



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, January 20, 2023

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent

2895 Vineville Ave. Macon, GA



Georgia Academy for the Blind

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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.

Mark your Calendar

1/26 through 1/29 - Wrestling, Cheer, & Performing Arts in Alabama for SCASB.

2/14 - Valentine's Day Dance 6 to 8:00 PM

2/17 - A Celebration of Black History Through Music Program in the Auditorium at 10:30

2/20 - Presidents' Day Holiday 

3/24 - Spring Musical in the Auditorium at 10:30
"Junie B. Jones Jr. the Musical"

3/27 through 3/31 - Spring Break Week



4/10 - Easter Holiday

5/18 - Prom Night (location TBA)

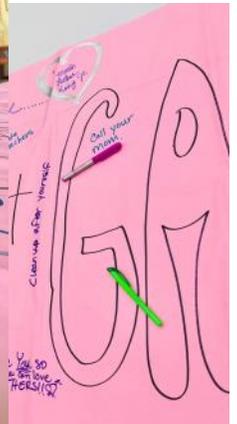
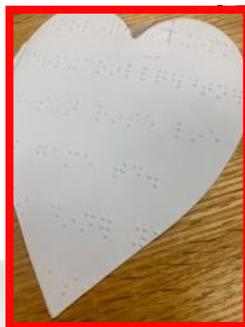
5/25 - Graduation at GAB



A message from our Superintendent

Dear GAB Families,

What an awesome four-day week this has been! Staff and students enjoyed the federal holiday for MLK Day on Monday, so our festivities and observance carried into the week. Salute to Teacher of the Year Alesia Bechtel for the 100th Day (of school year 2022-2023) activity 100 Ways to Show Love. This was a great connection to our teaching on the significance of recognizing MLK Day and to our PBIS character education. We have included lots of pictures of our 100 Days activities. 100+ hearts were hidden all over the campus and found by students. We surpassed our goal of cumulatively walking the track 100 times at recess! We had a lot of 100 year old people among us on Wednesday. And look at the 100 snack! Salty 100 + Sweet 100 = Perfect Balance. We may never achieve “perfect,” but balance is a healthy achievement for the 100th day and forward!



It was such a joy to see so many of you at the School Council meeting last week. The minutes will be forthcoming. Donna West, Tyler's mom, is doing an excellent job of coordinating our communications and keeping us close!

Welcome student representative Peyton Prowse! His proud mom is Jacinda Boodle. He is a wealth of enthusiasm and student-informed ideas! I see great things growing from student perspective.

We are asking parental support on some common teenage behaviors that have occurred at GAB. We recognize that providing your child a cell phone is a safety strategy in these times. Please caution students about sharing personal information, allowing others to handle their phones, or sending any harassing pictures, texts, emails, posts of any kind that defame and defile anyone electronically. Encourage students to keep telephones out of sight unless the teacher allows them to be used for instructional purposes. We are teaching students that although we delete activity from devices, nothing is ever inaccessible once it is distributed electronically. Together, we can make the world safe for our children to develop their highest potential.

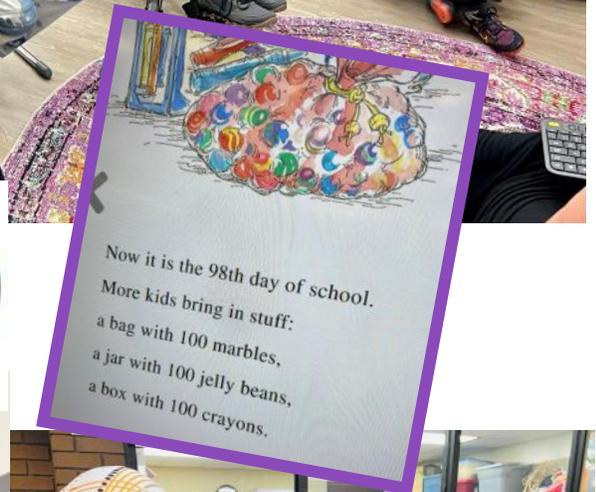


As ever,
Cindy



“Creating a Brighter future by Working Together!”





Here are a few places that you have gone and uploaded your receipts:

Kroger, Publix, Ingles, Boxed.com, Dollar General, Walgreens, Walmart, CVS Pharmacy, and Harris Teeter. The places you can buy products that have BOX TOPS are everywhere, so be on the lookout for that symbol.

Our total since the beginning of July 2022 is unbelievable. We have a total of \$100. That is 100% of our goal. We are going to be able to set another goal before the end of this school term. **1000 Box Tops = \$100**

I am so thankful for all your support. This money is earned is used for field trips with our students.

Please continue to shop and upload your receipts.

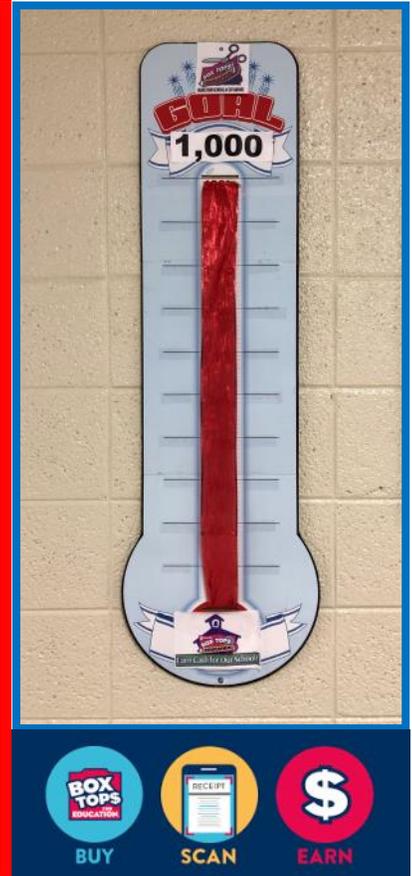
When you download the app, remember to select

Georgia Academy for the Blind.

Thanks,

Ms. Layson -If you need any help is getting started contact me at:

slayson@doe.k12.ga.us



Counselor's Corner

“Nothing worth having comes easy.” –Theodore Roosevelt

Word for the Month of January **RESILIENCE**

The capacity to successfully manage high levels of change.



Diligence:
Consistent attention to quality work; remaining focused on your goal.

Please see the flyer below for information on a free, virtual Parent Support Group. This means parents or guardians can attend from the comfort of their own home and don't have to bother with Atlanta's notorious traffic. This group is open to any parent or guardian who has a child/young adult, 22-and-under, with a **visual impairment**. This group is **not** limited to families who live in the Atlanta metro area, open to all of Georgia.

CENTER FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Parent Resource Group

Information session: January 9, 7PM
Group meeting: January 23, 7PM

JOIN US FOR FREE ON ZOOM:
[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/88608630282](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88608630282)



Please join CVI for a virtual resource group for families of children with visual impairments, facilitated by a CVI counselor. Exchange ideas, connect with other parents, and learn about resources that can help.

Our first meeting will be on Monday, January 9 for one hour. Join us to learn more about this resource group!

Our first 90-minute support session will be held on Monday, January 23. Following this session, we will meet on the third Monday each month.

For more information, please contact nreynolds@cviga.org or call 404-602-4331.

This program is supported by a grant from The Fuqua Foundation.

January Birthdays

Devoneta 1/5

Shayla 1/23

Maddie 1/8

Ayden 1/24

Terrell 1/8

Zaria 1/25

Jay 1/11

Jamari 1/31

John D. 1/14

Ian R. 1/31

Brayden 1/21

