The Make Waves Monthly

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



Superintendents' Message

As we close out the 2023-2024 school year, we want parents to know how much we appreciate you entrusting Gulf Shores City Schools with the education and care of your children. We strive to help all of our students explore their interest, achieve their potential, and develop lifelong healthy habits. We hope everyone has had a wonderful year and will have a fantastic summer.

We close out the year with many exciting activities that have taken place: the **groundbreaking of our new** high school, the first flight of our plane in the aviation academy, our walk and bike to school day, and our spring sports excelling towards the opportunity to bring home the blue map.

GSCS offers various summer camps for students. Please take the opportunity to see what is available throughout the summer to get your child involved in fun and learning activities.

Congratulations to the Class of 2024! We look forward to seeing our returning students on August 8th.

Choose To Be Greater: Become A Dolphin!

Dr. Matt Akin - Superintendent makin@gsboe.org

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







HIGH SCHOOL



VIRTUAL ACADEMY



Health & Wellness



Athletics



Arts Education



Teaching & Learning

Meet Our Student WaveMakers of the Month

Elementary School
Sam Bodenhamer
Grade - 5th Grade
Area of Recognition Kindness & Compassion

I'm a WaveMaker because...

Sam is an exceptionally kind and caring student who always has a smile on his face. Having taught Sam last year in fourth grade, I witnessed his compassion and kindness to all students, but especially our students with autism. He has always been a champion for the underdog and would defend and include other students when often others would not. At recess, he didn't like to see students with no one to play with and often left his friends or recruited them to come along to play with the students who didn't have anyone to play with and gladly played whatever game they wanted. As I have encountered him across campus this year, I am proud to see that he is still the same caring and inclusive young man, even though he is in a grade level where students tend to become less kind and compassionate toward one another. I see him each day helping others, holding doors, and sharing positivity with everyone he interacts with throughout the day. He sets an example for how to treat others and is truly a leader among his peers. Sam's kind heart and compassion are why I feel he should be named WaveMaker of the Month.

~Nominated by Dana Walker~

High School
Lela Booth
Grade - 10th Grade
Area of Recognition Community Service & Leadership Develop.

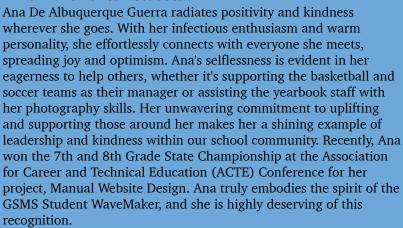
I'm a WaveMaker because...

It is with utmost enthusiasm that I submit the nomination of Cadet Lela Booth for Gulf Shores High School WaveMaker of the Month. Throughout this past month, Lela has demonstrated exceptional leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication within our NJROTC program, and she has left an indelible mark on our school community. Lela's contribution to our school was highlighted during the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Gulf Shores High School on April 26, 2024. At this historic event, Lela performed a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem, setting the tone for the ceremony with her incredible talent and patriotism. Moreover, Lela's participation in the NJROTC Leadership Retreat to Ocoee, TN, further underscores her outstanding character and commitment to excellence. Throughout the retreat, which was held from April 17- 20th, she demonstrated exceptional teamwork, confidence, and discipline, culminating in her active involvement in a challenging white-water rafting expedition on the Middle Ocoee River. What truly distinguishes Lela is her infectious enthusiasm and spirit of adventure. Her boundless energy and genuine love for her fellow students and Cadets have positively impacted our program and school community. Lela's positive attitude and willingness to contribute have inspired those around her, making her a cherished and respected member of our NJROTC program. It is without reservation that I wholeheartedly endorse Cadet Lela Booth for the Gulf Shores High School WaveMaker of the Month award. Her exemplary conduct, unwavering dedication, and outstanding contributions epitomize the highest standards of the NJROTC Program, Gulf Shores High School and the Gulf Shores City Schools community.



Middle School
Ana De Albuquerque Guerra
Grade - 8th Grade
Area of Recognition Positivity & Kindness

I'm a WaveMaker because...



~Nominated by Teresa Brewer~



Virtual Academy Ava Wycoff Grade - 12th Grade Area of Recognition -Serving Other

I'm a WaveMaker because...

