

‘Good Enough’ is Never Enough



Superintendent's Message

Dr. David Daigneault

Grenada School District has received its 2017 accountability grades from the Mississippi Department of Education, and this year, we earned a grade of B.

To put that in perspective, Grenada placed in the top 28 percent, ranking 40th out of 147 other state school districts.

The accountability grades are determined by student performance on the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) tests for English and math, which are taken annually by students in third through eighth grade. High school grades are determined by graduation rates, advanced coursework, and student performance on algebra I, English II, biology, history, and ACT tests.

As a district, Grenada is up from last year's grade — a C — but we can still do better ... and we will. We are!

The most impressive data that we've pulled from these detailed test results shows exactly where the district is performing at a high level. Third grade math scores were ranked #15 in the state, and the corresponding English scores were ranked #13. Other high rankings in math included the fourth grade (#14), fifth grade (#23), and seventh grade (#17), where 49 students earned a perfect score on the MAAP test.

Best of all, our eighth grade math finished 12th in the state with an impressive 45 students earning a perfect score.

Among all the accountability data, we've been able to discover not only our strengths but our weaknesses too.

In every grade, we work hard to close learning gaps. We've found effective technologies to help us recognize these weak spots, and then we target those areas with a combination of individualized student instruction as well as after-school tutoring, thanks to our AmeriCorps and 21st Century Community Learning programs.

One place we're striving to improve scores is in reading and language, which have fallen below our math and science scores. Grenada Elementary started tackling this a few years back in grades K-3 by implementing a new curriculum, Wonders, which aligns with iReady and places a strong emphasis on reading.

We're encouraged by the results of the new reading focus, and it shows in our accountability scores. (Remember, the third graders ranked 13th in the state for language!)

The fourth and fifth grades implemented Wonders last year, and they've also started a new book club to encourage reading outside of class. New incentives for Accelerated Reading throughout the elementary school, as well as the K-3 challenge to read 10,000 books — if achieved, the kids will get to watch the principals and me eat lunch on the roof — are going a long way toward promoting a culture of reading in the elementary school.

**See “Good Enough”
Continued on page 6**

Three Innovative Medical Classes Enhance Science at GSD



Ainsley Craven dissects a sheep brain in the eighth grade Medical Detectives class.

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

The future of science education has come to Grenada School District. You feel it not only in the state-of-the-art labs at the high school but also in the new approach to teaching and even a new enthusiasm among students.

Three new medical classes at the middle and high schools reflect this next-generation science curriculum. The lessons are more hands-on and inquiry-based than traditional instruction. Students no longer sit and take notes from the teacher's lecture. Instead, they learn the process of problem-solving, which they apply to real-world situations.

“The whole point is to learn how to solve the problem instead of relying on somebody else to give you the answers,” says Ryan Melton, who teaches the eighth-grade Medical Detectives class at Grenada Middle School.

This is the inaugural year for Medical Detectives. In their first semester, students studied the five senses. They tested different regions of their tongue for sensitivity. They performed auditory exams with tuning forks. They used a smell test to try and overload their olfactory.

Recently they dissected sheep brains to view and touch the different regions instead of studying an illustrated diagram.

Everything is research-based and experiment-driven, Melton says. For their first project, students researched symptoms exhibited by a fictional patient, “Person X.”

“They were put in the role of a doctor,” Melton explains. “They had to use the same skills as a doctor to diagnose and treat a sick patient.”

Like the new robotics and engineering classes, the Medical Detectives course is offered through Project Lead the Way (PLTW), a national program designed to attract students to careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The program teaches specific STEM skills while also developing problem-solving, critical- and creative-thinking, along with communication and collaborative skills.

The PLTW platform at the middle

school kicked off last year with a design and modeling class, which introduced key critical-thinking concepts.

“You can tell a difference between the kids who had the design and modeling class and those who are new to the program,” Melton says. “Those kids are now used to having to think more critically. They've been exposed to the process of elimination and sorting through different variables to arrive at a solution.”

The newcomers are still trying to overcome the “direct answer” mindset, but Melton says once the kids grasp this new method, their confidence, curiosity, and creativity soar.

“I've heard other teachers say the kids are talking about these classes in their rooms,” Melton says. “And that's different. You don't often hear such excitement about school work.”



Photo by Jamie Kornegay

At the high school, the Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS) class premiered last year. Instructor Sherry Cook calls it “a biology class on steroids.”

