



Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

October 21, 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!



October 24-28 National Red Ribbon Week: *YOLO, Be Drug Free!*
#youonlyliveonce

October 25: Help a Child Smile Dental Clinic *Get your forms in!*

October 26: Pink Panther Day! (Breast Cancer Awareness Activities at recess)
EECC's *SPOOK-tacular* Fall Dance 7-9 pm, costumes optional

November 1: Cobb County "Drop In RPM" 5:30-7:30 pm

November 3-6 USABA High School Goalball Championship

November 10: GAB Community Open House, 4-5 pm

November 10: Senior Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction, 5-9 p.m.

November 15: Henry County "Drop In RPM" 5:30--7:30

November 21-25: Thanksgiving Holiday

November 28: Return from Thanksgiving Holiday

December 6: Floyd County "Drop In RPM" 5:30-7:30

December 16: Holloway's Happy Holidays Concert and Applebee's Art Student's Show

January 9, 2017: School starts!

January 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

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.

Ask your student to share with you these three ways to show the GAB WAY!



Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful

When a student says these 3 WAYS to Mrs. Day or Mr. Smith in the coming days, they will receive a sweet treat!

White Cane Day fell on a Saturday this year. We celebrated it at GAB on Wednesday. The Macon-Bibb Firefighters and Paramedics, Georgia Power, and a representative from Governor Deal's office were our special guests.

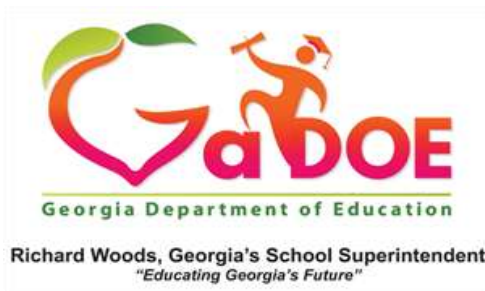
The mission of White Cane Day is to educate the world about blindness and how the blind and visually impaired can live and work independently while giving back to their communities, to celebrate the abilities and successes achieved by blind people in a sighted world and to honor the many contributions being made by the blind and visually impaired.



The President of the United States annually recognizes White Cane Day by the Blind Americans Equality Day Proclamation on October 15th to acknowledge the abilities of people who are blind and to promote equal opportunities as any other American.

You Can Help GAB Shine!

We encourage all parents/guardians to participate in the **Georgia Parent Survey** because 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>



Student Prize When Parent Survey is Submitted

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!**



SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS and COMMUNITIES SURVEY "OPT-OUT" PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM

In order to provide the most effective drug and violence prevention resources and/or activities for your child, the Title IV Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program collects survey information from students at various grade levels during the school year. The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete, is totally anonymous and voluntary, and asks for responses that pertain to student involvement in substance abuse, violent situations, school climate and nutrition. The data collected will be used to identify critical areas of need for our **Safe and Drug-Free Schools** efforts. Students and parent/guardians have the right to "opt out". **If you do NOT want your child taking the survey, the form you must complete is attached to the end of this newsletter.** If you would like to view the survey or have any questions or concerns, contact our School Social Worker, Ms. Rosemary Knight, RKnight@doe.k12.ga.us 478-751-6083 extension 1284.



Remaining October Birthdays:

Nikita ~ October 23

DaShia ~ October 24



Character Education

Word of October: **CITIZENSHIP**
respectful devotion to school and country.

Word of the Week: **SPORTSMANSHIP**
the ability of winning or losing without gloating or complaining.



Flu shot permission forms go home October 21 and must be signed and returned!
Immunizations take place first week of November!



Don't forget to get your Chick-fil-A Calendar for only \$7.00 to help our Senior Class with their Prom and Senior Trip. These calendars contain monthly savings on your favorite Chick-fil-A purchases and make great Christmas gifts! See a senior or contact Mrs. Thompson: Thompson@doe.k12.ga.us



The Senior Class Fundraising Dinner will be on Thursday, **November 10 from 5-9 pm.** The dinner will be catered by **Jeneane's**; the menu is lemon chicken, hamburger steak, Irish stew or veggie plate. Tickets are \$12. See a senior or contact Mrs. Bardash: ABardash@doe.k12.ga.us



The **Annual Senior Class Fundraising Silent Auction** will take place alongside the dinner on November 10! We are in great need of items to be auctioned. Examples are: gifts cards for products and services, holiday decorations and craft items, services, baked goods, jewelry, artwork and books. Let us know if you have items to donate by contacting Mrs. Vaughn: TYaughn@doe.k12.ga.us We will accept items beginning now until Friday, November 4. Food items will be accepted on November 9-10.

Please help the Student Council with their local animal shelter fundraiser by donating change. If you have questions, please see Student Council sponsors Ms. R. Knight, Ms. Eckman, or Ms. Touchton. Together, we can save local animals and give them a second chance.



Lions Club

Camp Silver Bells & Candy Kisses is **December 9-11.** Don't miss out, contact Sonya Milam today to get your application sent to you! Application deadline is November 18!



**SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS and COMMUNITIES SURVEY PASSIVE
PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM**

In order to provide the most effective drug and violence prevention resources and/or activities for your child, the Title IV Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program collects survey information from students at various grade levels during the school year. The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete, is totally anonymous and voluntary, students have the right to “opt out”, and asks for responses that pertain to student involvement in substance abuse, violent situations, school climate and nutrition. The data collected will be used to identify critical areas of need for our Safe and Drug-Free Schools efforts. Survey analysis of these data provides information/data that:

- Meets the No Child Left Behind Title IV mandated data collection requirements;
- Assists in the maintenance of a school environment that is free of drugs and violence;
- Promotes a classroom atmosphere that allows teachers to teach and students to learn; and
- Develops and offers experiences that involve students in applying the concepts of making healthy decisions, accepting responsibility for behaviors, and understanding consequences.

Our desire is to involve parents in the education of their children. If you **do not** wish for your child to participate in this important activity, please sign and return this form to the school by If you would like to examine the survey, please contact Ms. Rosemary Knight rknight@doe.k12.ga.us or 478-751-6083 ext 1284 and we will be happy to provide you with a copy for your review.

DO NOT return this form if your child can participate in this survey.

Please sign this form, and return it to school by October 24, 2016

only if you do not wish your child to participate.

I would prefer that my child NOT participate in the *Safe and Drug-Free Schools Survey*.

SCHOOL _____

STUDENT GRADE _____

Parent Signature _____

Date

Thank you for your participation.