Ava Wycoff has focus, drive, and a passion for serving others which is what makes her a Wave Maker! Ava has completed seven dual enrollment courses while simultaneously, managing schoolwork, being in two different honor societies, and maintaining a job as a legal assistant. Not only that, Ava is also passionate about volunteering with the Helping Hands team to raise money for those in need, and tutoring children at the Baldwin County Child Advocacy Center. In her free time, she self-studies historical fashion. One of her greatest accomplishments has been sewing a dress using an 1860s reproduction sewing pattern. Since then, she has also made a corset and a bicycling skirt c. 1890s. Ava received \$15,600 in scholarships and will be attending Troy University this upcoming fall. There, she will be double majoring in European, Asian, and African History and Anthropology. In the future, she plans on receiving a PhD so that she can work as a textile conservator. Her focus, creativity, passion, and perseverance are an inspiration, and we are proud to call her a WaveMaker!

 \sim Nominated by Susan Nelson, Sara Beth Parker and Sara Altmyer \sim

~Nominated by LTC Scott Meehan~

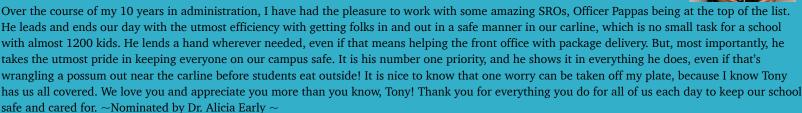


Meet Our Staff WaveMakers of the Month

Elementary School

Tony Pappas SRO - School Resource Officer

I'm a WaveMaker because...



Middle School

Leticia Teal Librarian

I'm a WaveMaker because...

Mrs. Leticia Teal embodies the ethos of "see a need, fill a need" in every aspect of her role at our school. With her unwavering dedication and selflessness, Mrs. Teal consistently goes above and beyond to support our students and staff members. Whether it's

stepping in to cover classes, leading breakout rooms, or managing IT help desk situations, Mrs. Teal approaches every task with enthusiasm and selflessness. Her ability to seamlessly handle various responsibilities, including assisting students with iPad issues and providing last-minute substitute coverage, is a testament to her exceptional dedication and versatility. Mrs. Teal's willingness to lend a helping hand, even at a moment's notice, has made a significant and positive impact on our school community. She is truly deserving of the Staff WaveMaker award for her invaluable contributions and unwavering commitme to excellence. ~Nominated by Ram Talantis~



Jacob Dukes Project Smile Teacher

I'm a WaveMaker because...

I am thrilled to nominate Mr. Jacob Dukes for the prestigious Gulf Shores High School WaveMaker of the Month award. Mr. Dukes exemplified leadership, dedication, and service on the recent Leadership Retreat to Ocoee, TN, from April 17th to 20th. Mr. Dukes served as a chaperone to our NJROTC Cadets and served as a mentor to all Cadets. Mr. Dukes' assured that our Project Smile Cadet could fully participate in and benefit from the dynamic learning environment of the retreat. This retreat marked our most adventurous and rewarding trip to date and we owe thanks to Mr. Dukes' for his contributions. ~Nominated by LTC Scott Meehan~

Elementary School

Subtraction and Bowling!

Practicing subtraction and bowling are the perfect combination!

Mrs. Grant's Kinders brushed up on their subtraction facts within 10 by bowling and recording their answers after each bowl!







Middle School

Importance of the Amazon Rainforest!

Coach B. Adams' Geography class has been learning about the importance of the Amazon Rainforest. It's not just a lush green paradise; it's the lungs of our planet, producing 20% of the world's oxygen and housing an incredible array of biodiversity. Each student designed a poster promoting awareness about the need to protect it. From highlighting the threats of deforestation to showcasing the rich diversity of life within, their posters brought attention to this important issue!





High School

Who Knew Math Could Be So Tasty?

Mrs. Cagle's Honor Geometry students explored how changing dimensions of cylinders and prisms affects their volumes by creating popcorn containers. Students created two different prisms by using a sheet of paper (lengthwise and widthwise) and made predictions about which container would hold more popcorn. While many students initially anticipated they would hold the same amount, the experiment revealed otherwise: the shorter, broader prism held more popcorn! Students repeated the experiment with cylindrical containers and observed that doubling the cylinder's radius had a greater impact on volume than doubling its height. #highskillhighwill These students have popped their way to a kernel of geometric wisdom!



Virtual Academy

New Garden Growing!

GS Elementary Virtual Academy's new garden has produced its first carrot! We'll give them a couple of months to grow a little more! Our flowers are looking good!