Cook began teaching science at GHS 27 years ago with a bare-bones classroom. Back then, she would get excited about a new microscope. She never imagined one day walking into a classroom like the B building's Biomedical Lab, loaded with such top-shelf equipment as binocular cordless microscopes, micro centrifuges, EKG and blood-

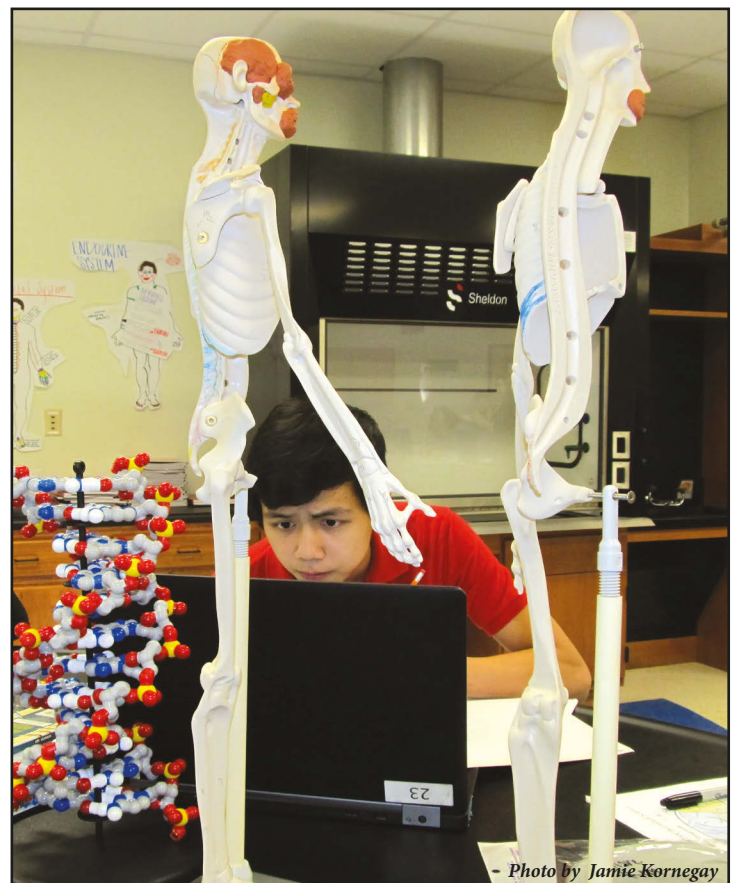


Photo by Jamie Kornegay

Kim Hou Kangheng uses computers, models, and a “maniken” in the high school Human Body Systems class.

pressure sensors, and an electrophoresis machine, along with a host of supporting equipment and supplies to copy and analyze DNA.

“This is my dream class to teach,” says Cook.

At the beginning of the school year, PBS students found the back corner of the lab marked off with crime scene tape. An outline of a fallen body was etched on the floor, and clues were scattered around — a splatter of blood, a spilled drink, pills.

Over the year, students perform various tests to determine what happened to the fictional deceased woman, “Anna Garcia.” They study her medical history and autopsy reports. They investigate illnesses such as heart disease,

diabetes, high cholesterol, and sickle cell anemia. They incorporate genetics and biochemistry, even DNA analysis, into the process.

“When they come in, they have no idea they're going to learn so much,” Cook says. For now the PBS class is an elective. Students must first take Biology I for their science credit. But the second-year class, Human Body Systems, qualifies as a credited science course with the

Mississippi Department of Education.

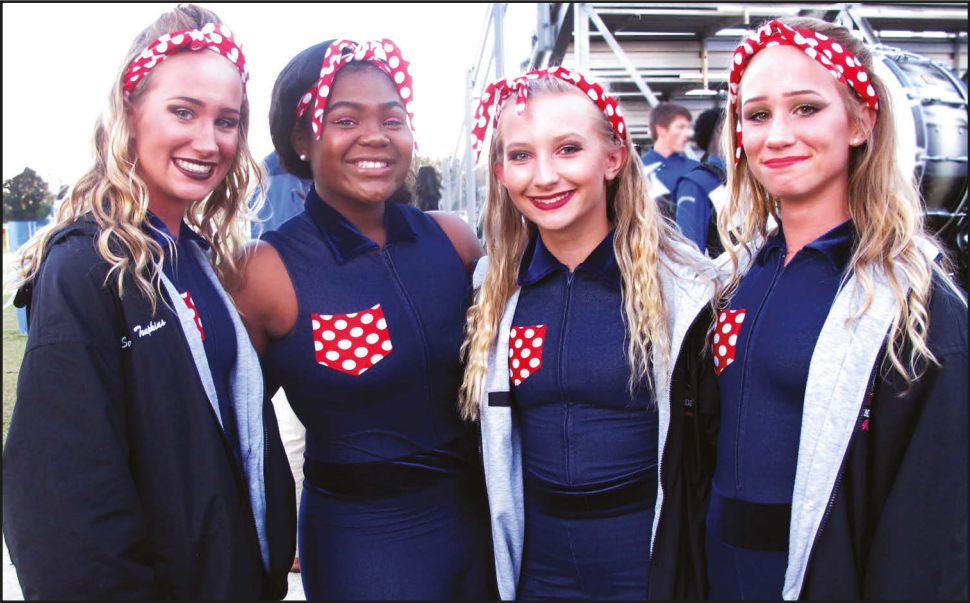
Traditionally, 11th graders study the muscular and skeletal systems using work sheets and one-dimensional diagrams. Now they use “Manikens,” a three-dimensional interactive model. The students construct the different organs and muscular systems out of clay and attach them to their model.

