler
- Parent to Parent of Georgia ~ Christy Shields

Featured Topics:

- Georgia Now and Comprehensive Supports Medicaid Waiver Programs
- Post Secondary Day Programs
- Host Homes
- Transition Planning
- Legal Steps to Guardianship
- Parent Support

Call or
Register
Online to
Attend!

Phone: 478-353-8350
hgtransitions@gmail.com

Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance
C/O East Central GLRS
1405 West Moore Street
Dublin, Georgia 31021

www.hgtransitions.org



Last Week in Pictures: Senior Dinner Before Prom!



Last Week in Pictures: Senior Lead Out at Prom!



More Prom
pictures
coming
next week!



Last Friday: a Day of GAB Royalty



Residential Advisor of the Year!



(Right) Ms. Denise Lamar has been elected the 2018-19 RA of the Year! GAB has been her first and only job! She joined the GAB family 35 years ago and is looking forward to many more happy years serving our students and



Queen of GAB for the Day

(Left) On Friday, we also surprised Mrs. Mary Keith with a fun coronation. We heard proclamations from students, staff and administrators and enjoyed a visit from her husband.

Mrs. Keith led the GAB faculty and staff, students, families and community members throughout the entire AdvancED accreditation process. All preliminary findings are excellent from the many audits, meetings, observations and final visit. We look forward to soon sharing the final official report with all. Thank you to all!

