

# The MakeWaves Monthly

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



## Superintendents’ Message

Wow! Thank you so much for making our first ever **Gulf Shores Gives Back** event a success! We are so appreciative of our students, employees, parents and community with their willingness to serve, show team spirit, and promote positive energy. Our students would not have had the opportunity to develop a habit of community service without the leadership from our employees! Thank you! While many, many people contributed to the planning and coordination of Gulf Shores Gives Back, we would like to recognize the Mental Health Advisory/Gulf Shores Gives Back Committee. This committee has been meeting for more than a year to plan this event. It is challenging to implement a new idea especially when the scale is so large and there is no blueprint to follow. However, this team came together and turned this idea into a reality. If you did not have the opportunity to participate this year, we hope you will join us next year for this annual event. Take a few moments to view the [Gulf Shores Gives Back](#) page on our website and the photo gallery of our special day. MakeWaves!

Dr. Matt Akin - Superintendent [makin@gsboe.org](mailto:makin@gsboe.org)  
Dr. Stephanie Harrison - Assistant Superintendent [sharrison@gsboe.org](mailto:sharrison@gsboe.org)



ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL



MIDDLE SCHOOL



HIGH SCHOOL



VIRTUAL  
ACADEMY



Health & Wellness



Athletics



Arts Education



Teaching &  
Learning

## Meet Our Student WaveMakers of the Month

### Elementary School

**Alyza Mardis**

**Grade - 5th Grade**

**Area of Recognition -**

Diligence and hard work



### I'm a WaveMaker because...

Alyza has demonstrated impressive improvements in academic achievement. She has a self-awareness that allows her to know what she needs to do her best. Alyza is goal-oriented and takes ownership of her learning. In the classroom, she exudes kindness and maturity. She is a quiet a leader and her work ethic is unmatched. Alyza has the ability to see a need and take action. She sets an example for her classmates in her attitude and dedication to learning. Alyza is an excellent candidate for WaveMaker of the Month!

~Nominated by Heather Bender~

### Middle School

**Aubree Wiggins**

**Grade - 8th Grade**

**Area of Recognition - Leadership**



### I'm a WaveMaker because...

I am pleased to nominate Aubree Wiggins for the Student WaveMaker award in recognition of her exceptional courage, quick thinking, and compassionate actions. Recently, Aubree demonstrated exemplary composure and responsibility when she was escorting a friend to the nurse, and an unexpected emergency arose. In a moment of crisis, Aubree's swift response was nothing short of heroic. She efficiently and safely guided her friend to the ground, all while maintaining a calm and collected demeanor. Aubree's ability to think on her feet and promptly alert the appropriate adults ensured that her friend received the necessary assistance promptly. Her unwavering commitment to the well-being of others showcases qualities that make her a standout candidate for the Student WaveMaker award. Aubree's actions not only exemplify leadership but also reflect her genuine concern for the welfare of her peers, making her a deserving nominee for this prestigious recognition.

~Nominated by Kinzie Shamblin~

### High School

**Mylah Howard**

**Grade - 9th Grade**

**Area of Recognition -**

Event Planning & Hospitality and Tourism



### I'm a WaveMaker because...

Mylah Howard is a fantastic choice for WaveMaker. Mylah is a freshman and I've had the pleasure of teaching her both semesters. She is wise, mature beyond her years, polite, and an absolute delight to work with. Last week I needed students to speak to a film crew about the work they do in my class. She volunteered her time and did a beautiful job representing what our Hospitality and Tourism courses are all about. In class Mylah always submits quality work and one can tell that she takes pride in her academics. I know that I can rely on her to take the reins on a project, and she is going to shine this semester in Event Planning. She's already a leader in developing plans for Farm to Table, Earth Day, Gulf Shores Gives Back Day, and our Scholar's Bowl tournament. Any teacher would be lucky to have her. I enjoy seeing her smiling face every day.

~Nominated by Amanda Talantis~

### Virtual Academy

**Jaxon Guzlas**

**Grade - 5th Grade**

**Area of Recognition - Kindness**

**I'm a WaveMaker because...**



Not only is Jaxon an outstanding student at our Gulf Shores City Schools Virtual School, but he is also an outstanding human being. I learned about Jaxon's greatness when he touched my heart and the heart of many other individuals on Make Waves of Kindness Day. You see, he and his classmates were asked to record 20 seconds or less of video in which they shared what kindness meant to them or a time when they were profoundly affected by kindness. Jaxon asked the teacher to send the video clips to him and he would put together a final product that could be shared with the community for Make Waves of Kindness Day. The product he created was both beautiful and touching, and also quite professionally produced. He took what was to be a simple assignment and turned it into an outreach that spread across the community and beyond. He used his talents to remind people of the importance of being kind to each other every day. He also reminds us that sometimes our smallest act of kindness becomes a treasured memory for someone else. It might just become that important thing they carry with them for years to come. So, well done, Jaxon. The world could use more young people like you. More individuals that think about how they can use their strengths and natural abilities to make the world a better place.