**See “Medical Classes”
Continued on page 7**

GSD Hosts Annual Band Night



The Grenada School District band program presented 650 band students on Band Night to a packed stadium on October 17, 2017. Photo left Band students (l to r) Macie Kent, Ava Hunt, Anna Ferguson, Mary Faith Vande, and James Darren McRee



(l to r) Guard members Serina Tompkins, Kayla Herrington, Lexis Jones, and Hailey Tompkins



(l to r) Lekita Norwood and Nadea Brady



(l to r) Jadyn McMechan, Meredith Johnson, and Samaria Swims



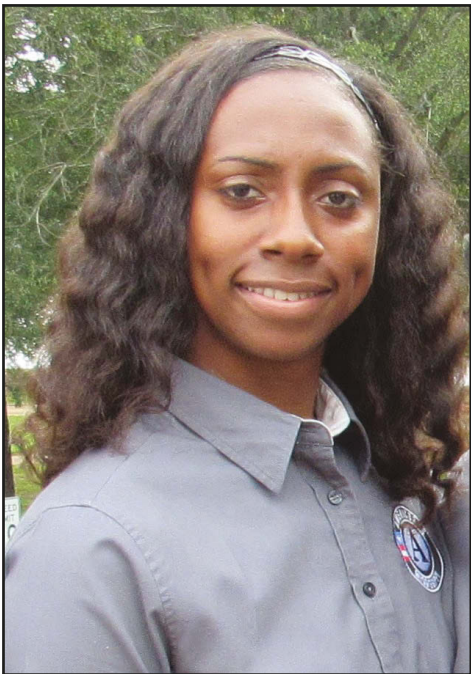
(front right) Shaunna George, (front left) Tempest Strickland, and (center back) Henna Dadlani



(l to r) Lane Conner and Auston Strong

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AmeriCorps Member of the Month



By Gwen Woodson
AmeriCorps Director

Shatasa Smith-Jones, a second year member of the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program (GSDAP), joined AmeriCorps because she wanted to be a vital influence in the lives of students, perhaps even the vital influence that changes the course of their lives for the better.

“I am committed to give my very best in serving the students of the Grenada School District,” said Smith-Jones. “I have been assigned to the Grenada Elementary K-1 site as a tutor and team leader and will continue to represent GSDAP with honor and pride. I also enjoy helping the students. They challenge me and I get to challenge them back.”

AmeriCorps members perform over 1,700 hours of service tutoring in the Grenada School District and serving in the community from September through August each year.

“My experience in AmeriCorps has been positive and has made a huge impact on me,” said Smith-Jones. “I get to work with a diverse group of people from different backgrounds, which has given me a clear understanding of how our differences make us an effective team. Having the opportunity to work with a dedicated team of people, all striving to make the world a better place, is a truly humbling and inspiring experience. I’ve gotten to look at my life through a new lens, and I’m grateful for that.”

Smith-Jones, a graduate from J. Z. George High School in Carrollton, is married to Ralpheal D. Jones. They have

one child, Aaralynn Jones. Her daughter is her motivation to succeed. She will be inducted into the National Honors Society of Leadership and Success later this year.

Shatasa entered the program as a quiet and cautious participant and has turned out to be an exceptional leader and member. She shows so much passion and enthusiasm for her students, and she has really blossomed while serving in the program. It is really noticeable that she has found her true calling. I am very thankful to have her on my team.

“The program has been a great opportunity for me to develop my communication, leadership, and technical skills,” said Smith-Jones. “I believe that these skills will prepare me for my career when I finish the program. Also, I am truly thankful for Mrs. Woodson and Mrs. Hubbard for encouraging and pushing me to do more and to be the best I can be. I am a better person because of my time in AmeriCorps.”

Smith-Jones is currently working on a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and will use her education award (\$5,815) to pursue a degree in Education.

ABOUT AMERICORPS

AmeriCorps programs do more than move communities forward; they serve their members by creating jobs and providing pathways to opportunity for young people entering the workforce. AmeriCorps places thousands of young adults into intensive service positions where they learn valuable work skills, earn money for education, and develop an appreciation for citizenship.

AmeriCorps members serving through the AmeriCorps Network (AmeriCorps State and National) funded programs serve with local and national organizations to address critical community needs related to disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and in support of veterans and military families. Programs range from full time to part-time service and are found nationwide. There are currently ten programs in the state of Mississippi.

For more information about the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program, contact program director Gwen Woodson at gwoodson@grenadak12.com. For more information about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.gov.

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Alumni Spotlight - Dr Caleph B. Wilson



By **Jamie Kornegay**
GSD Reporter

If it takes a village to properly raise a child, then Grenada High School alumnus Dr. Caleph B. Wilson (Class of 1996) grew up right.

Both sides of Dr. Wilson’s family have been in and around Grenada County for at least seven generations. In addition to his parents, Bennie L. Sledge and the late Mary L. Wilson, his grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbors and various wise elders all took an interest in his well-being. They pushed him to learn and encouraged him to succeed.