Health & Wellness

GSCS Gets Fit on the Way to School!

May has been a special month for fitness for our students, teachers, employees, and community members. We began the month on May 1st with "Walk To School Day" and then on May 8th we participated in "Bike To School Day". What a great way to get our community together! At GSES, we continued the month with our students participating in Field Day! Getting our students physically active keeps them motivated to continue to promote health and wellness.



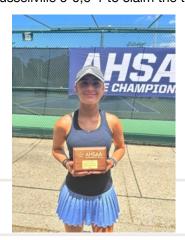




Athletics

GSHS Tennis: STATE CHAMPION!

Congratulations to Tereza Mojs on winning the 4A/5A State Championship at #1 singles. She defeated Russellville 6-0,6-1 to claim the title!!





View our Athletics website!

Arts Education

Choir Students Perform!

GSCS is so proud of the performance our choir students put on! If you did not get a chance to go, Gulf Shores Methodist Church has a livestream on their page. We know Mrs. Mixon would be so proud of their performance and the new song they learned to end the night in her honor. May your voices always carry her memory within them and spread the love of music as she did.



Teaching & Learning

1st Grade Learns At The GSHS Greenhouse!

Mrs. Shoemaker's students at GSES had a great time exploring the GSHS greenhouse! The high school students were the teachers. They were knowledgeable, informative, organized, and kind. These first graders sure are thankful for this experience!









Mrs. Parks' Kindergarten at GSES loves showing their friends all their great accomplishments! We track our progress each week in their Leadership Book.



Save these dates!! We are excited for the next season!



Congratulations to Gulf Shores Virtual Academy student Tereza Mojs, who is headed to the AHSAA State Tennis Tournament! She won the 4A/5A Section 1 Tennis Tournament at #1 Singles for the second year in a row. The Gulf Shores High School 9th grader defeated Sarah Ladd of UMS 6-2, 4-7, 10-8. Moj's win qualifies her to compete in the AHSAA State Tennis Tournament at the Mobile Tennis Center.



The Baldwin County Commission adopted a
Resolution that recognizes the Baldwin County
Environmental Advisory Committee 2024
Environmental Stewardship Award recipients:
Educational Program ~ Jessica Sampley - Gulf
Shores High School Career Tech Program
Congratulations to Jessica Sampley for being
recognized by the Baldwin County Commission for
her leadership as the Gulf Shores City Schools Career
Tech Director. She invests her time, talents, and
energy into improving the world around her.



GSHS Band is excited to start planning for the next season! Parents mark your calendar!



Congratulations to our Varsity Boys Soccer Team who clinched the 5A Area Championship!



Mrs. Taylor's Zoo Crew at GSES had a fantastic day at the zoo!







What a perfect day for an Alligator Alley field trip! Mrs. Clanton's 1st graders at GSES are having a wild time with these alligators!







We're thrilled to announce that Cinthia Moore, 6th-grade science teacher at Gulf Shores Middle School, has been named the Outstanding Earth Science Teacher (OEST) for Alabama! Ms. Moore's dedication to inspiring her students' interest in earth science is truly exceptional. She employs a variety of innovative teaching techniques, including flexible seating and high-level questioning, to create a comprehensive and engaging curriculum. Her emphasis on inquiry-based learning fosters critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities essential for future scientific studies. Ms. Moore's inventiveness shines through her development of hands-on curriculum materials. Her vision to create environmentally conscious young adults through local natural resources is inspiring. Beyond the classroom, Ms. Moore's involvement in community activities, such as leading inclusive clubs, demonstrates her commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all students.





Students in Mrs. Reffitt's history class were pleased to learn about Corporal Louis M. Chandler's experience of war through letters written to his sister while stationed in Europe during WWII.

The letters, given to Mrs. Reffitt by a student over a decade ago, were found during a renovation project. Curiosity of the man behind the letters prompted students to begin a search for Mr. Chandler's family members.

On Monday, April 15, 2024, students successfully contacted Mr. Chandler's daughter, Ms. Kim Goodrich of Owenton, Kentucky. After learning more about the man behind the letters, students were elated to return them to the family.

Congratulations to the 2024-2025 Student Ambassadors!



Congratulations to our 2024-2025 Drum Majors!



A fun time with the GSHS Navy ROTC students! Who else wishes they could go back to school and experience all the different opportunities our teachers offer our students?