~Nominated by Sonya Price~

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



## Meet Our Staff WaveMakers of the Month

### Elementary School

**Kristy Phillips**  
4th Grade Teacher

#### I'm a WaveMaker because...

Kris Phillips can be counted on in every area of school life. She arrives early every day to make sure she is prepared. She is the lead ELA teacher for our grade level. She contributes innovative ideas that she shares to integrate ELA and history standards. Just recently she did a room transformation that included a gallery walk of Civil Rights Leaders with QR codes which peaked high interest among her students. She included inspiring quotes that linked our Leader in Me culture to the standards. Students were able to answer questions and spark deep conversations with each other. Kris is clearly an asset to our school.

~ Nominated by Stacey Smith~



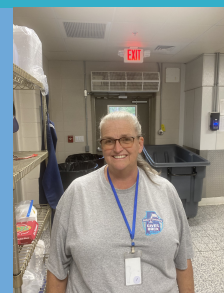
### Middle School

**Kaia Helms**  
Bus Driver

#### I'm a WaveMaker because...

As a dedicated bus driver, Ms. Helms goes above and beyond to prioritize the safety and well-being of our students. Beyond her role in transportation, she actively builds relationships with the students, creating a positive and supportive environment during their journeys. Ms. Helms consistently demonstrates her commitment by voluntarily signing up for fine arts, athletics, field trips, and various events, regardless of the distance, late hours, or even holidays. Her unwavering dedication ensures that our students have the opportunity to participate in enriching experiences, showcasing her as a true WaveMaker within our school community.

~Nominated by Brittney Reeves~



### High School

**Mary Kate Harrell-Soria**  
Spanish  
Volleyball Coach  
Head JV Girls Basketball Coach

#### I'm a WaveMaker because...

Coach MK is the epitome of a WaveMaker. It has been a great privilege to work with her and watch her grow as a Dolphin. She builds positive relationships with students and does everything with enthusiasm, which absolutely is contagious to all those around her. She teaches Spanish in creative and innovative ways to engage students and teaches them how to use technology to learn another language and explore the world. She encourages students to broaden their horizons and be empathetic to other cultures all while making it fun. If you haven't seen her Spanish Department Instagram @gshsspanishdept, you need to check it out because the videos are amazing and highlight just how great she is with students. As a coach, MK is a positive light on each staff she is a part of--volleyball and girls' basketball--and she is the ultimate team player who is always ready to lend a hand. She spends countless hours at GSHS and on the road with both teams, and I have never heard her complain. She is very deserving of the WaveMaker recognition. She has impacted our lives, as well as numerous others', in more ways than we can count. ~Nominated by Jessica Sampley and Alisha Tolbert~



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

## Elementary School

### Classroom Coffee Shop

Mrs. Phillips' 4th grade ELA classes enjoyed their poetry by creating and sharing poems in their classroom coffee shop.



## Middle School

### Impacts of Seaweed Farming

Students have been learning how industry and conservation can go hand in hand. More specifically, we studied the impacts of seaweed farming. Some kelp can grow up to 3 feet per day! Because it is photosynthetic, it captures a LOT of carbon from our oceans and supplies more than 50% of Earth's oxygen. Finally, seaweed is a unique crop because it requires zero freshwater or land to grow.



## High School

### Tasting Spaghetti Squash

Mrs. Madsen's Culinary class from [Gulf Shores High School](#) held a culinary tasting during our lunch waves! Students got to taste spaghetti squash prepared by the high school students. Once they tasted it and decided it was delicious, they could scan a QR code to enter to win the ingredients for the dish and get the recipe to make it at home!



## Virtual Academy

### Way to go Weatherman Jaxon!!



Jaxon and [WKRG Ed Bloodsworth](#) breaking down the weather almanac.

**Connect With Us! Stay informed on what's happening with Gulf Shores City Schools!**

**District/Schools Websites. - Facebook - Twitter - Instagram - You Tube**



## Health & Wellness

### Food Tasting Day "The Latin Way"

GSCS CNP is having "A Taste of Child Nutrition" open house at the Middle School Cafeteria. It will be on Thursday, March 21st from 4:00-6:00pm. You will have the opportunity to meet the CNP staff, try new recipes, and provide constructive feedback to our CNP staff. This is a **free community event and everyone is welcome!**

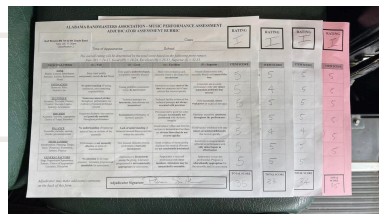


### Take Time For The Dolphin Walk!

## Arts Education

### The Concert Band At GSMS

Wow! What a performance! The Concert Band traveled to Baker High School to perform at the District VII Music Performance Assessment. Their performance was judged by a panel of 4 state sanctioned judges. The band received a STRAIGHT SUPERIOR rating, including the highest possible scores from 2 of the 4 judges! The students worked INCREDIBLY hard on this program, perfecting their 3 pieces for about 2 and a half months.

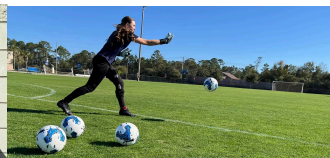


### A Job Well Done!

## Athletics

### Making Waves with Spring Sports

If you have not had the opportunity to attend any spring sports, now is the time to view the Athletics website, select the sport, and view the schedule. GS spring sports are all making waves. Don't miss out on these exciting sports.



