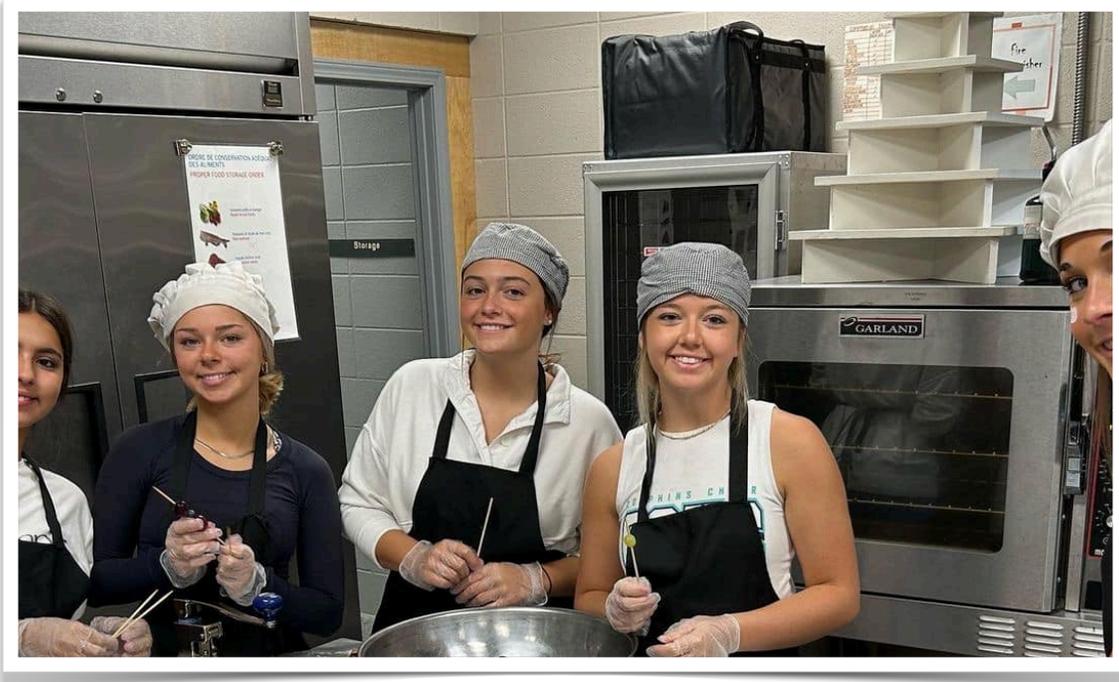


The MakeWaves Monthly

We develop students to become the best versions of themselves, so they can transform the world.



Superintendents' Message

Our 2023-2024 school year is off to an exciting start. Since we began school in August, seeing our students participate in activities throughout the district has been invigorating. We strive to encourage our parents to get involved in the various events available on and off our campuses. As you read *The MakeWaves Monthly* September Issue 9, enjoy the students recognized and engaged in learning activities and the upcoming events offered to our parents/guardians, such as Community Conversations, Coffee with the Counselors, Dolphin Foundation, Coastal CleanUp, Fall Harvest and the Tuesday Tour. Mark you calendar and join us for all of these upcoming events.

MakeWaves!

Dr. Matt Akin - Superintendent makin@gsboe.org

Dr. Stephanie Harrison - Assistant Superintendent sharrison@gsboe.org



Health & Wellness



Athletics



Arts Education



Teaching & Learning



ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL



MIDDLE SCHOOL



HIGH SCHOOL



VIRTUAL
ACADEMY

Meet Our Student WaveMakers of the Month

Elementary School

Selena Porter

Grade - 5th Grade

Area of Recognition - Actively participates in class, displays good manners and is a model student.

I'm a WaveMaker because...

Selena embodies the qualities of a model student. She is always prepared for class and kind and respectful to peers, faculty, and staff. And, most importantly she exemplifies hard work and dedication. She's always on task giving her work her best effort. Her character and work ethic make her an exceptional student and WaveMaker!

~Nominated by Kimberly Pennington - 5th Grade Teacher ~



Middle School

Kolten Mueller

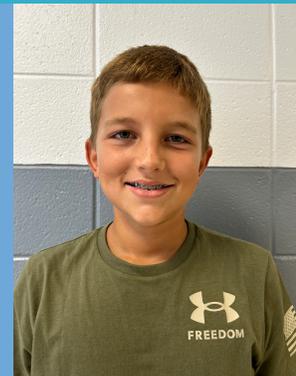
Grade - 7th Grade

Area of Recognition - Leadership

I'm a WaveMaker because...

I nominate Kolten Mueller for the WaveMaker award in recognition of his exceptional contributions to our school community. During our garden day, Kolten fearlessly undertook the most challenging task by leading the establishment of our vermi-compost. With sleeves rolled up and unwavering dedication, he immersed himself in the world of worms, dirt, and shredded paper to create a remarkable habitat for these vital decomposers. Kolten's willingness to take on such a hands-on and often overlooked responsibility sets a remarkable example for his peers, demonstrating the value of hard work, environmental stewardship, and leading by action. His efforts have not only greatly benefited our school but have also inspired others to approach tasks with the same level of enthusiasm and commitment. Kolten truly embodies the spirit of WaveMaker through his transformative actions and positive influence on our school community.

~Nominated by: Anthony Schaff - Science Teacher~



High School

Carter Kazman

Grade- 11th Grade

Area of Recognition - Career Tech

I'm a WaveMaker because...