“My earliest memories are of my maternal grandmother [Luvenia S. Goss] challenging me to learn as much as I could about a wide a range of topics,” Dr. Wilson recalls. “She would

tap me on the temple with her index finger while looking me directly in the eyes and say, ‘What you got up here, no one can ever take from you.’ That was one of her ways of conveying the importance of what she called ‘wisdom, knowledge and understanding.’”

He remembers another piece of advice his grandmother passed down from her father, Charlie Smith, a veteran of World War I: “Papa always told us that an idle mind and hands were the devil’s workshop.”

Dr. Wilson listened. He went to work young, at the age of 12, helping out as a construction laborer with Walter & Sons Trucking after school. In the fall he played football, hunted deer in winter, ran track in spring, and cut grass all summer. “I tried to fill all time outside of school with fun activities and things that I found interesting,” he says.

The first time he realized that class lessons could be applied to the real world was Mr. Charles Houston’s building trades class at the Grenada Vocational and Technical School. “I was able to take what I was learning in math classes and translate them to building projects and architecture,” he recalls. “Further, the science involved in my day-to-day life would stand out to me in all activities like gardening,

deer hunting, football, cutting grass, driving, sweeping and repairing things around our home.”

His grandmother’s sister, nurse Ruthie M. Todd, as well as Mrs. Nancy Bomar, Dr. Wilson’s freshman biology teacher, recognized his aptitude for science. “They both independently encouraged me to pursue a career in medicine,” Dr. Wilson says. “Aunt Ruthie and Mrs. Bomar consistently supported my aspirations throughout high school, college and graduate school.”

Dr. Wilson took in the stories from the wise elders — stories of growing up in Mississippi during the days of Jim Crow — and they had a profound effect on him.

“Their guidance and wisdom taught me to pursue my dreams in a strategic way,” he says. “Most importantly, my elders taught me to be prepared to take advantage of opportunities when they present themselves.”

Dr. Wilson has been seizing those opportunities ever since, focusing his studies in the field of biology, specifically human diseases. After Grenada, he attended Alcorn State University, where he graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in biology. He went on to earn his doctorate in pathobiology at The Pennsylvania State University.

“The most interesting part of my scientific career has been the opportunities to engage in science communication with the general public and the U.S. Congress,” he says. “It is always great to talk to tax payers, policy makers and stakeholders about the impact of their investment in the scientific enterprise because the public investment in basic research and development is what allows science innovation to happen.”

He has spent over seven years studying and sharing his findings on cellular immunotherapy, which is how he contributes to the fight against cancer and HIV. His specific area of expertise is in modifying human T cells to “teach” them to fight cancer and HIV-infected cells.

Dr. Wilson lives in Brooklyn with his partner, Najah Farley, and their two kids, Noura and Akil. He doesn’t make it back to Grenada as often as he likes, though his grandmother, Mrs. Goss, and three siblings — Yolanda Harley, Joseph Wilson, and Isaiah Wilson — still live here.

As he did in high school, Dr. Wilson stays active and involved in many different ventures. He was a postdoctoral scholar in the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute and in the Department of Microbiology of the Perelman School of Medi-

cine at the University of Pennsylvania. Currently, Dr. Wilson is a field application scientist for Miltenyi Biotec, Inc., a biotech company that supplies products to researchers, and a founding member of the National Science & Technology News Service, an organization of scientists and journalists who bring attention to the growing field of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) topics and careers, especially for young African-Americans.

His advice for current students — including his youngest sibling, Isaiah, a junior at GHS — is, “Work to understand that you live in a global society, and your challenge is to work to leave the world healthier and filled with more equality than the previous generations were able to implement.”

He cites two more sources of inspiration, Rudyard Kipling’s poem “If” (“If you can fill the unforgiving minute/With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run”) and a cherished Bible verse from the Book of Matthew (7:7):

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”

“The Bear Facts” for Pre-K



(l to r) Lane Dees, Ethan Golding, Cole Armstrong, and Jersi Greer with Kidzeum Director Beth Muselwhite.



Pre- K student Jersi Greer measures her hands and feet against a bear paw print.

By **Jamie Kornegay**
GSD Reporter

Three- and four-year-old students in Grenada Elementary’s new Learning Blocks program paid their first visit to the Kidzeum in early October as part of a one-week program designed for Pre-K children.

Kidzeum director Beth Muselwhite and her staff — Takesha Tillmon and Brittany Flanders — developed “The Bear Facts”

exclusively for GES’s youngest students to give them a chance to experience the hands-on learning that older elementary kids have come to love.

Like the traditional Kidzeum exhibits, “The Bear Facts” was divided into three centers, where students learned about different types of bears.

The children first entered the “snow den,” where they learned that polar bears live at the North Pole (not the South Pole, where

penguins live) and touched a model polar bear skull and claw.

The next center introduced them to the difference between black bears and brown bears (grizzly bears), and the kids placed their feet and hands inside giant bear footprints.