### View our Athletics website!



## Teaching & Learning

### GSMS & GSES working together!

The GSMS aviation class tested their hot air balloons for 1st grade students in enrichment at GSES.



Save these upcoming dates! Looking forward to a new season of GSHS Marching Band!



Ellis and Nate at GSES have a message for us all!



GSES 4th and 5th grades started drone pilot training in STEAM with [#dronelegends](#)





Thank you to Cotton Creek Ladies Golf Association for all of your support to the Varsity Girls Golf Team! Go Dolphins



Thank you to all who participated in the Kids Heart Challenge this year! The money you helped raise goes to help kids like our GSES



Congratulations to Mrs. Fleming's environmental science students who competed today at the first annual Baldwin County Envirothon! They won and will be headed to the state competition in Columbiana next week! Team members:

Elisa Bruson  
Jack Butler  
Lauren Calvert  
Ryder Dement  
Henley Hollis

Students learned from experts and tested their knowledge in these areas: Forestry, Aquatic Ecology, Wildlife, Stormwater Runoff, and Soils/ Land Use. The team with the highest scores won.

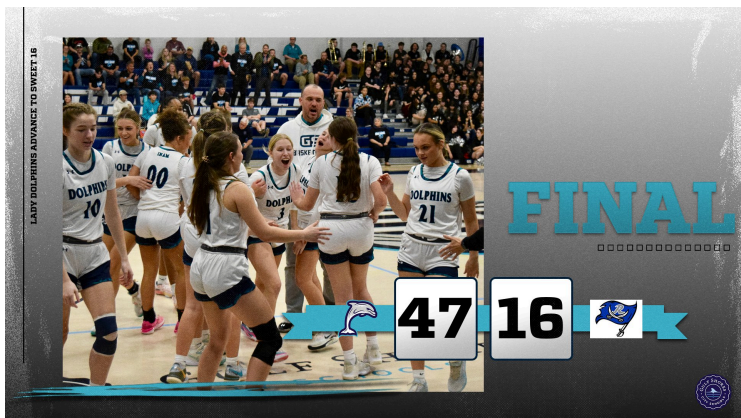
Congratulations to the GSMS winners of the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest! The theme this year was "Dare to Dream."

1st place- Milan Francis (6)  
2nd place- Zoe Smalley (6)  
3rd place- Andrea Serrano (7)





Final. Sub-Regional win! Headed to Regionals to face St. Paul's in the Sweet 16!



Congratulations to our Dolphins @gshsgirlshoops ! ELITE 8! They took down St. Paul's in the AHSAA 5A South Regional Semi-Final (final score 45-38) today and will face Eufaula in the championship on 2/21, 9 AM, at Garrett Coliseum in Montgomery! Way to go, players and coaches! We are so proud of you!



GSHS Dolphin Walk team!! We are headed in the right direction!



GSHS Varsity Scholar's Bowl received 3rd place at the University of Mobile's Brain Battle. The competition was tough and we are very proud of them!





## GSHS: Maya Griffin Signs With Coastal

We will miss #00 Maya Griffin but we are excited to see her move on to play basketball Coastal!



Sara Weidinger and Baze Morgan at GSES were our 600 building Leaders today! They kept our lines nice and safe walking to car line.



Beck Montiel and Mason Nettles of the GSHS Cross Country and Track teams spent part of this beautiful Sunday morning volunteering at the Gulf State Park at the "We Run This Beach Marathon."



The awards keep coming for GSHS Senior bowler Rylan Stefankiewicz! He has been named 1st Team All-State for the 1A-5A division and 2nd Team All-State across all divisions. Congratulations Rylan! MakeWaves!!



Gulf Shores Girls Basketball is at Legacy Arena at The BJCC in Birmingham getting ready for the Final Four!.



Congratulations to these GSHS students at the District 7 Honor Band! They spent 2 days hard at work preparing a concert with the best musicians in southwest AL.

Back: Cooper Grindle, Aiden Holdsworth, Nathan Sansom, Gavin Burtram, Caiden Bennett, Josh Stint

Front: Jennifer Sundy, Sophia Colmar, Amanda Larenas, Tristyn Kutz, Lex Schneider





Congratulations to Junior Beck Montiel on breaking his own school record in the mile at 4:36! This young man has quite a future.



Our NJHS Officers were inducted today! We are so proud of these students and their commitment to their school.