When I think of a super kind and helpful student, I think of Carter Kazman. Carter is one of the nicest young men I have ever met. He is polite, considerate, and always brightens my day. Carter works so hard in his Career Tech classes. He was in my Hospitality and Tourism class, and he would always ask "How can I help you?". He would even stay late to do the cleaning that others didn't do. Before he took my course, he was in Mr. Tuggle's agriculture class. We would work alongside each other in the greenhouse. He'd help me before I was even his teacher! Now he's in Mrs. Madsen's culinary class. She has already come by to tell me just how fantastic he is. While Carter's personality and disposition are one of the first attributes that come to mind, I have to mention that he has always been on the A/B Honor Roll while at Gulf Shores High School. Carter is intelligent, hardworking, and does all that is asked of him. He is such a great example of a Gulf Shores Dolphin! I know all his teachers would say that he deserves to be recognized as a WaveMaker.

~ Nominated by Amanda Talantis - High School Hospitality and Tourism, High School World Language ~



What is a WaveMaker? Someone who incites action or activity.

Meet Our Staff WaveMakers of the Month

Elementary School

Dana Walker
Math Lead Teacher/Specialist

I'm a WaveMaker because...

I'm in a wheelchair, got a new office in the 600 wing and needed help organizing my office. She helped me move and unload boxes, took trash to the dumpster and anything else I needed like moving furniture. I never asked for help; she just volunteered and jumped right in. I could have never done this by myself. She is definitely a team player by helping other staff members. I believe she is a true Wave Maker!!!

~Nominated by Jennifer Brutus ~

Dana moved into our math coach position at GSES in the middle of November. She hit the ground running and hasn't looked back. She has drilled in on our data, found our weak areas, and started working on a plan to support each grade level in those areas. She has modeled lessons, done side by side lessons, and been a support for our new as well as veteran teachers. She compiled the plan for our numeracy camp this summer and students who attended showed significant growth. It wasn't uncommon for students to grow 2 grade levels in some of their areas of deficit. We saw some large growth in our math ACAP scores overall this past year, with the largest growth being 17% improvement. We look forward to seeing the students and teachers grow even more under her math leadership and support.

~Nominated by Alicia Early ~



Middle School

Julie Rosado
Special Services

I'm a WaveMaker because...

This school year, Mrs. Julie Rosado courageously took on her new role as our Special Education Team Leader at Gulf Shores Middle School. She has spent many hours preparing records and plans; assimilating new students and families, often with unique and challenging situations, into our middle school family; and leading her team by example with grace, heart, and professionalism. Mrs. Rosado's collaborative leadership helps ensure that a 360-degree approach is always taken to meet each student's needs and that all voices are heard. She goes above and beyond to get things done; communicate with students, families, and staff; and provide each child entrusted to her team with the highest quality school experience possible. Mrs. Rosado's "can do" attitude, dedication, and caring leadership represent the very heart of GSMS and definitely demonstrate the attributes of a GSCS Wave Maker!

~Nominated by Ram Talantis ~



High School

Wendy Jones
Math and Working Towards National Board

I'm a WaveMaker because...

The miracles Mrs. Jones performs each summer puts her in the hero category. During the school year, Mrs. Jones teaches AP PreCal and Algebra II w/Stats which is an impressive feat all on its own. In the summer, she is our summer school guru. It is impressive to watch her manage dozens of students taking multiple different courses to recover credits. She sits down with them individually and tutors the math students before she permits them to submit assignments and tests. She has patience beyond understanding with the students. She knows the program, the material, and the students. Most people do not see the hours she puts in during June and July, but without her, many of our students would not make it across the graduation finish line on time. She truly changes lives.

~Nominated by Melissa Everett~

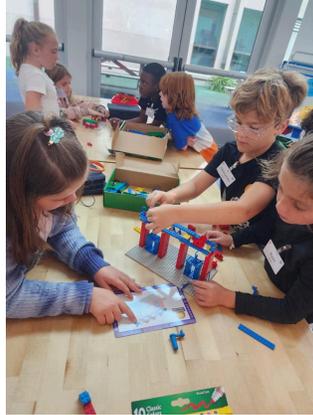


What is a WaveMaker? Someone who incites action or activity.

Elementary School

STEAM

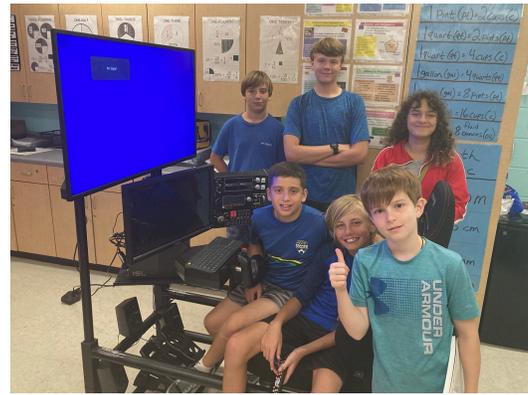
The STEAM classes at GSES are hard at work for the new school year. Students are building, creating, and problem-solving in various activities.



Middle School

Students Build Flight Simulator

The talented students of Mr. Prince's after-school group at GSMS have just completed an amazing project! They built a Flight Simulator for Mr. Dey's class at GSES! It's all about putting their engineering skills to work and inspiring the future generation of aviators. We can't wait to see what incredible adventures and learning experiences await their elementary school friends through this fantastic simulator!



High School

Environmental Club

The Gulf Shores High School Environmental Club volunteered at the Gulf State Park's Turtle Fest where they helped educate attendees about the importance of sea turtle friendly lighting.

Virtual Academy

A New School Year is Underway!

GSVA K - 12th grade is excited for 2023-24 where all these students and families will be making waves!



Health & Wellness

[Harvest of the Month: Green Beans](#)

Last week Glow Yoga led students on the Walking School Bus through morning stretches with breathing and affirmations. These practices are proven to support kids in having a positive day and help students calmly and confidently face challenges at school!



Join the Walking School Bus!

Arts Education

[GSHS Band is Ready for the New Year!](#)

Football season is back and the band had an awesome time at the football game! Great performances both in the stands and on the field!



