



Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

December 2, 2016

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Georgia Academy
for the Blind - GAB

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!



December 3: "Dining in for Health Families" Day (story inside)

December 6: Floyd County Drop In RPM 5:30-7:30 Country Inn & Suites, 15 Hobson Way, Rome, GA 30161

December 8: Student Holiday Party, 11:30 – 1:00 School Council afterwards.
(See article inside about new School Council members).

December 16: Holloway's Happy Holidays Concert and Applebee's Art Show (SEE INSIDE FOR CLASSES FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS BEFORE AND AFTER THE CONCERT)

December 19-January 6: Happy holidays!

January 9: School starts back!

January 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

January 19-23: SCASB in Mississippi (Wrestling, Cheering and Fine Arts)

February 16: Braille Challenge (*Program for parent/guardians is being planned*).

February 20: Presidents' Day Holiday

March 27-31: Spring Break

April 6: High School Prom

April 27-30: Senior Trip

April 17: Easter Holiday

May 15: Mother's Day Holiday

May 26: Last day of school and Graduation

2017



Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful

Georgia Academy for the Blind
Music Department

proudly presents our Winter Program:

"Let's all be Santa's Helpers!"

December 16, 2015

10:00 AM

Georgia Academy for the Blind Auditorium

Mrs. Holloway, Music Director

Mr. McKinley Starks, Assistant and Accompanist



We are excited to be offering classes for those attending the Winter Program on December 16

- Those attending a 9 am class will have reserved seating at the concert.
- "My Kid Can Do What-Understanding the ASPIRE IEP" will be offered both before and after.
- Light refreshments served and door prizes given!
- Each class will be held in the Hendrick's School Building
- To assure the right amount of seats, materials and food, **please RSVP by contacting Sonya Milam, 478-262-3303, smilam@doe.k12.ga.us**



**My Kid Can Do WHAT?
Understanding ASPIRE IEP**

9:00-9:45 then repeated at
11:15-12:00

**Active Student Participation
Inspires Real Engagement!**

Come hear the wonderful things our students are doing to prepare for their IEPs and to reach their IEP goals. This is the perfect time to learn ways you can help support self-advocacy and independence skills at home.

Presenters: Ms. Alicia Jackson and Mrs. Melanie Thompson.



9:00-9:45

All parents/guardians of 8-12 graders are encouraged to come and meet our collaborative partners from **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency** and learn of the Pilot Program, **Explore, Engage, Employ (E3)** to enhance our transition services for our students' lives beyond GAB. Read more here:

<http://www.macon.com/news/local/education/article116669578>



**Grandparents/others Raising
And Nurturing Dependents
with Disabilities**

11:15-12:00

Come and meet with fellow grandparents and others who are in the unique situation of raising a second family. Laura Wells, LCSW of Innovative Solutions for Disadvantage and Disability (ISDD) will present information helpful to our guardians including connecting you with resources in your own community.



call for
NOMINATIONS

School Council Nominations are Open! We are seeking nominations for officer positions and two other parent/guardian seats on School Council. The School council meets four times a year and can be attended in person

or via phone conference. School Council is made up of parent/guardians, two teachers, Frank Reynolds, Director of Residential Services and Dr. Gibson, School Superintendent. The School Council is an advisory committee that provides feedback and suggestions to the school administration. The purpose of the meetings is to keep parents and community stockholders involved in our decision making processes, to inform them of our budgetary plans and needs, and to inform them of all the programs and possibilities offered to our students here at GAB. The meetings are published in advance, are open to all, and minutes are available to anyone upon request. The next meeting is December 8th and we need the nominations before then. You may make your nomination by emailing Kelly Moorman at Kmoorman@doe.k12.ga.us

Character Education

Word of the quarter: **COMPASSION**

Showing concern and empathy for others.

Word of the week: **KINDESS** Consideration and willingness to help others.

No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted.
~ Aesop



NFB Jernigan Institute Helps Santa Sends Letters to Boys and Girls

Once again, our friends from NFB are helping Santa to Braille and send letters to children all over the world. If you would like for your child to receive a personalized letter, sign up here! <https://nfb.org/santa-letters>
Deadline is December 16!



Joshua ~ 5th

Shyann ~ 25th

Caiden ~ 11th

Dani ~ 26th

Kaleb ~ 11th

Dalton ~ 26th

Jartavius ~ 11th

Blake ~ 29th

Adria ~ 16th

Jermaine ~ 29th

Kiauna ~ 22nd

Poinsettias are on now on sale in the greenhouse. The price is \$4 for a wrapped poinsettia. Hours are from 8-4 daily. Thank you for your support of the GAB greenhouse!

