



Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

May 5, 2017

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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!

May 9: Memorial for Ebonnyse Stafford, 9 a.m., Sensory Garden

May 10: Cottage 8 Final Finale and Mother's Day Tribute, 5:30

May 15: Mother's Day Holiday

May 23: Social Science Fair, 10 a.m., Media Center

May 24: Middle and High School Quiz Bowl, 9 a.m., Auditorium
Talent Show, 11 a.m., Auditorium

May 25: Awards Ceremony, 10 a.m., Auditorium
Spring Festival, 11:30-2, Gym

May 26: Last day of school
Graduation, 11 a.m., Auditorium

Countdown to Summer Break

15

More days!



Character Education

Word of the quarter: **Accomplishment**: Appreciation for attaining one's goals.

Word of the week: **Courage**: To meet a challenge without giving in to fear.

Success is not final,
failure is not fatal. It is
the courage to continue
that counts. ~ Winston
Churchill



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.

happy
birthdaY

Mary Beth ~ May 4

Tyzie ~ May 19

Heidei ~ May 20

Adam ~ May 21

Austin ~ May 24

This week in pictures:



Last Friday, Mrs. McDavid, Mrs. Barfield, Mr. Collins, and Mr. Hudgins' Extended Core Curriculum (ECC) Class went fishing at a local pond.



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Class of 2017 in Pigeon Forge last week end!

We enjoyed indoor sky diving, zorbing, water park and Dixie Stampede! Thanks to everyone who made our trip possible!

Fun was had by all at Mrs. Vaughn's **Dress for Success after school class** as they used their **ECC clothing and shopping skills** at Belks. They were awesome with manners, conversation skills with store staff, and remembered and used skills from our class in choosing their purchases. **PLUS**, the staff at Belks, Felisher and Tiffany, took our students under their wings and treated them with such love and respect. We can't say thank you enough to these community partners! Everyone had a great time.



More of this week in pictures:

Congratulations to graduating seniors Devon Henderson and Caleb Burdette, who are the recipients of the 2016-2017 Transition Achievement Award. This award is given each year by the Middle Georgia Regional Transition Council, and honors graduating Seniors who have been successful in meeting their transition goals. Simultaneously a teacher is honored who has greatly helped the student reach his or her transition goals. Devon selected Ms. Patricia Edenfield and Caleb selected Ms. Lauren Eckman as the teachers who made a difference in helping each one prepare for his "next step". Congratulations to all!!! Devon and Caleb are seen here from the awards ceremony held May 2 with their selected teacher and Mr. Reynolds, our Director of Residential Life.



June 11-16, 2017

arrive 4:00 pm on Sunday and leave at 2:00 pm on Friday

Ages 12-21

(All applications subject to approval) **Application Deadline: May 26, 2017**

Applications are being sent home or you can request one from Mrs. Day, mday@doe.k12.ga.us

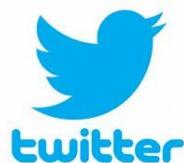
Media Center News!

Our **3-D printer** was fully funded through Donors Choose!

Our next project is **Help Us Kick Cassettes to the Curb!**

Check this out below and follow our library on Twitter! @gab_library

https://www.donorschoose.org/project/help-us-kick-cassettes-to-the-curb/2540944/?utm_source=dc&utm_medium=project&utm_campaign=twitter&rf=twitter-siteshare-2017-04-project-teacher_4350282&challengeid=20918314



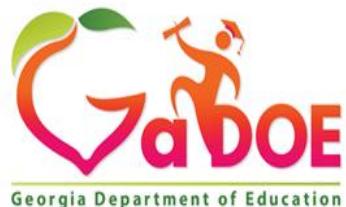
Family Engagement News!

Reminder of two current surveys and the addition of another:

1. 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:

State Schools

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



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent
"Educating Georgia's Future"

2. 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_rHWZoH0VaNOnZPRPtLHUqErF3iOinMruc4kUASOKeLakQ/viewform



3. The Georgia Academy for the Blind is in the process of gathering information for the new 3-year technology plan. This plan needs feedback from GAB's various stakeholder groups: students, parents, teachers, and administrators. We ask that you please take 5 minutes and complete the following survey. Only one survey per family needs to be completed. Thank you for your participation.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/63Y53CZ>

Everyone at GAB appreciates the family members who donated money and items for food and prizes as well as those who came and helped set up and serve our teaching staff this week in observation of Teacher Appreciation Week! We are also grateful to our community partners at Wells Fargo in Macon who came and helped at our staff cookout.