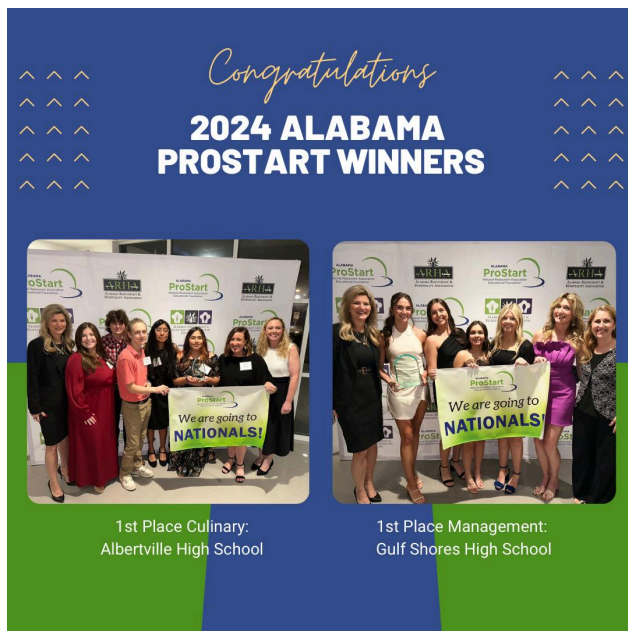


Gulf Shores High School Career Tech teachers, Mark Mitchell and Wil Tuggle, in partnership with Coastal Alabama Community College, offered a training course that certified seven students in heavy equipment operations with a concentration on skid steer. One of those students, Hayden Plybon, has been offered a job with Chem-Dry. Hayden will start his new job in May—he will be clearing sand, spreading gravel, and resurfacing driveways. Hopefully, this will inspire more students to take the heavy equipment course in the future at GSHS! Go Dolphins!





GSHS Culinary ProStart Team brought home the Best Beef Dish Award from the Alabama Cattleman's Association this year. A Tajin Crusted Filet was on the menu and wowed the judges in a big way! The girls won a set of Lodge cast iron pans and \$1000 dollars for the culinary department. They also received the first place management competition. Great job!



Thank you Dolphin Foundation for your generous support to our FCCLA members! Headed to Alabama FCCLA State Conference & Competition!



GSHS FCCLA members at our state convention in Montgomery. Competition day was tough, but these girls represented!





These GSES Students enjoyed their new lunch and were all smiles! Tanya Hill and the CNP Team put this meal together for the district! The meal consisted of Broccoli Chicken Pasta, Corn Salad, Caesar Salad, Breadsticks, Fruit, and Milk!



The Lost and Found Logistics Team at GSES is helping our custodians by collecting items around campus. These items are held in a central location with easy access for those who may have lost or misplaced a jacket, lunchbox, backpack, or water bottle. Every Tuesday and Thursday these items are placed outside, near the front doors, for families to have a final look through. Unclaimed items are eventually donated.



GULF SHORES HIGH SCHOOL

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## RISING JUNIORS AND SENIORS, We have a summer program just for you!

Are you ready to ride the

# WAVE

toward your future?

Are you interested in taking control of your future, earning an elective and possibly math or science credit, while working in your chosen career field of interest this summer? The new WAVE program offers you a very personalized opportunity to take hands-on, relevant, and rigorous courses while also working as a paid intern in your chosen area. This opportunity will look great on your resume and will allow you to earn money while gaining valuable experience with local experts. There is no tuition cost attached to this program.

**COURSES**

- HOSPITALITY & TOURISM: CULINARY
  - CHEMISTRY OF FOOD (EITHER SCIENCE OR CTE CREDIT)
- SUSTAINABILITY: GULF COAST SCIENCE (EITHER MARINE OR ENVIRONMENTAL)
- HEALTH SCIENCE
  - CTE LAB

**Please complete the interest survey by Friday, April 5, to be called in for an in-person meeting to discuss the program.**

**Contact Jessica Sampley with questions:**  
[jsampley@gsboe.org](mailto:jsampley@gsboe.org)

**BENEFITS**

- PERSONALIZED
- HANDS-ON COURSES
- STUDENTS EARN TWO CREDITS--ONE FOR THE COURSE AND ONE FOR THE INTERNSHIP
- SMALL CLASSES
- PAID INTERNSHIP-\$15/HR
- FIELD EXPERIENCES & LOCAL TOURS
- BUILD YOUR RESUME
- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
- NO TUITION COST ATTACHED

Rising juniors and seniors, are you interested in taking a hands-on course with plenty of field experiences paired with a paid internship this summer? Complete the survey to be invited to the interest meeting!



The OG EGGERS are back!!! Who doesn't love candy filled eggs showing up around their house?! All proceeds are donated to the GSES K-Kids! Fill out the form below!

Order Eggs:

<https://forms.gle/mKHvMmJ8JP55SiX3A>

Pay for Eggs:

Venmo: Kristie-Wheelles or drop payment off at Wheelles Realty/Wheelles Karate



**Egg My House!**

EGG MY HOUSE  
Order your Candy filled eggs!  
We will be egging homes on  
Saturday, March 30th

ORDER BY: MARCH 27th  
All proceeds will be  
donated to  
GSES K-Kids Club

Kristie Wheelles  
251.233.9300

50 Eggs- \$35  
75 Eggs- \$50  
100 Eggs- \$65

**WHEELLES REALTY** **WHEELLES KARATE & JIU JITSU** **Waterfront Closing & Title**



We love how our community shows up to support our students! Wade Bradford from SouthState Bank came and talked to our Kids Hope Mentees this past week at GSMS. He discussed the types of skills needed for employment and other related business topics. Our goal is to always make sure our students leave us equipped with the skills they need to be successful!

Thank you to our Peer Helpers for leading the Tuesday Tour at GSMS! They walked community members around to different classrooms to show off all of the awesome things that are happening here.





Mae-Margaret Reed did a great job last week representing Gulf Shores Middle School at the Veterans Court in Foley with Judge Thomason. She presented the donations that she collected from her Red Ribbon project. With the funds that she raised through a school drive and from the community, she was able to donate 25 gift bags filled with goodies. She was also able to donate \$500 which will cover the cost of 50 drug tests for veterans. She was able to observe some of the court proceedings, as well. We are so proud of our 2023-2024 Red Ribbon Week Leader!