A Job Well

Done!

Athletics

[Fall sports at GSCS!](#)

Fall sports are off to a great start. Football, volleyball and cross-country are representing their sports working towards their goal of winning for Gulf Shores City Schools at both the high school and middle school. If you have not had the opportunity to go out and support one of these sports, please make plans before the fall season is over! MakeWaves!

[View our Athletics website!](#)



Teaching & Learning

[It never ends... our teachers are constantly engaged in learning at GSCS!](#)

Here at Gulf Shores City Schools, we work towards meeting the whole child. Our goal is to bridge the gap between core classes and career tech to better prepare our students for life outside of school. Ms. Reeves and Mrs. Sampley wrote and received the Middle Grades Innovation Grant. Through this grant, we were able to hold multiple days of vertical team training between the elementary, middle, and high school. Great brainstorming happened in these meetings and we can't wait to see the projects that come out of this opportunity!



A new school year!

Congratulations to 2023 GSHS grad, Jacob Killough! He recently passed his check flight to earn his private pilot license! Jacob participated in our GSHS Aviation Academy, including Tango Flight, in his time at GSHS—we are so proud of his accomplishment and cannot wait to see where he takes flight next! Special thanks to Aviation teacher, Haley Kellogg, for her work with upperclassmen who are interested in various careers in aviation!



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GSCS

We are so excited to introduce the GSMS House System! This idea was adopted from Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta, Georgia, and we know it will have a strong, positive impact on our school and our students. The House System will help create a family-like community among our students and encourage leadership, motivation, and academic success. Each student will be sorted into one of eight houses and will have the opportunity to participate in house-specific events and activities throughout the year. Students can also earn points for their houses in the year-long House Competition! This will foster a sense of belonging for each student and lead to deeper connections with classmates, staff members, and even our community stakeholders. We can't wait to see all the positive ways our students are affected! Stay tuned for updates from the sorting!



Peer Helpers at GSMS



Parachute Lesson with 2nd Grade



Prep and production days for tailgating! GSHS Culinary Arts students are the best!!



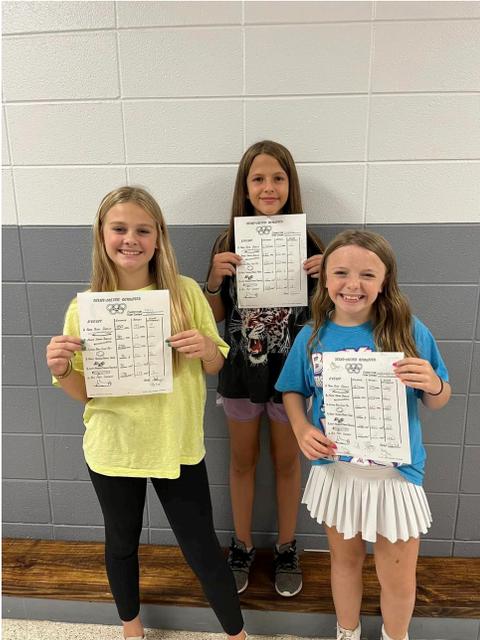
GSES K-Kids were out early helping receive donations for those affected by the devastating wildfires in Maui, Hawaii.



Gulf Shores High School is taking students to new heights with a state-of-the-art aviation program, which is currently in the process of extending to the elementary and middle school.

Haley Kellogg, aviation teacher, said she was a student at Gulf Shores High School where she was locally trained before moving back to Gulf Shores to assist in starting the program.





Congratulations to our medalists from our 6th Grade Metric Olympics!



Siblings Dylan, Davis and Drew testing at the same time at the Virtual Academy!



Space Camp here we come! GSMS sent off 30 of our astronauts. Stay tuned to see all of the exciting things they get to experience!

Walking School Bus

Travis Langen from the [Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability](#) led the walking school bus. Along the route students learned about native plants and their adaptations. Thanks so much Travis for sparking an interest in our local environment.



6th Graders Learn How To be Safe On The Internet

Our 6th graders gained great knowledge from our speaker, Loretta Carr. She gave a talk called NetSmart. She taught the students how to be proactive with internet safety and what to do in certain situations.



Shout Out to GSES Parents

Move in Day for third grade classes at GSES! We were thrilled to be in our beautiful, new classroom. It takes a village though, and when we put out the call for help, the most amazing parents came running. We are so blessed to have such amazing Dolphin families supporting us with any and every need. A big shout out to all these wonderful families for coming to help third grade!



The Shrimp Festival “Youth For Art Program”

The annual National **Shrimp Festival** is pleased to announce that the **Youth for Art Program** will be returning to the 2023 festival, our **50th!** The contest is open to students of all ages.

Program details:

- Judging will be in three categories: Elementary School, Middle School and High School
- Entries may be **no larger** than 18 x18, unframed **flat works** of art on paper using paint, crayon, pen, pencil, ink, etc. (**No sculpture, canvas, rice paper, and the like)
- **ON THE BACK OF THE ARTWORK PLEASE INCLUDE:** Student's name, school name, homeroom, teacher
- All entries will be displayed during the festival, October 12th-15th
- Judging will take place on Thursday, October 12th
- Award for **Best in Show, 1st Place, 2nd Place, and 3rd Place** will be given, along with **cash prizes (\$100, \$75, \$50 and \$25)**, to the students in each of the categories
- A **\$150 donation** will be awarded in the name of the student to the **art program of the school for Best in Show**

If you have any questions, please contact your school's art teacher!

If your child is interested in submitting art for this contest, please see the guidelines below. All submissions are due to either your school's art teacher by Tuesday (9/19/23) or directly to the Chamber by **Friday (9/22/23)**.