GSHS students Amelie, Harley, and Isis presented the idea of sustainable fashion to a new wave of middle school students during their lunch waves and set the ball in motion for our Earth Day booth. 7th grade students learned about the harmful environmental impact of our heightened consumerism, particularly fashion. Then, we partnered with Big Fish Ministries Thrift Shop to offer a sustainable way to dress ourselves: thrift shopping! Mrs. Michaelsons Art students made high fashion costumes out of trash to draw attention to our sustainable fashion booth.

Additionally, our newest team on campus, the Girls Engaged in Mathematics and Science (aka Gems-U), invited kids to color coastal themed pictures while they discussed our local watersheds and biodiversity.











What a day it was at GSMS as we hosted our very first school wide Roshambo contest! From the early morning rounds to the final showdown at the pep rally, our students have shown some serious Roshambo skills Whether it was rock, paper, or scissors, every throw mattered to make it to the final round. Watching students and the staff compete in intense matches, strategizing their next move, and cheering on their friends was a great way to end a week of testing! It was a true fight to the finish, but one student came out on top. Congratulations to Annika Mullis for emerging as our very first Roshambo Champion!







It's Afterschool Professional Appreciation Week! As we recognize the many professionals impacting the lives of kids throughout the state we also lift up the next generation of professionals. Jack Hyde from Gulf Shores City Schools was awarded 2024 ACEA Student Worker of the Year. Giving youth opportunities to find their passion and explore future paths is what out-of-school time programming is all about and student workers like Jack are a great example of that impact.





GSMS is proud to announce that two of our outstanding 6th-grade students, Lee Hernandez and Charlotte Colvin, have been selected to participate in the Space Academy for Leading Students in Alabama program at the Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville this summer. The Space Academy for Leading Students in Alabama program offers a unique opportunity for students ages 12-14 from across the state to immerse themselves in the wonders of space exploration at Space Camp, following a rigorous application and competitive selection process where Charlotte and Lee emerged victorious among their peers statewide! Charlotte's exceptional contributions to the Gulf Shores Middle School community have earned her widespread admiration. As a member of the Dolphin News Network, Charlotte's dedication and talent have been instrumental in enhancing the school's communication efforts. Additionally, her leadership as a student assistant coach for the Cross Country team has demonstrated maturity and dedication beyond her vears

Lee, recognized for his academic excellence, enrichment, and outstanding character, has been a shining example within the Gulf Shores Middle School community. With a strong academic average, Lee's dedication to his studies is matched only by his enthusiasm for extracurricular activities, particularly as a valued member of the school's eSports team.

Charlotte and Lee exemplify the qualities of leadership, dedication, and enthusiasm that we strive to instill in all our students. We are immensely proud of their selection for this prestigious program and have no doubt they will represent our school with distinction at Space Camp.

Mrs. Kent's third graders at GSES are enjoying a novel together.



GSHS Softball Recap: A regular season to remember, now its on to the Playoffs!



Here are some great photos from the GSCS Walking School Bus with Wheeles Karate & Jiu







Cole at GSES designed an invention and printed it on the 3D printer!



Coach Head and Coach Key's class at GSES are practicing hitting off a tee!



It's Afterschool Professional Appreciation Week! Afterschool professionals are inspiring students daily. They provide meaningful opportunities for hands-on learning that supports academic, social and emotional growth. It's teams like Brittney Reeves and Scott Prince from Gulf Shores City Schools, winners of the 2024 Peggy Spain McDonald Innovative STEM Award, that create environments for kids to thrive.



Make Waves of Kindness Grant recipient, Cynthia Moore of Gulf Shores Middle School, received her grant request for a swing to help students enjoy the sensory garden.



Farm to Table R&D with Culinary 1 & 2 at GSHS!





Congratulations Girls Track Back to Back 5A Section 1 Champions! Congratulations Boys Track Runner Up 5A Section 1! Good Luck at State!





Our #MakeWaves Sustainability Academy scuba team extended their learning on a boat dive trip with H20 Charters in Perdido Key out of Southwind Marina. Capt. Douglas and Divernaster Steve took students and faculty/admin from GSHS and GSMS out to the Joe Patti Barge for a full day of diving. Students saw a multitude of fish, a sea turtle, and lots of jellyfish, and dove down to depths of 50 feet on a high-visibility day. Students learned about the amazing habitat created by our artificial reefs here on the Gulf Coast. What an awesome day of experiential learning!









GSHS Softball - Back to back AREA. CHAMPS!