Remember you must come and sign in at the office before heading to greenhouse!

Blackwell, Horticulture Teacher ext. 7110 kblackwell@doe.k12.ga



Classes Visit Christmas Tree Farm

Now we are enjoying the touch and smell of fresh trees!

Mrs. McDavid's class

Mrs. Barfield's class





On December 3 join students and their families all across our nation for “**Dining In for Health Families**” Day Sponsored by the **American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)** who explain: “no matter what your family make-up is, where you live, or what your dinners are like, you can be part of **The Family Dinner Project**. The only thing you need to do is share a meal with the people who are closest to you. There are many resources to help you improve your family dinners and meet your dinnertime goals! Choose the options that work best for you. Just as there’s no one right way to be a family, there’s no one right way to have a family dinner.” After signing up in the link below, we would love to hear from you that you are doing this! Go here to sign up:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScil6gSEIMQs0DFBsbJE2IC9psUJX1NgPgAhHRg1VviLa6wOQ/viewform?c=0&w=1> You may even win a prize!

Here is a recipe from our Family and Consumer Science Teacher, Miss Duke that you and your child can make together:

Chicken Asparagus Casserole Recipe from Imogen Duke (Miss Duke’s Grandmother)

Ingredients :

- 1 Can Chicken
- 1 Can of Cream of mushroom soup or cream of chicken soup
- Velveta Cheese (small size)
- 1 Jar of pimentos
- Two cans of asparagus or fresh asparagus
- Saltine crackers
- Butter

In a baking dish, line the bottom with asparagus and cut them into three pieces.

Melt on the stove and warm chicken, cream of mushroom soup or cream of chicken soup, jar of pimentos, and Velveta.

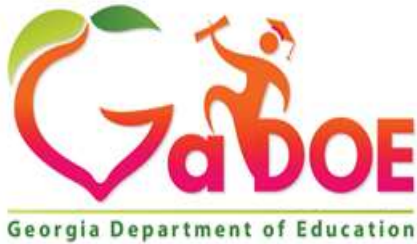
Melt until cheese has melted (You don’t want this mixture soupy, just until warm).

Then pour mixture into the baking dish covering the asparagus.

Crush saltine crackers and pour over the top covering the mixture. Then put little pats of butter over the top. You do not have to cover all of the top but just in some places.

Bake in the oven at 350 degrees for 30 or 45 minutes or until bubble. (Check the dish after 30 minutes)





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

The fall 206 issue of GaDOE Updates can be found here:
http://www.gabmacon.org/files/_WcBbz_/54182aaf97b9df263745a49013852ec4/GaDOE_Updates_Fall_2016_FINAL.pdf

'tis the Season to be Surveyed!

Don't forget that **Georgia Parent Survey** is still underway and we need YOUR help! The data will be used as part of the calculation of the **School Climate Star Rating**. Survey responses are anonymous and will be submitted directly to the Georgia Department of Education for analysis. *Simply copy the link below into your browser of your computer or SmartPhone to take the survey. Our school district is STATE SCHOOLS, then you will be prompted to select Georgia Academy for the Blind.*

<http://apps.gadoe.org/schoolclimate/parents.nsf/Survey.xsp> After you complete the survey, please send a note with your child or email Sonya Milam at smilam@doe.k12.ga.us and he/she will receive a voucher for a **FREE WENDY'S FROSTY!**

A second quick survey we need all parents/guardians to complete following your child's **ASPIRE IEP**. If you have had your IEP this year and have not yet completed the survey, you can do so here:

<http://tinyurl.com/ASPparent16-17> *Under district, you will be taken directly to Georgia Academy for the Blind. When it asks about ASPIRE activities at home, it is referring to any time you discuss school and their goals beyond school, have your child make choices, and/or have your child speak for him/herself. Let Sonya Milam know if you need any assistance with either of these surveys.*



Mrs. Moore's Sixth Grade Earth Science Class made a tactile model of the ocean floor to help them recognize the significant role of water in the earth processes and to help describe the composition, location and subsurface topography of the world's oceans. Come check it out in the Media



Just a sampling of some of the items prepared for the Art Show on December 16!

This newsletter is produced by Sonya Milam, Parent Mentor. Please contact her with suggestions and news. 478-262-3303 smilam@doe.k12.ga.us Student Editor is Caleb Burdett.