Outdoor Classroom and Butterfly Garden at the Virtual Academy

For the past year, we have been working to create an outdoor classroom and butterfly garden for our virtual students. We now have the education and tools to do just that. On Thursday, October 5th, from 10-12, we invite you to help us put it all together and have a celebratory lunch.

I have included a link for students and parents to sign up to keep things organized and productive. Students will work with their parents to complete the project they would like to volunteer for. We will only be assembling on this day. Students will be invited to come back and plant at a later date. Don't be intimidated! Mr. Mitchell from GSHS will provide the necessary tools and oversight.

Items we need to assemble:

- Raised beds
- Water barrel
- Hose/Timer
- Irrigation System
- Compost Tumbler
- Bird Bath



Here is the signup for each item:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA4AF29A7FDC61-outdoor>

What is the long-term plan?

The long-term plan will be to have students come to the virtual academy and learn the gardening basics through a gardening club. We will have a lesson and a hands-on experience in our garden each week. Professionals will teach some weeks and other weeks myself or high school students will be leading the lessons. We will also be taking field trips to the greenhouse at GSHS, the Gulf State Park Lodge, and local nurseries. More information TBA.

Why should my student participate?

We HIGHLY encourage those who can attend to participate in this experience. Could we call staff members to assemble these items for us? Yes! But, we would lose the educational experience and community-building opportunities we strive to create daily.

What should we expect to see over the next six months?

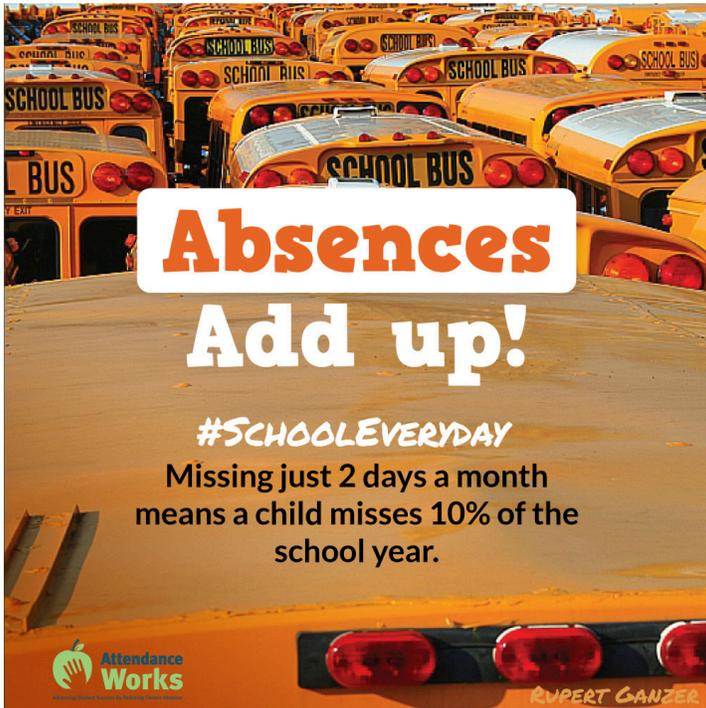
Our long-awaited shade sails have been ordered, and we are promised to have them installed by December. These will cover the paved area along with polywood picnic tables for students to work outdoors. Lastly, a solar bench has been ordered to allow students to work while charging their devices outdoors.

This is a very exciting time for our program, and we are thankful for the support of our district leaders who are investing in our students.

We hope to see you at our celebration!

Absences Add Up!

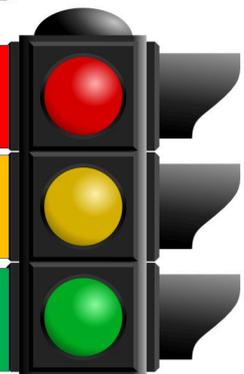
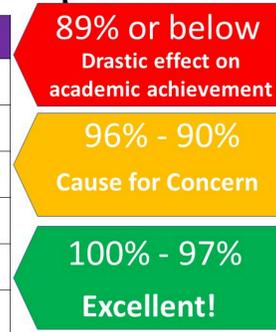
Did you know that consistent school day attendance is directly linked to academic success? According to research, students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve higher grades and perform better on tests. Let's make attendance a priority for our future leaders!



ATTENDANCE

Why is it important?

| Attendance | Days absent | Weeks absent | Lessons missed |
|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 95% | 9 days | 2 weeks | 50 lessons |
| 90% | 19 days | 4 weeks | 100 lessons |
| 85% | 29 days | 6 weeks | 150 lessons |
| 80% | 38 days | 8 weeks | 200 lessons |
| 75% | 48 days | 10 weeks | 250 lessons |
| 70% | 57 days | 11.5 weeks | 290 lessons |



Student Athletic Passes Available For All GSCS Sporting Events!