At the third center, students learned about panda and koala bears. The kids put on special mitts to simulate how a panda grasped bamboo and discovered that the koala bear is not actu-

ally a bear but a marsupial.

In addition to lessons on camouflage and hibernation, the pre-kindergarteners inspected life-size drawings of the different bears, practiced their bear roars, and sang a song about bears.

The students ended their tour with a treat bag of gummy bears and Teddy Grahams.

Muselwhite said the Pre-K kids were younger than the students they were used to teach-

ing, but they were ideal visitors. “The children sat and listened so well,” she said. “They were quiet and well-behaved and very enthusiastic.”

Muselwhite added, “They’re really bright kids, and we look forward to having them back for another exhibit.”

The Pre-K classes will stop in for one more visit this year during a special day of the Kidzeum’s new exhibit, Christmas in Australia.

GES Green Top Principals' Breakfast



Students at Grenada Elementary Green Top were honored for good or improved behavior with an invitation to have breakfast with the principals. Students selected for October include (photo top) (front, l to r) Fred Jefferson, Gavin McCluskey, Will Blaylock, Callie Rushing, McKenzie Ingle, Addison Bloodworth, (middle l to r) Harlee Johnson, Ciara Townes, Maylajah Conley, A'Lante Hubbard, Michael Cotton, Bryson Waugh, Ethan Walton, (back l to r) Principal Carol Tharpe, and Assistant Principal Johnny Daves.



(Photo bottom) (front, l to r) Jamaya Hubbard, Hannah Roberson, Rhianna Sanders, Shanvi Kher, Kelsey Hodges, (middle l to r) Skylar Mims, Alyssa Walker, Christian Vaughn, Alli Beck, Zion Welch, (back l to r) Principal Carol Tharpe, and Assistant Principal Johnny Daves

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The Best Meats In Town!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December						
					1 GCTC Skills USA Fundraiser-Fruit Sale GHS Soccer-Cleveland(Away) Girls-5:30pm/Boys-7:30pm Visions in GHS Aud. Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm GHS G/B VAR Basketball-Southaven (Home) 6:00pm	2 Visions in GHS Aud. Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Games- GMS Gym 7:00am - 5:00pm Grenada Christmas Parade-2:00pm (1:00pm-Line Up; 1:30pm-Judging) 3:00pm - 5:00pm GHS JV Boys/VAR Basketball-Coffeeville (Home) 5:00pm
3 First Sunday of Advent Visions in GHS Aud.	4 GHS Soccer-South Panola(Away) Girls-5:00pm/Boys-7:00pm Visions in GHS Aud. Visions Practice/GHS Aud. 4:00pm - 8:30pm	5 Grenada Christmas Parade Rain Date-3:30pm (2:30pm-Line Up; 3:00pm-Judging) NJROTC Comunity Service at Grenada Christmas Parade Visions in GHS Aud. Visions Practice/GHS Aud. 4:00pm - 8:30pm GMS Boys & Girls Basketball vs Lafayette (Home) 5:00pm GHS G/B VAR Basketball-Lake Cormarant (Away) 6:00pm	6 Visions in GHS Aud. GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm Visions Practice/GHS Aud. 4:00pm - 8:30pm Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	7 GHS G/B VAR Basketball-Coffeeville Tourn. (Away) - TBA GHS JV Soccer-Oxford(Home) Girls-5:00pm/Boys-7:00pm State Band Clinic/Natchez, MS GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm Visions Matinee/GHS Aud. 2:00pm GMS Boys & Girls Basketball vs North Panola (Home) 5:00pm Visions Christmas Concert-GHS Aud. 7:00pm	8 GHS G/B VAR Basketball-Coffeeville Tourn. (Away) - TBA GHS Soccer-West Point(Home) Girls-5:00pm/Boys-7:00pm State Band Clinic/Natchez, MS GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm Visions School Show/GHS Aud. 8:40am Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm Visions Christmas Concert-GHS Aud. 7:00pm	9 ACT GHS G/B VAR Basketball-Coffeeville Tourn. (Away) - TBA GHS Soccer-Grenada Tourn.(Home)-TBA Miss Spint Pageant (Grades PreK-5) at 9:00am & GMS Beauty Review (Grades 6-8) at 2:00pm-GHS Auditorium (Sec-8am) NJROTC Drill Meet at Nashoba NJROTC Drill Meet at Oxford State Band Clinic/Natchez, MS Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Games- GMS Gym 7:00am - 5:00pm GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm
10 GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm	11 GHS Band moves to GHS Auditorium GHS Soccer-Lafayette(Home) Girls-5:00pm/Boys-7:00pm Visions-Possible practice (Location & time TBA) GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm GMS Boys & Girls Basketball at Cleveland Central 5:00pm	12 GHS Band in GHS Auditorium ALL DAY Visions-Possible practice (Location & time TBA) GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm School Board Meeting 6:00pm	13 GHS Band in GHS Auditorium ALL DAY Visions-Possible practice (Location & time TBA) GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	14 GHS Band in GHS Auditorium ALL DAY Visions-Possible practice (Location & time TBA) GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm 6th Grade, H.S. Sym. Winds & both H.S. Jazz Concert in GHS Aud. 7:00pm	15 GHS Soccer-Saltito(Away) Girls-5:00pm/Boys-7:00pm GES-Book Fair: Grades PreK - 3 8:00am - 2:30pm GES Grandparent's Day-GES Kidzeum 9:00am - 12:00pm GHS JV/VAR Basketball-Calhoun City (Home) 4:00pm Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	16 GHS Boys Basketball-Calhoun City Loggins Classic-(Away) TBA NJROTC Area 8 Orienttaring Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Games- GMS Gym 7:00am - 5:00pm
17	18 GHS Aud. reserved for Visions Visions -Possible practice GHS JV/VAR Basketball-Germantown (Home) 4:00pm Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	19 GHS Aud. reserved for Visions Midwest Band Clinic/Directors Only Visions -Possible practice GLAD Student Awards Ceremony/GLAD Cafe 1:00pm - 7:30pm Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	20 9 WEEKS EXAMS!!! GHS Aud. reserved for Visions Midwest Band Clinic/Directors Only Visions -Possible practice GLAD Student Awards Ceremony/GLAD Cafe 7:30am - 12:30pm Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	21 9 WEEKS EXAMS!!! GHS Aud. reserved for Visions Midwest Band Clinic/Directors Only Visions -Possible practice Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	22 9 WEEKS EXAMS!!! 60% DAY!! Midwest Band Clinic/Directors Only Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	23 GHS Boys Basketball-Bruce R.B. Shootout-(Away) TBA Midwest Band Clinic/Directors Only Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Games- GMS Gym 7:00am - 5:00pm
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!!!	26 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!!!	27 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!!!	28 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!!! Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Practice- GMS Gym 5:30pm - 7:30pm	29 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!!!	30 GHS Boys Basketball-ICC Rumble On The River-(Away) TBA Grenada Parks & Rec.-Basketball Games- GMS Gym 7:00am - 5:00pm
31 New Year's Eve						

