



# Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

March 10, 2017

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

**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!**



March 12: Spring Forward! Daylight saving time begins! Change your smoke detector battery too!

March 14: Bibb County Drop In RPM (Regional Parent/Guardian Meeting) with State Schools Family Engagement Team, Taste and See Coffee Shop, 546 Poplar St, Macon, GA 31201

March 15: Online Scholastic Book Fair begins! You can register to volunteer there too! <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=gabmacon&appesp=CPT/ib/20120101///txtl/FairFindertoHomepage>

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



Georgia Academy  
for the Blind - GAB



Our library is now  
on Twitter! Follow  
us: @gab\_library

March 20-24: Scholastic Book Fair, GAB Media Center

March 24: Parent/Guardian Informational Meeting, Student Art Show AND Student Spring Music Program

March 27-31: Spring Break

April 4-6: Milestones Testing: Elementary and Middle English/Language Arts

April 6: High School Prom

April 10- 11: Milestones Testing: Elementary and Middle, Math

April 12 – 13: Milestones Testing: Science and Social Studies (5<sup>th</sup> grade only)

April 17: Easter Holiday

April 18: Special Olympics (see note on page 2 regarding forms)

April 19 – 24: SCASB in Texas (Track and Field)

April 25-26: Milestones Testing: High School, English/Language Arts.)

April 27 – Milestones Testing: High School, Math

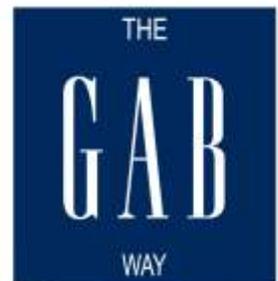
April 26: Help a Child Smile Mobile Dental Clinic (form Deadline is March 20!)

April 27-30: Senior Trip

May 2-3: Milestones Testing: High School, Science & Social Studies

May 15: Mother's Day Holiday

May 26: Last day of school and Graduation



Give it your best  
Achieve your goals  
Be respectful

**Don't forget! The Student Council is still collecting canned goods for local food bank and change for local animal shelter!**

**DEADLINE FOR BOTH IS MARCH 17**

**Don't forget! The Senior Class is selling Yeti Raffle Tickets. Get your ticket by contacting Sonya Milam, [Smilam@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:Smilam@doe.k12.ga.us) 478-262-3303**

**DEADLINE IS MARCH 22**

## Character Education

Word of the quarter: **COMMITMENT** The obligation or pledge to carry out some action or to support someone.

Word of the week: **MOTIVATION** The strong desire and action towards a goal

"Well done" is better than "well said".

~ Benjamin Franklin



happy birthday

Zy ~ March 4

Kameron ~ March 9

Harry ~ March 23

Angelica L. ~ March 27

BJ ~ March 28

Sammy ~ March 29

**Thanks to all who completed the School Climate Survey!**  
**Now we need your help again for a second important survey!**

Thank You!



Help Still Needed!

This **second** survey is just for parents/guardians of children receiving **Special Education** services in Georgia. 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 us in partnering with families to raise the achievement rate for **students with disabilities**. Completing each of these surveys will assist in achieving this goal. It measures the satisfaction of parents/guardians. It contains **10 questions** and it has been reported to take **only 5 minutes** to complete. This parent satisfaction survey can be found here:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Parent-Survey.aspx> **Deadline is April 14**

**When you see DISTRICT, scroll down to STATE SCHOOLS. You will then see GEORIGIA ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND drop down on the list of the three State Schools.**

**Who do you contact for help with completing the survey?** Your Parent Mentor, Sonya Milam stands ready to assist you! [Smilam@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:Smilam@doe.k12.ga.us) 478-262-3303

**To ALL Graduating Seniors:** You have an opportunity to apply for a scholarship that is being offered through the **Georgia Foundation for Public Education Scholars Program**. The **deadline** for the application is **Tuesday, March 21**. Please contact Mrs. Keith at [mkeith@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mkeith@doe.k12.ga.us) for further information. Applications can be picked up in Brittany Jackson's office.