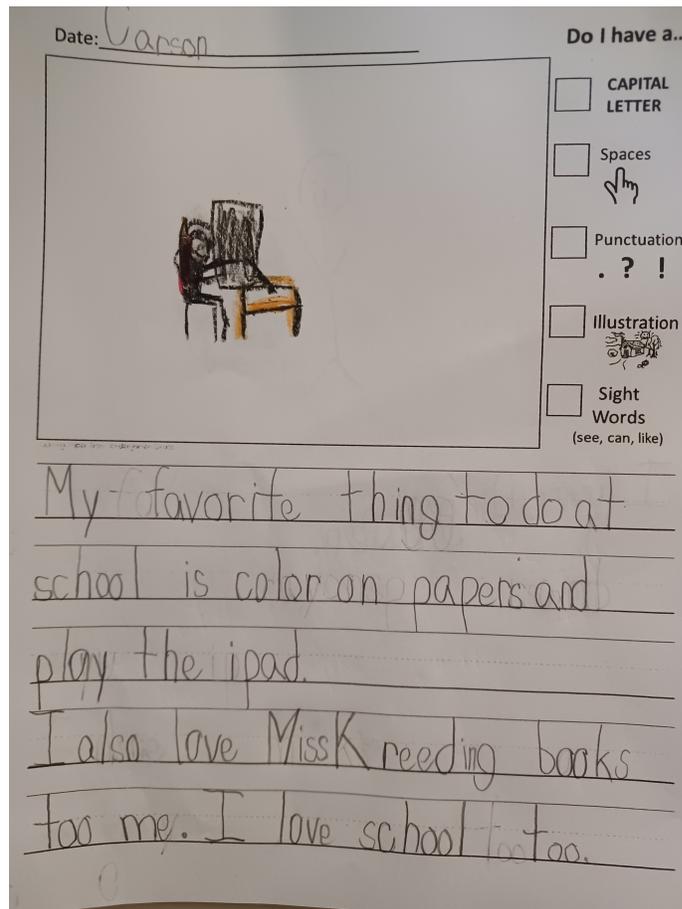


Athletic Pass \$50
INCLUDES ALL GSCS SPORTING EVENTS EXCEPT FOR PLAYOFFS

Spotlighting Our Students' Work

1st Grader: Carson Bautista

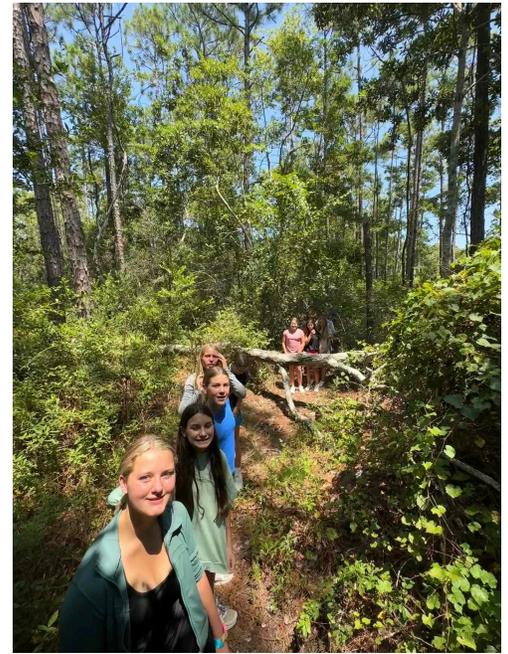
This is a writing activity from Ms. Kalinauskas' Class. Students were asked to write and draw about their favorite school activities. The author is first grader, Carson Bautista. Permission is received from his mother Natasha Bautista.



Gulf Shores High School Kicks off Industry Tours with Gateway Initiative

Life Science with A.Schaff

Life Science traveled to the Gulf State Park and learned how plants use nutrients from soil and photosynthesis to grow. After they die and decompose—they release their nutrients and become part of the cycle again! In these photos, student took a short trek into our wetland forest to look for decomposers, like worms, snails, and pill-bugs. They also observed the smell, texture, moisture, temperature, graininess and color of nutrient-dense, decomposed materials (aka soil).



Coffee with the Counselors

September 27, 8:45-9:30 a.m.
Gulf Shores Elementary School

Join us as we hear from
Eddie Pratt with AltaPointe Counseling

“Recognizing the Signs and Symptoms
of Mental Health Issues in Children”

We will meet in the
GSES cafeteria

Questions? email
Sara Parker at
sparker@gsboe.org



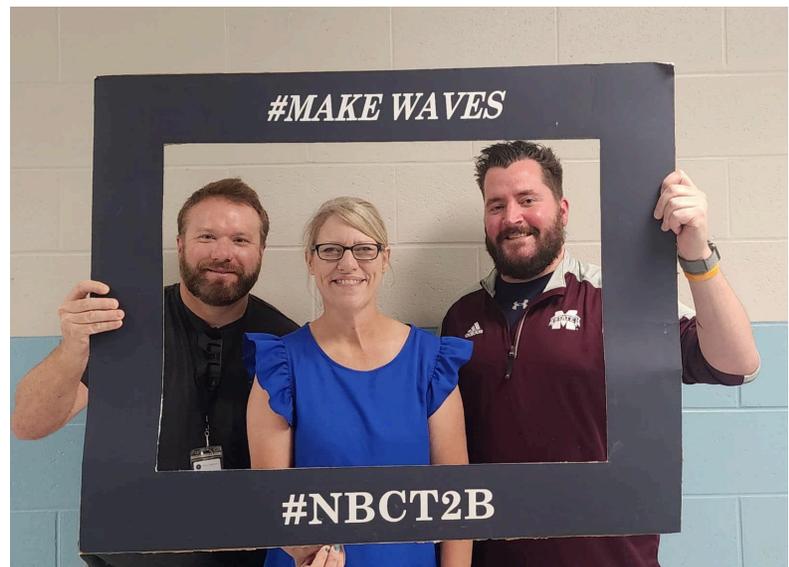
**Coffee with the
GSES Counselors -**

**Mark Your
Calendar**

September 27th

New Cohort of Teachers working on National Board Certification

We are excited to welcome a new cohort of teachers as they embark on their journey to National Board Certification. This rigorous process allows teachers to hone their practice, showcase their talent in the classroom, and demonstrate dedication to their students and their profession. Thank you to the [Dolphin Foundation for Education & Arts](#) for providing multiple avenues of support throughout the process.



PowerSchool Parent Portal Information

PowerSchool Parent Portal Access
 -Allows Parents Access To-




GRADES & PROGRESS

- CURRENT GRADES
- ASSIGNMENT SCORES
- PRIOR GRADES

ATTENDANCE HISTORY



ACCOUNT BALANCES



NOTIFICATION MANAGEMENT

SET TEXT and/or EMAIL ALERTS

▶ ATTENDANCE ▶ FEES ▶ GRADES



RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION

FOR THE 24-25 SCHOOL YEAR, STUDENT REGISTRATION WILL REQUIRE PARENT PORTAL ACCESS, SO SET UP YOUR ACCOUNT NOW!