GES Green Top Reading Fair



Group and Family
(l to r) 1st place: (sitting) Mary Grace Klinck (standing) Drew Klinck
2nd place: (sitting) Mary Taylour Wilbourn, (standing) Tanner Wilbourn; 3rd place: (sitting) Layla Escobedo, and Caslyn Trost, 4th Place: (standing) John Hollingsworth, Ethan Dukes, and Justin Hollingsworth



Group and Family 1st Place
Mary Grace and Drew Klinck



Non-Fiction
(sitting l to r) 1st place: Alyssa Walker, 2nd place: Emily Goss, 3rd place: Leah Briscoe, 4th place: Kathryn Cobb, 5th place: Seth Dorroh, and (standing) Honorable Mention: Mallory Willis



Photo left
Non-Fiction
1st Place
Alyssa Walker



Fiction
(sitting l to r) 1st place: Alyssa Duke, 2nd place: Jill Dykes, 3rd place: Eli Palmer, 4th place: Shanvi Kher, 5th place: Rylee Ryals, (standing l to r) Honorable Mention: Addie Brown, Honorable Mention: Beau McPhail, Honorable Mention: Elyse Dorris, Honorable Mention: Waleed Salamun, and Honorable Mention: Abby Presley



Photo left
Fiction
1st Place
Alyssa Duke



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Ethan Dukes



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GCTC Students Tour Toyota



Grenada Career and Technical students (l to r) David Amorin, Amanda Parker, Dylan Ables, Cade Whitfield, Gage Rokasky, Alex Ferguson, Alex Shepherd, Evan Hobson, Phillip Cook, Peyton Estes, and Josh Allen recently toured the Toyota manufacturing plant in Blue Springs, Mississippi.

“Good Enough”

Continued from Page 1

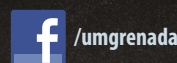
Reading is one of the best ways to stimulate young imaginations, and we call on parents to help us with this task by swapping out some of those screen hours (both television and tablets) for reading time. Studies show that reading reduces stress, improves memory, and teaches empathy — all things that help make a happier, healthier child.

The rubric to calculate these scores is complex and ever-changing, but we must remain steadfast in our commitment to always pushing ahead. District-wide, we never settle for “good enough.”

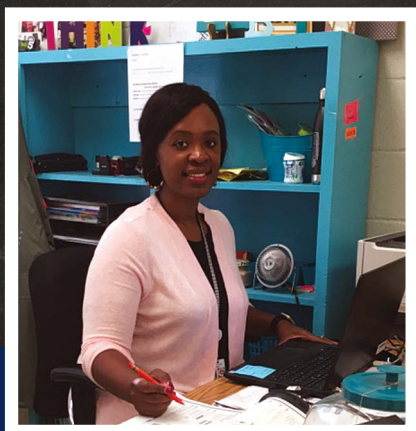
The Mississippi Department of Education recently named us a District of Innovation — one of only a handful in the state — which gives us the freedom to explore even more forward-thinking curriculum. We’re fortunate to have the teachers and administrators who can carry out these plans, and we also benefit a great deal from parental input and the support of our community here in Grenada.

