



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, September 9, 2022

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent

2895 Vineville Ave. Macon, GA



Visit us on
Facebook

Georgia Academy for the Blind

Follow our library:

@gablibrary

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.

Mark your Calendars

9/11 through 9/17 – Housekeeping Appreciation week

9/16 through 9/23 – Space Camp in Huntsville, AL

9/23 – First School Council Meeting on Friday at 1:00

10/11 through 10/14 – Fall Break Week

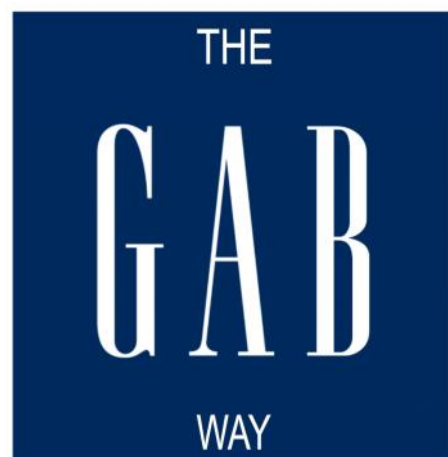
11/3 through 11/5 – National Highschool Goalball
Tournament in St. Augustine, FL

PBIS Positive Behavioral
Interventions & Supports



**Next week's
Motto:**

**Responsibility:
Taking care of
self & others**



**Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful**

A message from our Superintendent

Dear GAB Family,

Positive school climate is an essential factor in student achievement and school effectiveness. Safety, security, sense of belonging, and team collaboration are characteristics that no money can buy. Thus, read further and you will see that we create it on the spot, in the house!!!!

First up, we are thankful for our 'round the clock security officers who circulate on the property getting to know students and staff and directing visitors. Officer Cooper is ultra-official with her "marked car" for directing bus traffic at the close of the day! The Better Seeking Team of GAB is implementing enhanced traffic safety measures in effort to facilitate busses progressing through the pick-up and shortening the time that busses are waiting on Vineville Avenue. This has been a huge team effort.



Speaking of teams! Who is your favorite football team? GAB partied down last Friday decked out in our team colors to launch the official start of the season! An elephant who wore crimson and houndstooth took up two chairs! Alligators were kidnapped and a ransom note received, and a National Championship football "went missing" all in the name of fun! This week staff



will enjoy the annual Dip Contest upon departure of students on Friday. Pictures will tell the story.

The Howard Center Presented information on health-related services for the GAB staff last week. They have teamed with GAB for several years now!! The information and the luncheon are excellent, but WOW on the person who wins the designer purse! Look at that Deborah Ezell and her Kate Spade!



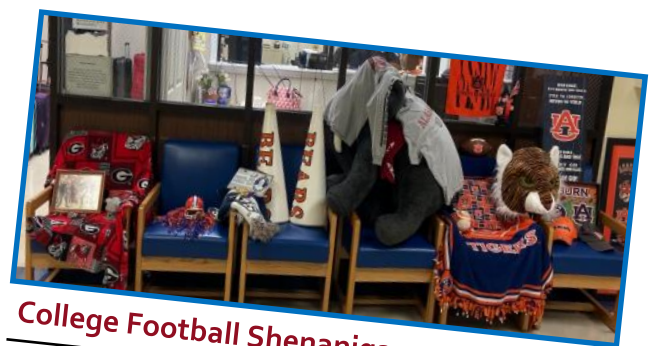
Another team is our **SENSATIONAL Sensory Team! GSAP and GAB- The Georgia Sensory Assistance Project (GSAP)** is a discretionary federal grant funded through the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs to increase the capacity of education teams and families to educate children who are deaf-blind. GSAP is housed within the UGA Mary Frances Early College of Education, Department of Communication Sciences and Special Education. GSAP provides consultation, training, and resources for educators, service providers, and families of children and youth with combined vision and hearing loss, from birth through 21 years of age, across the state of Georgia.



Martha Veto and Heather Boyle, education specialists for GSAP, were on our campus today. They started their day meeting with Allison Hawkins, OT and Chelsea Shoop, SLP. Allison is involved with the Georgia CVI mentorship program and Chelsea is involved with the Communication Matrix Training and teaching program. Both state-wide programs are sponsored by GSAP. Martha and Heather also had a chance to visit classrooms to view our active learning set up for our youngest students. We appreciate all these ladies do to keep us connected and learning the latest and the greatest in our field. We are creating a brighter future for our students and families by working together with GSAP.



As ever,
Cindy



College Football Shenanigans

"Creating a Brighter future by Working Together!"

Transition Talk

This week in Transition Talk, I would like to spotlight our transition program Work-Based Learning. Work-Based Learning (WBL) is a tool where through classroom and community-based instruction, our students can develop employability skills and realistic job interests. Through WBL, our students earn the opportunity to work at jobsites both on-campus and off-campus. At each jobsite, students receive guidance from a job coach to learn behaviors such as work quality, punctuality, productivity, and social interaction which are all essential skills needed to obtain and maintain a job.