STAY CONNECTED

ONCE YOU CREATE AN ACCOUNT, IT REMAINS LINKED TO YOUR CHILD(REN) THROUGHOUT THEIR ENROLLMENT IN GSCS. DON'T MISS OUT---CREATE YOUR PARENT ACCOUNT TODAY!



GSMS: Nature Walk: 7 Characteristics of Life

GSMS nature walk examined various cellular organisms with compound microscopes just like early cell theory scientists: Hooke, Schleiden and Schwann. Then, students took a nature walk outside to hunt for evidence of the 7 characteristics of life. In a culvert, we found tadpoles that were perfect examples of growth and development. We witnessed butterflies drinking nectar as an example of organisms using energy for life processes. And, we learned the many adaptations that pine trees have evolved to survive and thrive in relation to wildfires. Finally, students recorded flipgrid videos to justify their photo evidence and communicate their findings.

Nature Walk: 7 Characteristics of Life

| Characteristic | Photo |
|--|---|
| Cellular Organization: Living organisms are composed of one or more cells. Cells are the basic structural and functional units of life. They can be single-celled (unicellular) or multicellular, depending on the organism. |  |
| Reproduction: Living organisms can reproduce, creating offspring that are genetically similar to the parent or parents. Reproduction is essential for the continuity of a species. |  |
| Response to Stimuli: Living organisms can detect and respond to changes in their environment. They have the ability to react to external stimuli, such as light, temperature, or sound, as well as internal stimuli, such as hormonal signals. |  |
| Metabolism: Metabolism refers to the set of chemical reactions that occur within an organism to maintain life. These reactions involve the conversion of energy and the processing of nutrients to support growth, repair, and reproduction. |  |
| Homeostasis: Living organisms have the ability to regulate and maintain a stable internal environment. This ensures that conditions such as temperature, pH, and nutrient levels remain within a certain range conducive to life. |  |
| Growth and Development: Living organisms undergo growth, which involves an increase in size and complexity. Development refers to the process by which an organism matures and acquires its characteristic form and function. |  |
| Evolution: Living organisms evolve over time through the process of natural selection. This means that they can adapt to changing environmental conditions, and over generations, they may develop new traits and characteristics that enhance their survival and reproductive success. |  |



GSES: Harvest Festival 2023

Harvest Festival 2023
Friday September 29th 5:30pm-8:00pm

GSES Carline Parking Lot
Inflatables, Cake Walk, raffle, face painting & much more!
Food Trucks and Pizza available for purchase

Wristband Early Bird \$10
Sale ends 9/26, will call pick up bands
9/29 8-10am, 12pm-1pm, & 5pm-8pm

Door Sales \$15
Chaperones and children 3 & under are free



GSHS Navy JROTC



Our first uniform day and I am happy to say that EVERY cadet was in uniform and looking awesome. These two cadets right here come to us each day and participate in our class and we are so lucky to have them on our team. Great job Cadet Booth and Cadet Wright.

GSCS Community Conversations

Mark you calendar and make plans to attend:

Gulf Shores City Schools

PRESENTS

**COMMUNITY
CONVERSATIONS**

**SOCIAL MEDIA...
WHAT ADULTS NEED TO KNOW
TO KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE**

- ✓ Hear about the latest online trends
- ✓ Tips on how to protect children and teens online
- ✓ How to talk to your child about staying safe online

Thursday, September 28

5:30-7:00 p.m.

**Gulf Shores Cultural
Center**

19470 Oak Rd. West
Gulf Shores

SPEAKER: TOMMY LOFTIS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST
AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
LIASON

For More Information

sparker@gsboe.org

Gulf Shores Kids Hope USA Mentors

Saint Andrew by the Sea- Gulf Shores, Alabama

The Gulf Shores Kids Hope USA Mentors convened for a kickoff dinner and celebration. All mentors are looking forward to returning to their students this year and meeting new ones.



Not pictured- Tim Fulmer, Jim Sweatt, Lisa Brown, Thelma Considine, Marilyn Knuteson

Middle School Mentors



Elementary School Mentors



Dolphin Foundation For Education and Arts

Please Register for The [ONE Club Gulf Shores Community](#) Annual Charity Golf Tournament Hosted by ONE Foundation, Benefiting The [Dolphin Foundation for Education & Arts](#) and Gulf Shores City Schools! The event takes place Saturday, October 21st at Noon, please follow the link for more details! <https://oneclubgulfshores.com/6th-annual-charity-golf-2023/>






ONE Club's 6th Annual Charity Golf Tournament
 Hosted by ONE Foundation! This Annual Golf Tournament Benefits
 The Dolphin Foundation and Gulf Shores City Schools!
 Format - Scramble • Saturday, October 21st, 2023
 12pm Check-In • 1pm Start
 4500 Gulf Shores Pkwy, Gulf Shores, AL 36542

Zoonami IV will take place Friday October 20th, 7:00pm, at The [Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo](#)! Ticket and Table Information is now available! <https://thegsdf.org/zoonami-iv>



**ZOONAMI
IV**




SAVE THE DATE!
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023
 THEGSDf.ORG

GSES: Dolphin Pride 21st CCLC



GSMS: Beyond The Bell



2023 College Board National Recognition Programs

Congratulations from the National Recognition from the College Board to four Gulf Shores High School Students. Alexandrina Vodi, Claire Colvin, Cline Steward, and Henley Hollis. These four students received the National Rural and Small Town Award (NRSTA).