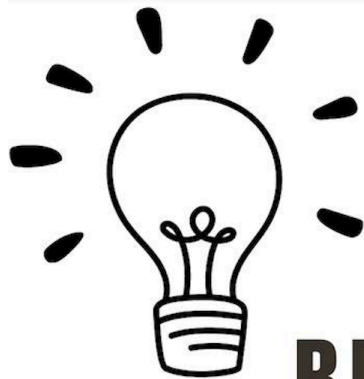
Thank you to all who donate to the Blessing Box out front at GSES and shout out to the K-Kids for taking care of keeping it stocked with your donations and for organizing it!



Congratulations to Ansley Warner, Mariana Cervantes, and Talan Galvan for signing with Southern Union to play collegiate soccer! We are so proud! Go Dolphins!



## **Community Conversations: March 21st**



### **GULF SHORES CITY SCHOOLS COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS BE IN THE KNOW!**

**A conversation for parents and  
teens on vaping and other  
substance use trends along with  
the health risks.**

**Speaker: Christina Morris from  
The Bridge-Substance Abuse Education,  
Prevention, and Intervention**

**Thursday, March 21, 2024  
5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.  
Gulf Shores High School Library**

**Questions? Contact Sara Parker, Mental Health Coordinator  
at [sparker@gsboe.org](mailto:sparker@gsboe.org)**



GSMS Turbo Dolphins are bringing home three!!  
 Way to go Gulf Shores!  
 Black Panther 2nd Place Overall-Intermediate  
 Stock  
 Captain America 3rd Place Intermediate Modified  
 Black Widow 3rd Place Overall Advanced Stock



Three GSMS students won 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the Baldwin Humane Society's 2024 Art Contest! The theme this year was "There's no place like home."



1st Place- Davis Sinclair



2nd Place- Kyndal Swann



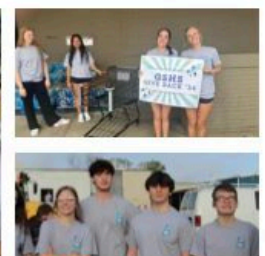
3rd Place- Ava Bettinger





## GSHS GIVES BACK DAY

Gulf Shores City Schools' Gives Back Day is an inspiring event that encourages students from Gulf Shores High School and other schools to engage in meaningful community service. Participating students immerse themselves in a range of activities, from washing city vehicles to picking up trash and debris, all aimed at enhancing the local environment. Furthermore, projects such as building walkways and planting saplings not only beautify the area but also promote sustainability for future generations. Through their dedicated efforts, GSHS students showcase their commitment to serving others and leaving a positive mark on their community.





# A Taste Of Child Nutrition

## March 21, 2024



## FOOD TASTING DAY

### "THE LATIN WAY"

- GSCS is having an Open House
- At the Middle School Cafeteria
- From 4:00 - 6:00 pm
- You'll get to meet our CNP Staff
- You'll get to try new recipes
- You'll be able to provide constructive feedback



A free community event to sample menu items - everyone welcome!



## GSMS: EcoCamp



**GSMS**  
Alabama's 21<sup>st</sup> CCSS  
Seeing Beyond Expectations

**EcoCamp**

**SUMMER CAMP 2024**

**MAY 29 -**  
**JUNE 28**

Monday - Friday  
8am - 12pm  
NO COST

Join us this summer at Gulf Shores Middle School for incredible summer opportunities! There will be STEAM experiences, fitness activities, academic support, and more. We have also partnered with Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment to provide outdoor adventures such as kayaking, biking, hiking, and Oyster Farming. We look forward to seeing you there!

PROGRAM FOR RISING 6TH, 7TH, 8TH GRADERS  
REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 1, 2024

### Information

#### How do I register?

Visit [www.EzChildTrack.com/GSBOE/Parent](http://www.EzChildTrack.com/GSBOE/Parent) > Click "Register" under New Parent Account and follow the prompts. Registration is only available online. Registration opens April 1st at 8am and closes April 30th at 3pm. NO LATE REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED. A mandatory parent meeting will be held virtually in May.

#### Is there a fee?

There is NO COST for this camp. We do have limited spots available on a first come, first serve basis.

#### Does my child have to attend daily?

While we understand illness and incidents occur, we do request students plan to attend the full camp experience.

#### When and where will camp be held?

Camp is May 29 through June 28 - Monday through Friday - from 8am until 12pm daily. Drop off and check out will take place in the GSMS cafeteria. Activities will take place both on and off campus. We will spend a great deal of time at the Gulf State Park. Early pickup will not always be feasible.

#### What about food, snacks, and drinks?

Students will be provided a breakfast each morning and lunch before leaving, but they are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle each day. No additional food or drinks will be available.

#### Check In & Check Out:

Students may be dropped off at the GSMS cafeteria where they can check themselves in. Check in takes place from 8am-8:30am each day. No early drop off is available. Parents must come into the cafeteria for checkout. You must checkout your child by 12pm. All students will be in the cafeteria by 11:45am for a speedy checkout process. Early checkout is rarely available due to activities.