We’re casting a wide net at Grenada Schools, from bringing in three-year-old kids for our Pre-K program, to helping local adults earn their GED through our Education Center for Adult Learning. It’s not just about making the grade. We’re about changing the community.

We believe an educated community is a prosperous community.



2 YEARS AT HOLMES-GRENADA
+ 2 YEARS AT UM-GRENADA
4TH GRADE MATH TEACHER!



“I was just as excited as the students were on the first day of classes. I hope by the end of this year my students know that I cared about their academic success and their personal well-being. I hope what they learn here will be something that they can build upon throughout their lives.”

Kanequa Willis, 2017 UM-Grenada Bachelor of Education graduate
4th grade Math Teacher at Grenada Upper Elementary



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Career Clusters

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A passion for justice. A mind for planning. A desire to protect and defend your fellow citizens. Students who possess these traits may be suited for a career in Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security.

The non-profit group Advance CTE (Career Technical Education) has established a program to help students interested in a profession in Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security by developing a path of study in high school and college. This framework is called Career Clusters, and among the 16 categories, each of which represent a major sector of the U.S. job market, is Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security.

Jobs in this field may require you to protect people from harm, crime, or natural disaster. Job opportunities range from public safety officers to legal service providers.

Some driving trends that make this a viable and evolving career field for students are increased use of technology, changes in local and national laws, and an aging population of public service employees who are preparing to cycle out of the work force.

Students can gear their education and training toward a career in Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security program as early as high school. As a student continues his or her education, there are a variety of community and technical

college programs, industry certifications and four-year degrees that will help them succeed in that field.

Industry certifications include Fire Service Communications for dispatch officers at a fire station, Certified Protection Officer program provides study for security officers, and Emergency Medical Technician for ambulance and emergency teams. Students who wish to go on to college for further study may aspire to an associate's degrees in criminal justice and fire science or a bachelor's degree in criminology, criminal justice, or pre-law.

The five pathways in this cluster include:

Correction Services Pathway

Workers in the Correction Services pathway are responsible for overseeing individuals who have been arrested and are awaiting trial or who have been convicted of a crime and sentenced to serve time in a jail, reformatory, or penitentiary. While the primary mission of corrections is protection of the public, many in this field are involved with the treatment, education, and reintegration of offenders — from prison facility maintenance workers and medical staff to parole officers and youth service workers.

Emergency and Fire Management Services Pathway

Every year, fires and other emergen-

cies take thousands of lives and destroy property worth billions of dollars. Firefighters and emergency services workers help protect the public against these dangers by rapidly responding to a variety of emergencies. They are frequently the first emergency personnel at the scene of a traffic accident or medical emergency and may be called upon to put out a fire, treat injuries or perform other vital functions. Jobs include fire fighters, paramedics, emergency management coordinators, fire inspectors, and canine-training officers.

Law Enforcement Services Pathway

People depend on police officers and detectives to protect their lives and property. Law enforcement officers have duties that range from controlling traffic to preventing and investigating crimes. They maintain order; enforce laws and ordinances; issue traffic summonses; investigate accidents; present evidence in court; serve legal documents for the court system; and apprehend, arrest and process prisoners.

Legal Services Pathway

The legal system affects nearly every aspect of our society, from buying a home to commuting to a job. Workers in the Legal Services pathway form the backbone of this vital system. They hold positions of great responsibility — from

judges and attorneys to clerks and court reporters — and are obligated to adhere to a strict code of ethics.

Security and Protective Services Pathway

Security personnel often work in public buildings such as museums or art galleries to protect paintings and exhibits by inspecting people and packages entering and leaving the building. In factories, laboratories, government buildings, data processing centers, and military bases, security officers protect information, products, computer codes, and defense secrets and check the credentials of people and vehicles entering and leaving the premises.

For more information on required and recommended classes for a pathway to the Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security cluster, Grenada High School students should make an appointment with their counselors. For more information on Career Clusters, visit the Advance CTE website — www.careertech.org — where you'll find useful resources including a description of all 16 Career Clusters, a list of credentials required for each Career Cluster, and a Student Interest Survey that uses your responses to help guide you to your top three Career Clusters of interest.

“Medical Classes” Continued from Page 1

“It’s amazing how much they remember, even the most obscure muscles and joints,” says Cook. “There’s something about touching and manipulating, sculpting the organs out of clay. They just retain it so much better.”

In a more advanced lesson from the Medical Detectives curriculum, the class dissected a sheep brain and a cow eyeball. Then they sculpted the regions of the brain from clay, fixed them to their models, described them like a medical professional, and learned how each relates to the nervous systems.

“They’re not just playing with clay,” says Cook. “They’re using real calculations to determine what they’re building.”

