



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, March 19th, 2021

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

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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=IRbhhkGSe98>

Mark your Calendars

Today: Friday, March 19th at 1:00 - School Council Meeting

3/29 through 4/5 - Spring Break Week with Easter Holiday
Residential students return on Monday 4/5.

4/12 - All orders for New GAB Logo Merch is due on Monday.

4/19 through 4/23 - Paraprofessional & Residential Advisor
Appreciation Week!

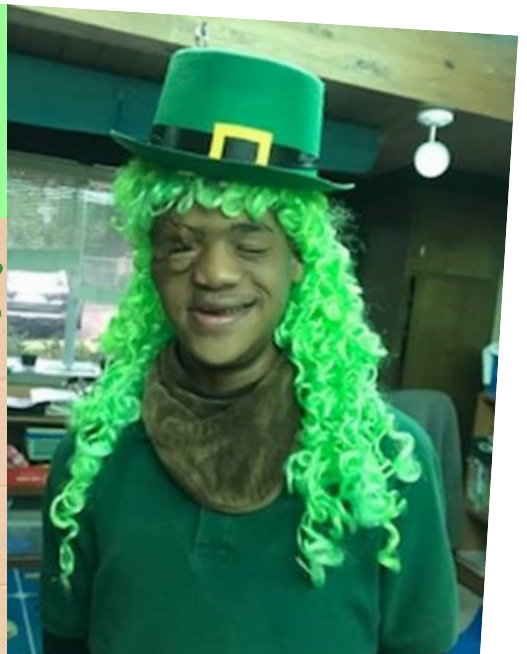
5/3 through 5/7 - Teacher Appreciation Week!

5/20 - Prom at Morgan View Farm.

5/21 - Graduation on GAB campus.

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!***

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



March Poems from Ms. Eckman's class

GAB Family,

Spring is in bloom here in Macon, and my American Literature class is full of "budding" authors. The students studied the poetry of the American Romantics, which is all about the love of nature. The class went on a nature walk to find inspiration and select aspects of the natural world to serve as the focus of their poems. Then, they composed original poems in which they worked to use descriptive language and imagery to teach a lesson based on their observations. The students really enjoyed using a thesaurus to locate more "poetic" words to enhance their writing, and the results are fantastic! So, without further ado, I'm proud to present "Thrive," "Shine," and "The Tree."

Happy Reading!

**Sincerely,
Ms. Eckman**

Thrive by Bryce

**It was a Misty Wintry day outside when I saw the greenery growing from
between the rocks**

They seem to grow comfortably

Despite the conditions that surrounded them

Like an oasis in a barren desert

They seem to not only survive but thrive in the nothingness that was the rocks

They thrive in the cold winds that blew at them from every direction

They thrive in the cold misty rains that fell from the sky

The rocks were meant to snuff out the lives of these plants

**Instead, they provided them with a growing
medium**

So, grow survive and thrive!

Be the plant

And grow where nothing else does



Shine by Korey

**The silent gust of air wasn't there
the melancholy somber darkness
encompassed the field
no signs of a soul
everything looks alike
Yet somehow a shining force
emerged
Against a shrub
Sticking out
A Rose stands out
The alluring flaming red ruby
That shined in the darkness far away
And let its presence be known
Let your presence be known--stand out
Let people acknowledge your existence
Just like a rose, you can also shine bright**



The Tree by Michael

It is a cold and icy morning in the school, and there is a tree in front of the building standing strong and tall.

He witnessed past and present and is still living a long life.
Its leaves come and go during the season changes.
Yet the tree will be there until the day we pass on.

His roots are like fingers gripping the ground, and his vast size told his age.
The leaves on the old tree change into different shades of colors as the season change.
Starting with green in the Spring to turning yellow and scarlet in the fall.
It doesn't matter how big it grows and what color of its leaves change into,
That is still a tree standing there proud.

He faced disasters from nature, and he also witnessed important historic events.
From the founding of the school to a battle with Tornado, from witnessing battles during the Civil War to the segregation of peoples of color and the Civil Rights movement.

He is like a time machine that takes down everything as the time passed on.

The disaster from nature had challenged him well.
Yet no matter what he experienced, he always stands straight like nothing had happened.