#### Clothing for camp:

Due to the nature of many activities, students will need closed toed shoes almost daily. All other clothing requirements will follow school dress guidelines. Students will be permitted to wear open toed shoes for water day activities.


SEE THE PARENT HANDBOOK FOR SUMMER CAMP ON THE GSMS WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS.

EMAIL [BREEVES@GSBOE.ORG](mailto:BREEVES@GSBOE.ORG) WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

## GSMS: Scholar Athlete of the Month

Male Scholar Athlete of the Month


February



**Levi Howard**  
FOOTBALL  
BASEBALL

Female Scholar Athlete of the Month

February



**Ellie Flaig**  
SWIMMING



## GSHS: Dolphin Wrestlers

Congratulations to all the Dolphin Wrestlers who competed this weekend at the State Finals in Huntsville! We had 8 take the podium including the newest STATE CHAMPION, Landon Everett!

- \* 106 Able Brantley - 3rd
- \* 113 Rhys Coulter - 4th
- \* 126 Ethan Sharkey - 4th
- \* 132 Noah Guthrie - 3rd
- \* 138 Taylor Cheek - 3rd
- \* 175 Weston Reed - 3rd
- \* 190 Landon Everett - State Champion
- \* 285 Sam Schepker - 4th

Thanks to Coach Shaw, Coach Gosnell, Coach Brantley, Coach Day, and Coach Howe!

Another "Blue Map" for Gulf Shores!



## GSES: 5th Graders Take Learning Outdoors

Beautiful day for Robinson's fifth graders to bike to Lake Shelby. We identified several food chains in our local ecosystem. Then students played a tag game called "Food Web."





## GSES: Badminton and Tennis

Spring is in the air, the weather is warming up and physical education classes at the elementary school are working outdoors on badminton and tennis skills.





## GSVA: Gardening Day

It was a beautiful day for the GSVA's first Gardening Day where students set up and filled the raised garden beds with soil before planting dill, basil, parsley, carrots, zinnias and more! We also had vegetable trays, Veggie Straws and carrot cake for a themed snack underneath our new shade sails! Mrs. Green spearheaded this garden project to bring the vision to life!





## GSVA: GS Public Library

Thank you to Ms. Deanne and the [Gulf Shores Public Library \(Thomas B. Norton Public Library\)](#) for our storytime today! She also helped our students get their own library card to check out books on their level and books that interest them.



## GSES: Logistics Team

GSES custodian, Mr. Justin Davis, lead assembly of a utility wagon for our student led Logistics Team. These 5th graders, from Mrs. Bender's homeroom, assisted Mr. Davis and had a real-life fraction lesson using a measuring tape and tools.





## GSHS HOSA Chapter

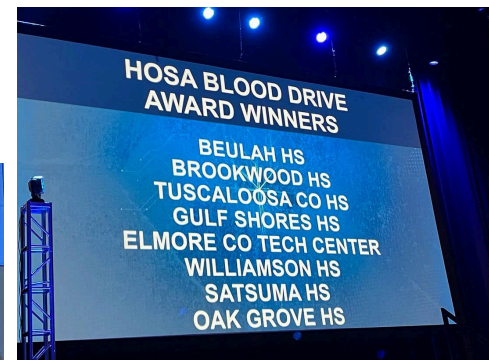
GSHS HOSA Chapter received several Recognition Awards for service to your community!

3rd place Banner Competition

4th place America's Blood Centers & HOSA Blood Drive

3rd Place HOSA Service Project- Be the Match

70+ hours Volunteer Hours (Barbara James Service Award)





## GSHS: Envirothon Team

Mrs. Krista Fleming and her new Envirothon Team are currently at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana competing for a state title! This is our first year participating in this event, and the team won the Baldwin County championship! Our team's test scores earned 2nd place (out of 26 teams!) in the state, and they will be presenting today for the 2nd half of the competition. The presentations and test scores will then be tallied together for the final score. Let's go, Dolphins! If our team wins, they will compete in the upcoming national competition.



Several of our GS Elementary Virtual Academy students met at The Factory today to use their free one-hour certificate for reaching their math facts Green Light goals in Reflex! Thank you to [The Factory Gulf Shores](#) for providing this generous incentive to achieve!





## Outdoor Learning Space

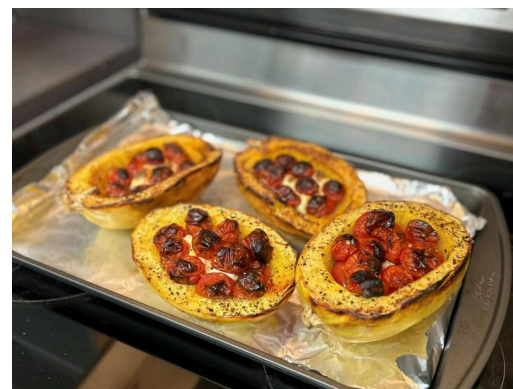
Our amazing partners from Jones Valley Teaching Farm visited for two days last week to work with students and teachers at all three schools! Thank you, Leah and Alan, for all the assistance! JVTF taught a lesson about seed dispersal with Mrs. Vicki Miller and her students that used our outdoor learning space for some hands-on learning. They met with Mrs. Martha Morales to make recommendations about the GSMS greenhouse and then taught her sustainability students how to best prune the tomato plants in the bato bucket system. At GSHS, the group worked with students and teachers to complete the irrigation to the new raised bed garden and planted native pollinator plants in the new pollinator garden. We are so grateful for our partnership and for all our awesome students and teachers!