Claire Colvin



Henley Hollis



Cline Steward



Alexandrina Vodi

2023 AASB School Board Member Academy Achievements



Frank Mason
Level 2



Kelly Walker
Level 3

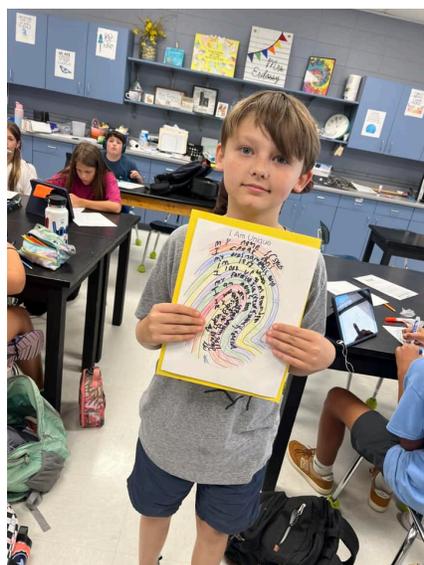
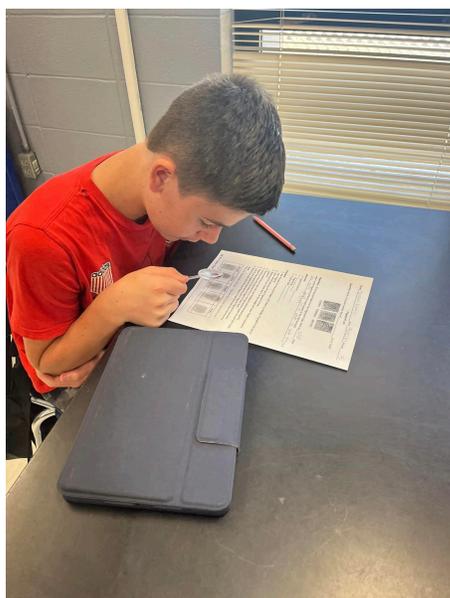
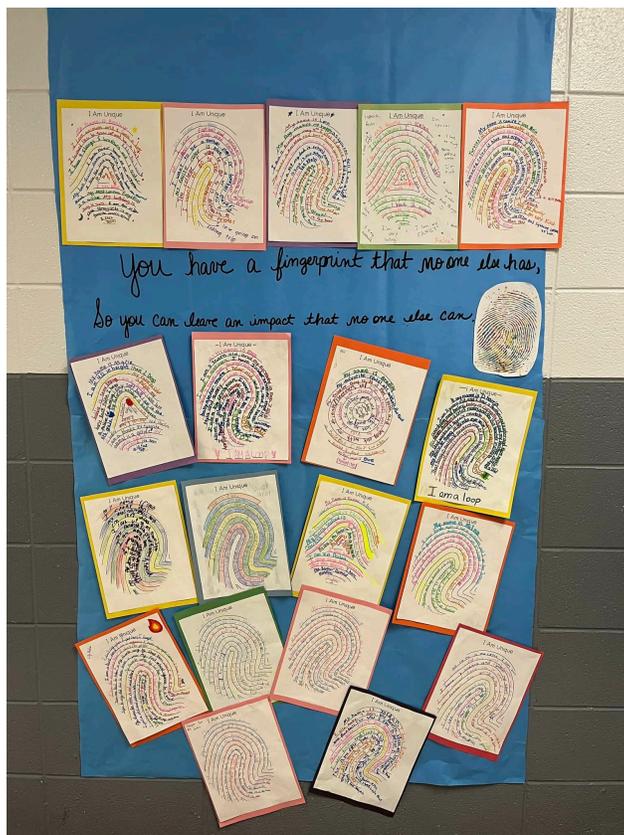
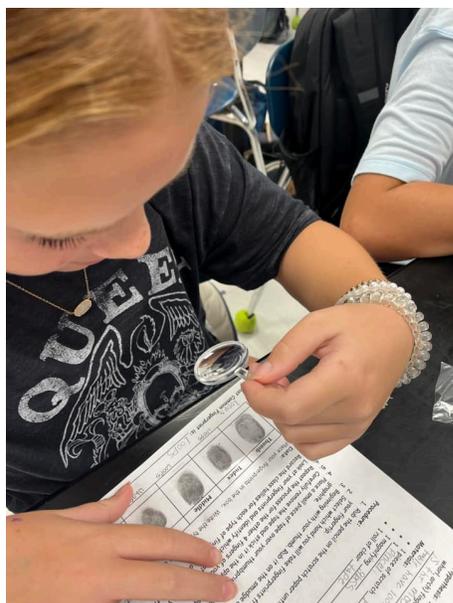


Kevin Corcoran
Master 1st Year

GSMS: Erdosy's Scientists

6th Graders worked through the steps of the scientific method with a fingerprint lab. It was so interesting to analyze our fingerprints and determine which types we have. We also created graphs of our class results, and then followed up with a writing activity. They did such a great job!

“You have a fingerprint that no one else has, so you can leave an impact that no one else can.”



GSCS Tuesday Tour: High School

If you are new to our Gulf Shores community or to our Gulf Shores City Schools, we invite you to join the Tuesday Tour. Gulf Shores City Schools is providing the opportunity for our community members, parents, etc. to tour each of our schools to see the wonderful things going on in our classrooms. **Our first “Tuesday Tour” will take place on Tuesday, September 26th from 9:00-11:00 at Gulf Shores High School.** Visitors will have a chance to look inside our classrooms and experience the culture and innovation of Gulf Shores City Schools.

To sign up, click on the following link: [Take The Tuesday Tour](#)



Join The Coastal Cleanup!

ALABAMA COASTAL CLEANUP

Let's team up to get the trash out of the splash!

You'll need: [sunscreen](#), [refillable water bottle](#), and a [bucket](#).