Fun with the Imagination Playground in STEAM at GSES!





GSHS Senior, Dianna Moore wins \$10,000 Wharf Scholarship



GSHS NPSI in Baltimore!! It was an amazing trip. Competing against our nation's top ProStart teams, meeting with industry leaders, sightseeing, making new friends, & reconnecting with old ones. These ladies were fierce competitors & made Alabama proud!







Yale, Vanderbilt, MIT, Samford, Alabama, Auburn, USA. These are just a few of the Colleges on the radar for GSHS 30+ ACT class that were honored at GSHS. 24 members of the 30+ Club, our largest class yet!

You can find the awesome students honored as you enter GSHS in the lobby. Congratulations and Make Waves!!!

These Sophomores through Seniors have scores ranging from 30-35 with a median score of 33! These 24 students represent the largest group of GSHS students who have scored a 30 or higher on the ACT. We were able to honor and celebrate them today at our annual ACT 30+ Club brunch. The delicious food was donated by Cosmos!

Congratulations to all of the students on their accomplishments. We look forward to seeing what doors you walk through over the next few years!

Thank you Valerie Kaye, Cindy Veazey and Cosmos for a great banquet!







Congratulations to GSMS's Emma Kakish! She won 3rd place at the Gulf Shores library's local poetry contest!



Yearbooks are in and coming home today! Thank you Win Spence for the cover design!



Congratulations to GSE Virtual Academy 2nd grade student, Kingsley Warren, for winning 1st Place in 2nd -3rd Grade category in the Poetry contest at the City of Gulf Shores Library. Kingsley wrote a delightful poem titled "Puppies and Besties."

GSMS hosted the last Coffee with the Counselor. Ms. Reeves spoke about conquering summer learning loss. She provided tips and resources on how to best help our students. The presentation will be placed on our school website so make sure to check it out if you could not attend.



Way to go, Mason! Congratulations on placing 2nd in a regional Tang Soo Do competition! GSVA is proud of you!







Beautiful day to bike to the highest point in Gulf State Park! Soaking up every lovely second with this GSES class!







Our Red Ribbon Week Leader at GSMS, Mae-Margaret Reed attended the Red Ribbon Leadership Program Celebration. We are so proud of her for her hard work and the difference she made in our community!

GSHS volleyball have been busy! They have split time and worked as volunteers for both the AHSAA state track meet and the NCAA Collegiate Beach Championships. They represented Gulf Shores well!







Fifth graders incubated and are helping to raise 14 Coturnix quail. They have had fun learning about them and comparing them to the chickens and ducks that have been hatched at our school this spring.



Jaxon is going to be a published author. His poem "The Pencil" was selected as one of high merit and was chosen by Your Young Writing Contest.



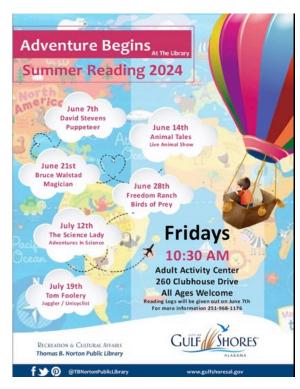
Good luck to our boys and girls golf teams as they look to punch their ticket into the state tournament! Go Dolphins





Gulf Shores Public Library's Summer Reading Program is wonderful! "Adventure Begins at the Library!"

Mark your calendars for these Fridays in June and July!



State Bound Boys and Girls Soccer! Go Dolphins!





GSHS last HOSA & LifeSouth Blood Drive







GSEVA 1st grader Emilynn is excited to receive her 2024-25 yearbook! What a fantastic job GSES teacher Mrs. Fralick did on this yearbook!



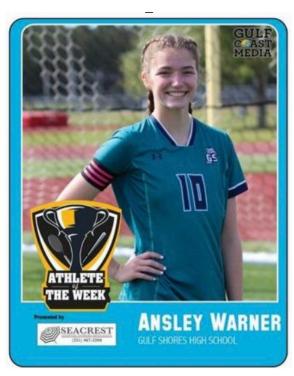
5th grade at GSES visited the middle school to get an idea of 6th grade. Mr. Schaff shares a Science experiment with Silas.



Now is the time to make plans for your future Dolphin to attend this year's Dolphins-In-Training baseball skills camp. All details for this three day training session are listed on the flyer! Payment will be accepted in the form of cash or check on the first day! If you have questions or concerns, please contact Coach Jacks.



