

Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind Friday, $October\ 23rd$, 2020

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent

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Georgia Academy for the Blind - GAB



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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



Give it your best Achieve your goals Be respectful

Mark your Calendar Our next holiday is:

Thanksgiving Break 11/23—11/27



October 23rd:

National iPod Day on October 23rd recognizes the portable music device. Apple introduced the iPod on October 23, 2001. The iPod changed the way we listened to and purchased music. The first iPod was sold on November 10, 2001, for \$399. iPod Day pays recognition to this groundbreaking technology and the many people it impacted. The iPod introduced us to playlists and a way of managing our music collections like never before. It took portability to a whole new level. Soon, the iPod would introduce other media to us, too. It changed the way we listened to books, stories, and news.

This newsletter is published by our Parent Mentor/Family Engagement Specialist, Jennifer Minter. Please send your ideas, news and resources in your community to her: JMinter@doe.k12.ga.us or call 478-262-3303. Please remember to contact her if you've had a change in address, phone number and/or email!

A message from our Superintendent

Dear GAB Family,

This letter comes to you with gracious thanks for your resilience as we continue to adapt in response to COVID-19 concerns. This week has gone fast, and we are happy to be back onsite. Thank you to the whole village of parent/guardians, LEAs, GaDOE and all people at GAB for getting students home safely and preparing for return.

Be reminded that the GAB plan is to continue in virtual/online or GAB/onsite instruction as selected until further notice, and at least until January 2021. Updates taking into consideration the plans of surrounding and affected counties across the state will be provided moving toward January. Your IEP teams have/will choose the best plan for your children, and we have made great strides to ensure instructional effectiveness online. We expect success in whatever mode you chose, so reach out to case managers, teachers, or administrators if there are needs or specific considerations moving forward. We are thrilled to be open onsite!

Next week we are planning activities for the week to greet the season and give thanks for being together. We have missed so many celebrations this year, but we refuse to be undone! Fall Fun Week Activities and dress up ideas are included in this letter complete with theme music! Watch Facebook for pictures!

So, in the end, what does **COVID** mean to us?

C ourageous

O ptimistic

V ivacious

I nnovative

D etermined!

Always,

Cindy





And while most of the GAB family was virtual....... Who ya gonna call? **COVIDBusters!** When we say we follow all DPH/CDC guidance for safety and compliance, we MEAN it!!!

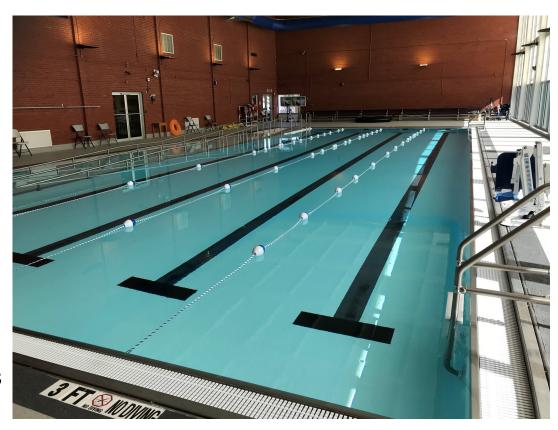
Thank you so much to our Housekeeping Team for the professional cleaning so that we can resume onsite operations.



New After School Program

The Afterschool Program will be offered Monday through Thursday beginning on Monday, October 26th. Students are assigned to Reading and Math support according to assessments. Other classes being offered are Strength Training, Walking for Fitness, Reading with Movement, Fitness, and Aqua Aerobics. For more information email Mrs. Dawn Day at mday@doe.k12.ga.us

The GAB pool is back in action with new lane ropes. The students are working hard to develop new swim skills through weekly swim lessons. Giving it our best to achieve our goals! That's the GAB Way!



Ms. Barfield and her son Colt met one of her GAB students at Indian Springs State Park to take him his technology and some work for the week. Ayden and Colt played on the tractor together, walked through the botanical gardens, and rested on

a horse bench at the end of the day.







October Birthdays

10-2 Kemet 10-17 Kevin B.

10-3 Jordan 10-19 Andrew

10-9 Angelica **10-20** Hope K.

10-13 Kaleigh 10-24 Dashia