The tree can take down tough times and so can we.

A Message from our School Counselor

I have attached the passive permission form for the student wellness survey. Parents please fill this form out **ONLY** if you **DO NOT** want your child to participate in taking the survey. Virtual students can have their parents email the form back to Octavian Burch at: octavian.burch@doe.k12.ga.us

Or send the form back with your student when they return to school next week . Please email to me no later than next Thursday March 18, 2021.
The survey will be open until April 2, 2021.

GEORGIA STUDENT WELLNESS SURVEY (Grades 6-12) PASSIVE PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM

The Student Wellness Survey is an anonymous, statewide survey instrument that was designed to collect data on student wellness during the current school year. The Student Wellness Survey contains 33 questions and covers various topics such as school climate and safety, bullying, alcohol and drug use and mental health. All student survey data is anonymous and self-reported.

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) gives you the right to opt your child out of participating in the survey. If you **do not** wish for your child to participate in the Student Wellness Survey, please sign and return this form to the school by _____. If you would like to examine the survey, please come by the school between _____ and _____, 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 _____
if you do not wish for your child to participate.

I would prefer that my child NOT participate in the Student Wellness Survey.

SCHOOL _____

STUDENT _____ GRADE _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

_____ Date

Thank you for your participation.



GAB Long Sleeve Hoodie



Men's Long Sleeve Hoodie

Youth Small \$20	Youth Med \$20	Youth Large \$20	Adult XS \$20	Adult S \$20	Adult M \$20	Adult L \$20	Adult XL \$20	Adult 2x \$23	Adult 3x \$23	Adult 4x \$23

Women's Long Sleeve Hoodie

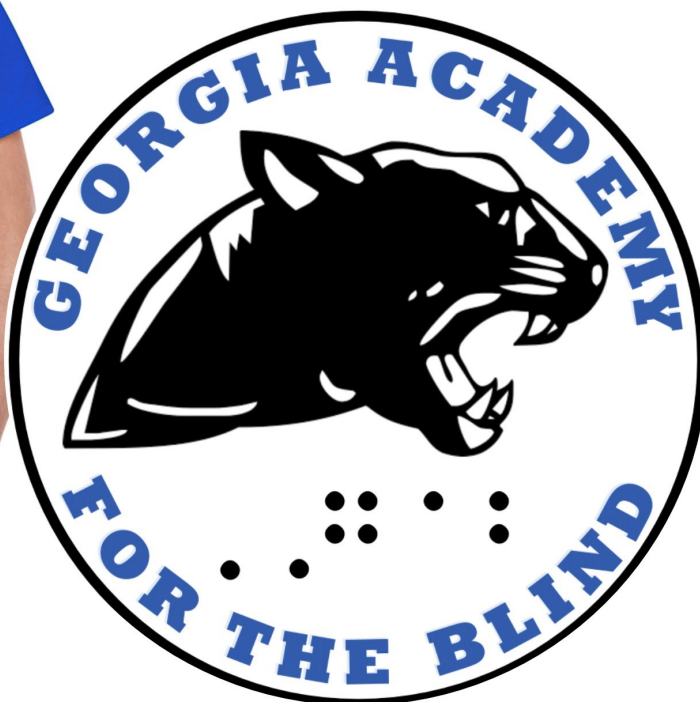
Youth Small \$20	Youth Med \$20	Youth Large \$20	Adult XS \$20	Adult S \$20	Adult M \$20	Adult L \$20	Adult XL \$20	Adult 2x \$23	Adult 3x \$23	Adult 4x \$23

Name

Total



GAB Logo T-shirt & Decal



Short Sleeve T-shirt										
Youth Small \$12	Youth Med \$12	Youth Large \$12	Youth XL \$12	Adult S \$12	Adult M \$12	Adult L \$12	Adult XL \$12	Adult 2x \$15	Adult 3x \$15	Adult 4x \$15
Name					Total					

GAB Decal 4 inch	
Quantity	X \$2.00 each
Name	Total

We welcome cash or checks. Make checks payable to GAB.

March

Birthdays

3/4 Zy

3/23 Harry

3/9 Kameron

3/28 B.J.

3/13 Jess

3/29 Sammy

3/14 Destiny B.