Check this out! Our library is now on Twitter! Follow us: @gab\_library



Be sure to check the calendar on page 6 to offer your feedback!

**Families of Special Olympians:** forms need to be turned in by Friday March 17 so we can get a count of how many t-shirts to order. If they turn in their forms after this date they will not receive a t-shirt. Contact Mrs. McDavid if you have any questions!  
[KimFord@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:KimFord@doe.k12.ga.us)



# This Week In Pictures



**High School Art Trip to Georgia College and State University**



Above: High School art students traveled to Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville to tour their art department and learn about Cyanotype, a photographic printing process that produces a cyan-blue print using sunlight and safe chemicals. We can't wait to show off the finished product at the Art Show on March 24!

Below: On Wednesday, March 1, twelve GAB students and four GAB staff, along with VR Counselor Kathryn Edger, departed Macon on an overnight transition trip. The trip was designed to give students practical experience to demonstrate their ECC skills and to tour an industrial manufacturing plant, Georgia Industries for the Blind, in Bainbridge Georgia. Students were chosen to participate based on their expressed interests in possible employment in manufacturing, or in their living proximity to Bainbridge. The tour was conducted March 2, and students were shown the various aspects of the plant, as well as given information on employment. Pillows, reflective vests, and t-shirts are among the products currently being produced at GIB. Because it is a federally contracted facility, 75% of the employees are required to have a visual impairment of 20/200. Additionally, as a state worker, employees enjoy a full range of benefits, including sick and annual leave, and retirement. Georgia Industries for the Blind would be a great workplace for GAB graduates! To learn more, visit <http://gvs.georgia.gov/georgia-industries-blind>



Yes, this IS happening! Graduate portraits were taken Tuesday!

**Graduation is May 26.**





Yes, you saw that right! It is time to register for camps!

Act NOW!  
Camps fill up quickly!



We are pleased to let you know of Camp Dreams' 2017 Camper

**Session Dates:**  
July 15th – July 18th (Sat. - Tue.)  
July 19th – July 22rd (Wed. - Sat.)  
July 23rd – July 26th (Sun. - Wed.)  
July 27th – July 30th (Thu. - Sun.)



Camp Abilities is for students ages 9 to 18 years old who are blind or visually impaired.

May 26- 29, 2017. Students will stay on the campus of **Columbus State University** to engage in an array of sports and recreational activities in a safe and developmentally appropriate environment including: **goalball, beep baseball, beep kickball, tandem biking, rock climbing, swimming, soccer, tennis and team building** activities. More information:

[https://hpex.columbusstate.edu/camp\\_abilities/index.php](https://hpex.columbusstate.edu/camp_abilities/index.php)

To register, send email to: [wert\\_jeanine@columbusstate.edu](mailto:wert_jeanine@columbusstate.edu)



**JUNE 4-9, 2017 BlazeSports All-Star Camp** is a fun, week long, overnight summer camp for students ages 7-17 with a physical disability, including visual impairments, a chance to learn and play a variety of adaptive sports and recreational activities.

More information and to register:

<http://www.blazesports.org/what-we-do/camps/blazecamp/sthomas@blazesports.org>



Georgia Lions Club Camp for the Blind

June 11-16, 2017 (ages 6-12)  
July 02- 07, 2017 (ages 18-25)  
July 10-16 (ages 13-17)

Register by calling 912-283-4320 888-297-1775  
or by emailing [secretary@glcb.org](mailto:secretary@glcb.org)



\* **VALDOSTA** July 24-28 8 am-3pm Contact Erin Willis (229) 630-8612 [erin.willis@bellsouth.net](mailto:erin.willis@bellsouth.net) register here: <https://nfb.org/bell-student-application-form>

\* **ATLANTA just in!** June 12-16 and June 19-23 9 am - 3 pm. Georgia State University. For more information, contact: Hayley Alli 404-789-8535 or Jackie Anderson 443-929-2489 register here: <https://nfb.org/bell-student-application-form>

**SAVANNAH DATES COMING SOON!**