## GSMS: Culinary Arts

GSMS and GSMS students took a leap today and tried something new! GSMS Culinary Arts students created a tasty spaghetti squash recipe for their classmates. The results were amazing! Thank you GSCS Nutrition Committee for your support!





## Celebration of Arbor Day

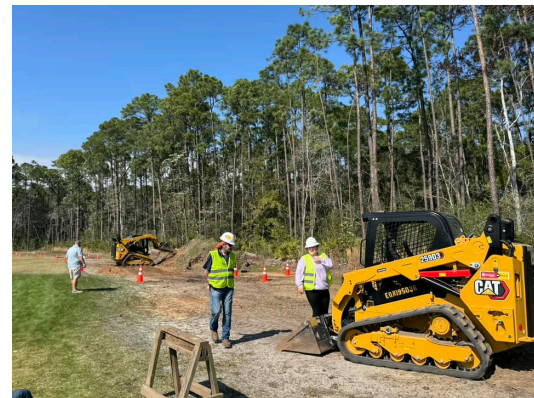
National Honor Society and Future Farmers of America members along with their sponsors, Mrs. Reffitt and Mr. Tuggle, gave out trees on this beautiful Saturday morning in celebration of Arbor Day!





## GSHS: Sustainability Academy Ag Program

Thanks to our amazing partnership with [Coastal Alabama Community College](#) and our teachers, Mark Mitchell and Wil Tuggle, students in our Sustainability Academy Ag Program had the opportunity to take a Heavy Equipment Operator: SkidSteer course and complete the lab work yesterday and today! The students earned a CTE credential, which will count as a college and career readiness indicator (CCRI), and gained very valuable career skills in a high-wage, high-need industry area.





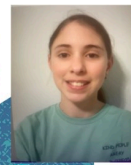
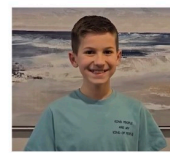
# GSCS: Make Waves of Kindness Day!

"Kind People are my Kind of People!"

Thank you GSCS families and Community! Make Waves of Kindness Day was a Great Success!



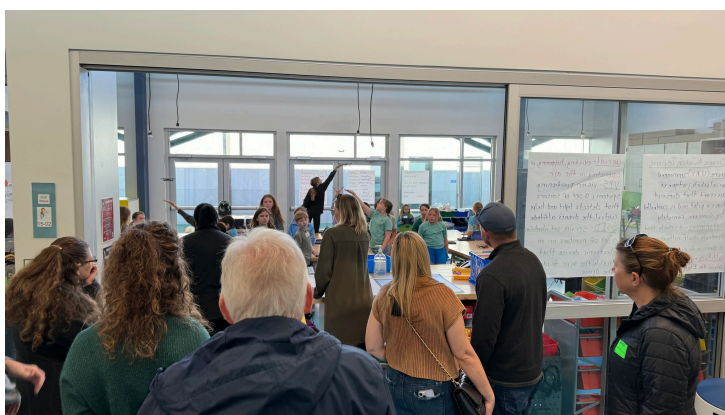
GS Virtual Academy  
Make Waves of Kindness Day





## GSES: Tuesday Tour

Thank you to those that came to visit our school and for the Faculty and Students who gave us a great tour!





## GS Elementary Virtual Academy

Valentine party fun with GS Elementary Virtual Academy students!









## Alabama Community Education Association

Gulf Shores Elementary School proudly announces that Jack Hyde, a GSHS senior, has been named the Alabama Community Education Association (ACEA) Student Worker of the Year for his exceptional dedication to fostering community education and making a positive impact on the Gulf Shores Elementary School after-school and summer programs! Follow the link for more!  
<https://resources.finalsite.net/.../PressRelease...>

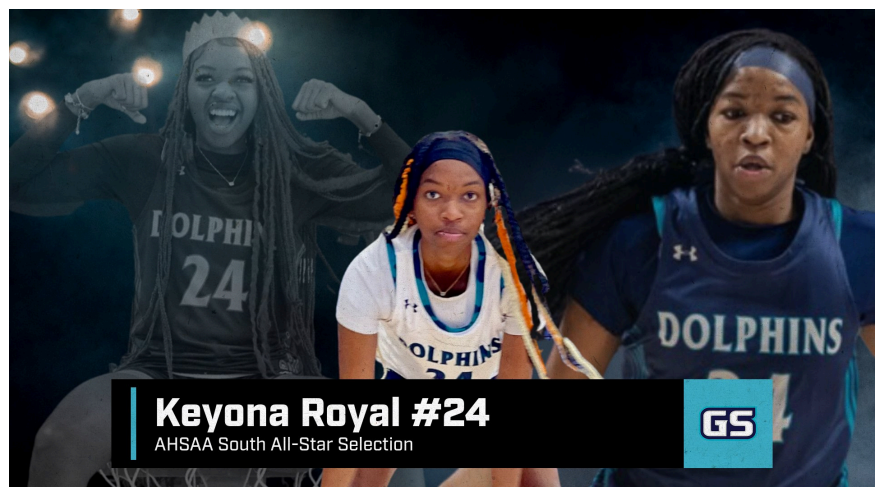


Gulf Shores Middle School is proud to announce that Ms. Brittney Reeves, Program Director, and Mr. Scott Prince, Program Teacher, have been honored with the Peggy Spain McDonald Innovative STEM Award by the Alabama Community Education Association for their outstanding contributions to the Greenpower program. Please follow the link for more!  
<https://resources.finalsite.net/.../PressRelease...>