In another unit, the class studied simulated bones found in the woods. Students used the bones to identify the race, sex, and age of the deceased and then compared their findings to the files of fictitious missing persons. They were able to use the class’s electrophoresis machine to analyze DNA just as it’s done in forensic labs.

Cook says this method of teaching is so effective, she expects it will be incorporated into the general science classes in the coming years.

“This has changed the way I see teaching,” says Cook, who underwent extensive training with PLTW to prepare for the biomedical classes at GHS. She attended a two-week course at Auburn University, where she worked through the entire year’s curriculum, performing the same projects as the kids while collaborating with other instructors and PLTW master teachers.

Cook sees her role in this classroom of tomorrow as more of an adviser. She facilitates the lessons and trains and supervises the students working on the delicate (and expensive) equipment.

“I’m learning to let go of my old ideas of how to run a classroom,” Cook says. “I’m no longer lecturing. I’m letting the kids take the lead. They’re responsible for doing the projects, coming up with their own ideas, and solving problems.”

Katy Tramel, a GHS senior, took the second-year medical class even though her career interests lie more in the realm of environmental science. She says she has learned more in Human Body Systems than she has in any other science class. “It’s more of an experience,” Tramel says. “It’s a lot more interactive. We’re not just watching PowerPoints and then taking a test on the notes.”

The medical classes receive additional instruction from a “biomedical task force.” The group of outside advisers is made up of five local medical professionals — a doctor, a physical therapist, a paramedic, a nurse practitioner, and an infectious disease specialist. The professionals visit throughout the year to speak to students and answer questions. They explain how the lessons in class relate to real-life cases. Occasionally, students have been allowed to shadow the task force members at their jobs.

One of the founding task force members, Dr. Mary Anne Frank-Tarsi, sees GSD’s medical classes as an engaging way to teach science and math. “There’s so much advanced scientific and medical information, and the way it’s presented, it whets their appetite.”

Dr. Frank-Tarsi says the students are introduced to the many components of healthcare through their interaction with professionals in the community. “It’s not just for those kids who want to go into nursing or be a doctor,” she says. “It also introduces them to jobs as first responders, in research, creating things that make people’s lives better. Even mental health.”

Cook calls this a “game-changer.” By interacting with professionals, she says, “they learn the material better when they

know what they’re learning can be applied in the real world.”

The success of last year’s medical classes prompted the addition of more units, one of which is taught by Andrea Jackson. She is encouraged by the student response to the class and believes the program has the potential to nudge a few of them toward medicine.

“Hopefully,” says Jackson, “this will spark the next generation of doctors.”

Holmes Community College Recruits GCTC Students



Grenada Career and Technical students (left) Daniel Fike, Breyton Howell, and (far right) Kaylee Marshall were some of the students who were presented the opportunities of Holmes Community College by (middle l to r) Holmes Community College recruiter Cynthia Ables, Holmes Community College Student Ambassador Danielle Mitchell, and Holmes Community College career-technical counselor Tracy Herring.

Grenada Middle School Students of the Month



Sixth grade Students of the Month for October are (front l to r) Aaron Kinney, Shelbi Woodall, Jordan Phillips, Case Smith, James Darren McRee, (back l to r) La'Mia Petty, Danetra Thomas, Matthew Bardo, Assistant Principal Barry Rogers, Justyn Hodo, Zaylan House, Jamison Woodson, and Chloe White.



Seventh Grade Students of the Month for October are (front l to r) Kiersten Zinn, Jacorey Cunningham, Zion Williams, Preston Brooks, Danica Caulder, and Assistant Principal Barry Rogers. Not Pictured: Connor Henderson



Eighth Grade Students of the Month for October are (front l to r) Simrah Sajjad, Olivia Smith, Ava Claire Ford, (back l to r) Shyann Lloyd, Mersie Watkins, Tramiah Leason, Assistant Principal Barry Rogers, Sadie Stockton, and Grayson Harbin.

GHS College & Career Day



Photo left
(l to r) Carson Lollar, University of Mississippi Admissions Counselor Rivers Myers, and Cameron Duke

Photo right
(l to r) Kenretta Bounds and Miriam Crump

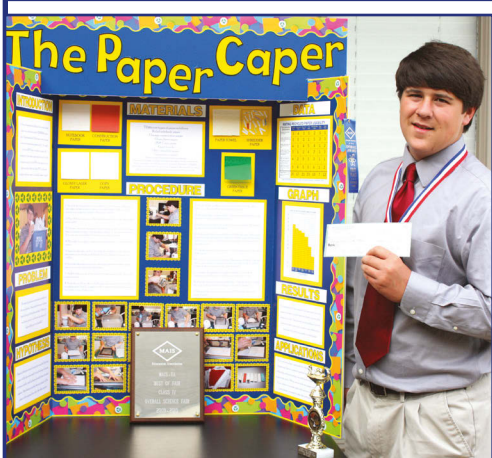


(l to r) Sargeant Gary Williams and Cameron Morgan



(l to r) Kelly Federick and Takiyah Booker

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