Some of our community partners include Goodwill, Macon Outreach, Kroger, Marriott Courtyard, Magnolia Manor, Papa Johns and GIMC. Through these partnerships, students are provided hands on work experience. On campus, students support the operations of GAB's Warehouse, Housekeeping Staff, and Food Services.

Transitional opportunities such as WBL provides our students with a sense of pride and accomplishment in knowing that they have the skills they need to do a job independently and to the best of their ability. How exciting is that!? Attached are some pictures of some of our WBL students, past and present, in action. Led by WBL teachers Toni Kimbrough and Patricia Edenfield, our students are putting in the work needed for successful post-secondary outcomes.

"Work experience as a teenager will be one of the common denominators for all successful people in the future."

-Chad Foster



Alicia M. Jackson
Principal of Transition



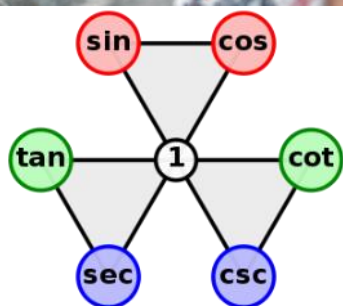
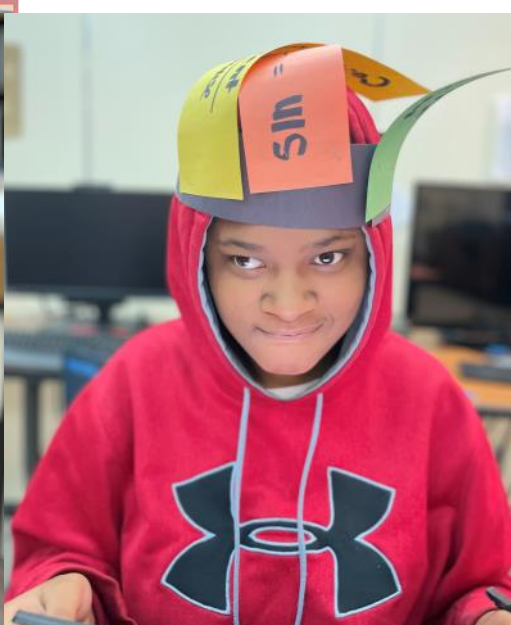
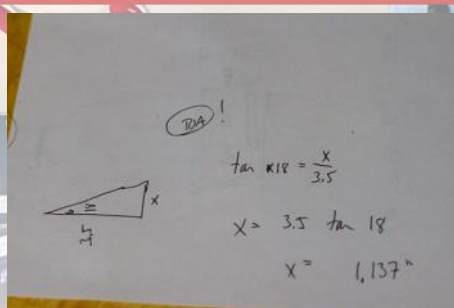


High School students taking Geometry are learning about Trigonometric ratios using a popular method- **Chief SOHCAHTOA**.

This famous chief reminds students that Sin is opposite/hypotenuse, cosine is adjacent/hypotenuse, and tangent is opposite/adjacent.

-Jaime Franks

Math Teacher, TVI



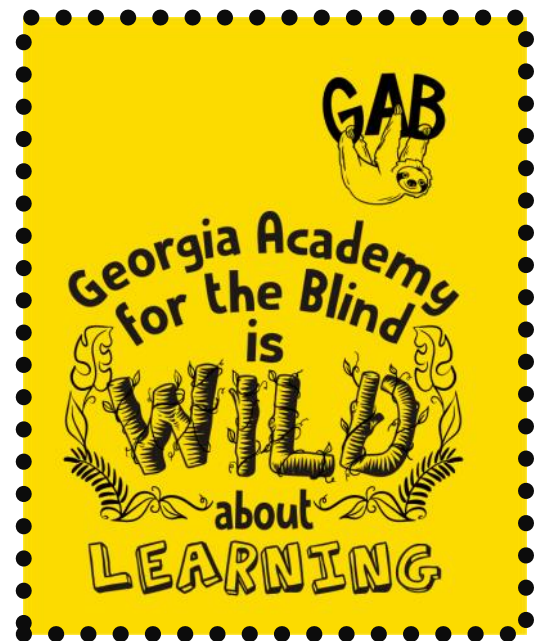
**We are so wild about our
Summer Program
T-shirt this year that
we are offering it to
everyone who is wild
about GAB!**

Please pre order:

Last Call

T-shirt size Small - XL = \$15

T-shirt size 2XL to 4XL = \$18



There is still time to get a
T-shirt. Please send your order
form and money to

Jennifer Minter.

Deadline to order will be 9/12

Name: _____

Order: _____ Total Cost: _____

Phone number: _____





September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month!

Thoughts of suicide can affect anyone of any age, gender, or background.

Suicide Prevention Week is September 4-10, a time to raise awareness of this stigmatized topic.

According to the CDC, youth and young adults ages 10-24 account for 14% of all suicides.

For youth ages 10-14, suicide is the second leading cause of death.

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional distress or crisis, call or text 988 or 741741 from anywhere in the U.S. to connect via text with a trained crisis counselor 24/7.

September

Birthdays

9/7 Destiny R.

9/20 Tyson

9/7 Luca

9/23 DJ

9/10 Korey

9/27 Aubrey

9/15 Trinity