North-South All-Star squads for the upcoming 28th annual AHSAA North-South All-Star Boys' and Girls' basketball competition have been selected. The four 15-member teams comprised of 2025 rising seniors were announced by Brandon Dean, Director of the Alabama High School Athletic Directors & Coaches Association (AHSADCA).

Congrats to Keyona for making the South roster! She is one of 23 players selected that participated in the 2024 State Championships at the BJCC. The all-star competition will be played in July.





## Tanya Hill: CNP Manager

Tanya Hill is the Child Nutrition Director for Gulf Shores City Schools. We learned about how many children get fed daily and how the numbers are growing at a fantastic rate. Did you know that although Gulf Shores is perceived as a "wealthy" community, we have a massive number of students on assistance so that they can receive meals each day? Some of us did, some of us did not. It's hard to imagine that there are hungry kids in Gulf Shores that need our help beyond the meal programs that our schools so efficiently provide.

It's no wonder that Tanya was the recipient of the Coastal Alabama Business Chamber's Island Spirit Award in September 2021. She is truly a giver with a servant heart. Thank you for your service to our children Tanya!





## Take The Tuesday Tour in April

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 “Tuesday Tour” will take place on Tuesday, April 16th from 9:00am -10:30am 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](#)**



Congratulations to the Gulf Shores Middle School students that were chosen to be published in the national Celebrating Art Contest. This is a huge honor as only the best artwork is chosen for publication out of thousands of entries.





## Eat The Rainbow



### March 18 - 22

Starting Monday, GSCS Nutrition and Wellness Committee hosts Eat the Rainbow week! Students are encouraged to try colorful and healthy fruits and vegetables from all spectrums of the rainbow. Help us celebrate by wearing and eating your colors next week!

[#eattherainbow](https://www.instagram.com/eattherainbow)

Bring a snack each day as you eat your way through the rainbow!

Monday **RED**  
Tuesday **ORANGE**  
Wednesday **YELLOW**  
Thursday **GREEN**  
Friday **BLUE/PURPLE**



CELEBRATE BY DRESSING UP

Monday-RED

Tuesday-ORANGE

Wednesday-YELLOW

Thursday-GREEN

Friday-BLUE/PURPLE

The Gulf Shores Golf team was honored to spend time with some elementary students on the Walking School Bus! Go Dolphins!









Tuesday, April 24th is Kindergarten Registration! We are so excited to welcome our new students and parents. Please remember, if your child is currently a PreK student at Gulf Shores Elementary, there is no need to come to registration day. Information will be sent out soon regarding enrolling current students for the upcoming school year.

April 24th is strictly for new students coming to kindergarten at GSES. Please remember to bring your child with you as we will complete a brief screener with them while your paperwork is being completed. There are two timeframes in which you can attend. They are 8:30-11 and 12:00-2:30.

You do not need an appointment. You just need to show up at some point during one of those timeframes.

Please be sure that you have completed the 24-25 online registration beforehand (before 4/22/24). It can be accessed at <https://www.gsboe.org/login/enrollment-registration>

In addition, please be sure to bring the following as they will be turned into our registrar: birth certificate, immunization record, and 3 proofs of residency, which can also be uploaded during registration (1 of these must be lease/deed/mortgage), drivers license or official photo ID. If the student does not live with both parents, legal documents stating physical custody must be provided (Guardianship Documentation, Divorce Decree, Legal Guardianship, etc.)



**GSCS Board Meeting Round Up:** Too busy to attend school board meetings, but still wanna know more? Check out the episodes of **“Board Shorts”** to stay up-to-date.

## Happening at GSCS:

District  
Elementary School  
Middle School  
High School  
Virtual Academy



SAVE  
the  
DATE

BOE: 3/7 Work Session  
GSCS: 3/8 Early Dismissal 11:30am  
BOE: 3/14 Regular Board Meeting  
GSCS: 3/12 The Tuesday Tour - GSMS 9:00am  
GSCS: 3/14 Gulf Shores Gives Back  
GSES: 3/14 NEHS Induction  
GSCS: 3/21 A Taste of Nutrition 4:00-6:00pm  
GSCS: 3/21 Community Conversation-GSHS 5:30pm  
GSCS: 3/25-29 Spring Break - No School  
GSHS: 4/4 Farm To Table 5:30pm  
GSHS: 4/13 Prom  
GSCS: 4/16 Tuesday Tour: High School 9:00am

## 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  
Jessica Sampley - Career Tech Coordinator  
Karen Pearson - District Testing Coordinator  
Sara Parker - Mental Health Coordinator

**MAKE WAVES!**

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

**Connect with GSCS**

Joe McAleer-Social Media