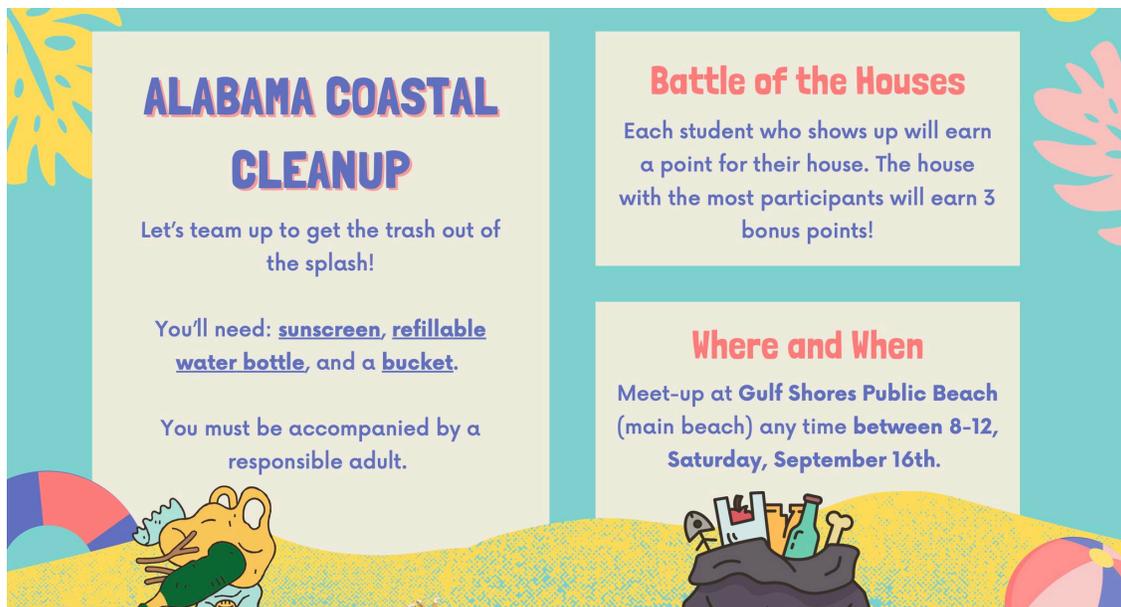
You must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Battle of the Houses

Each student who shows up will earn a point for their house. The house with the most participants will earn 3 bonus points!

Where and When

Meet-up at [Gulf Shores Public Beach](#) (main beach) any time **between 8-12, Saturday, September 16th.**



Meet Our Director of Operations: Beau Roode

I have been fortunate to have been part of the school system since the beginning in June of 2019. The Position of Director of Operations has been very challenging and rewarding over the years. The operations umbrella primarily deals with all things pertaining to our buildings and facilities. Whether it is looking for ways to help the custodial staff, be more efficient or making sure the AC and the lights are working properly, there are a lot of moving parts in all of these buildings we live in for 8+ hours every day. Many of the systems that we don't give too much thought to are always there either behind a wall, or running thru the ceiling, or even under our feet beneath the slab of the schools foundation. One of my primary goals is to have facilities where everyone that enters has a positive experience in terms of the environment that we have created. We have been extremely blessed with a great Operations Staff who are on the facility front lines as I like to say. From our 4 maintenance team members, to the custodial staff and our grounds crew that is provided by the city, we all work together to keep the train moving down the tracks. Really and Truly, there are so many groups and employees in this district that have a pitch in and help mindset which is a large part of what has allowed us to be successful.

As for a little of my background and the journey that has gotten me to this place. I have a beautiful wife of 21 years, Becky and 2 beautiful daughters Paityn and Aubry. Paityn is a freshman at Auburn and plans to study Marketing and Aubry is a freshman at GSHS and on the freshman volleyball team. We are active members at Foley Church of Christ where my Father in law is the active Minister. Before GSCS I worked with the City of GS Maintenance Division for 9 years. In addition I worked for the Baldwin County Board of Education, also in maintenance for 2 years at Foley Middle School.



Happening at GSCS:

[District](#)
[Elementary School](#)
[Middle School](#)
[High School](#)
[Virtual Academy](#)



SAVE
the
DATE

9/4 Labor Day - No School
 9/5-8 GSES: 5th Grade Field Trip
 9/7 BOE: Work Session (4:00pm) & Special Called Meeting (immediately following)
 9/13-15 GSMS: Space Camp Field Trip
 9/14 BOE: Regular Board Meeting (5:00pm)
 9/26 GSCS: Tuesday Tour (High School) 9:00am-11:00am
 9/27 GSES: Coffee with the Counselor (8:45am)
 9/29 GSES: Harvest Festival (5:30pm - 8:00pm)

Connect With Us:

[Matt Akin - Superintendent](#)
[Stephanie Harrison - Assistant Superintendent](#)
[Sandi Harris - Office Manager](#)
[Chad Green - CSFO](#)
[Marcelina Parrish - Human Resource Manager](#)
[Chezley Neth - Data Management & Reporting Analyst](#)
[Paul Wilson - Athletic Director](#)
[Joey Drews - Director of Educational Technology & Student Support Services](#)
[Beau Roode - Director of Operations](#)
[Sonya Price - Director of Exceptional Education](#)
[Carrie Barragan - English Second Language](#)
[Tanya Hill - Child Nutrition Program Coordinator](#)
[Randall Carlisle - Student Engagement, Transportation and Safety Coordinator](#)
[Media](#)
[Jessica Sampley - Career Tech Coordinator](#)
[Karen Pearson - District Testing Coordinator](#)

/// MAKE WAVES!

Do you have a suggestion or comment you would like to share with us?

[Connect with GSCS](#)

Joe McAleer-Social