Ansley Warner is the 32nd and FINAL Seacrest Furniture Athlete of the Week for 2024! The Southern Union signee helped Gulf Shores claim its second straight Class 5A Area 1 title with 37 goals in 16 matches.



GSHS HOSA Member Bailey Oldham was awarded the Courtney Upton Scholarship for her leadership as the 2023-2024 @gulfshoreshs Red Ribbon Leader! Thank You Bailey for advocating for drug-free communities along with honoring our Veterans and Health Care Workers. Bailey graduates this month.

She is a Certified Patient Care Technician and plans to attend Auburn University this fall. We are certain she will continue to lead and serve others as a health care professional.







The Business and Marketing Academy would like to thank Dec McClelland of Edward Jones, Tara McMeans of Design Print Promote, and Penny Hughey of Gulf Coast Chamber for taking time out of their day to facilitate investment banking, leadership, and entrepreneurship discussions with our students.

Dec McClelland joined the Personal Finance students in a deep dive into stocks and investments. Students were engaged in the experience and left feeling inspired to start investing in their financial futures.

During Focus time, Tara McMeans and Penny Hughey introduced the EPIC entrepreneurship program and Junior Leadership program to our students. Through these programs, students gain real world skills including leadership, networking, and entrepreneurship. Applications for both programs are open.





Mr. Schaff came to the Walking School Bus to share about Girls in Engineering, Math, and Science and future opportunities opportunities for students to get involved. The Gulf Shores Dolphins Baseball teams were excited to start their day with the younger students in the community who participate in the Walking School Bus! It's never a bad day when it's starts off with some whiffle ball in the park. We are so thankful for these programs coming to share with our students.









Thank you, Gulf Shores Fire Rescue, for joining the GSES 5th Grade for our annual Egg Drop. Students worked in groups to plan and design a parachute and egg holder to protect their egg when dropped from the fire truck ladder. What a success! Nearly every egg landed safely.











BOTH the Boys and the Girls Dolphin Soccer teams are headed to the Final Four! Let's Go!!!



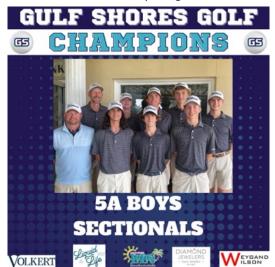


Congratulations to our boys golf team on being back-to-back Sectional Champs! The boys look forward to bringing momentum into Sub-State next Monday!

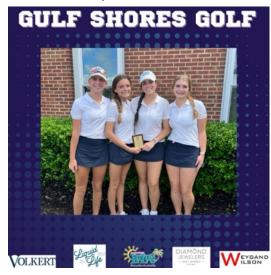
Graham Stewart finished as the low-medalist of the tournament with Logan Reynolds coming in as a runner-up! Way to go guys!

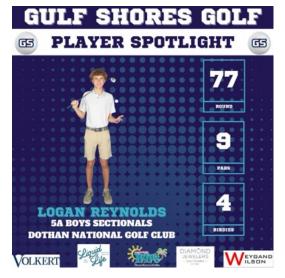
The girls will also advance to Sub-State and compete next Monday.

The golf teams look forward to competing for a chance to make state! Go Dolphins!





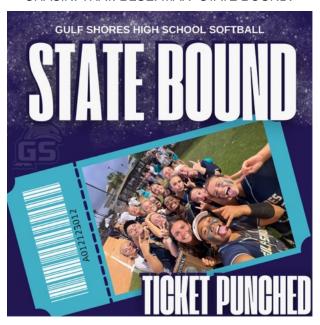




Congratulations to Maria Fer Miranda for competing in the Coastal Community College Culinary Arts Scholarship Competition. Maria brought home a win and a scholarship to Coastal's Culinary Arts Program!



CHASIN. THAT. BLUE. MAP. STATE BOUND!



So excited for Alyssa! Since beginning her internship in August, Alyssa has used her skills as a certified 'Part 107 Commercial Drone Pilot' and upstarted her own multimedia business, Grace's Coastal Lens in Gulf Shores, AL! She was also an integral part of the recent student-built airplane and 'First Flight' by Gulf Shores High School Aviation Academy.

Now officially licensed for business, Alyssa plans to graduate from Gulf Shores High School in May and further her already bustling career in drone photography and videography. Congratulations to this young entrepreneur on all her hard work!







Congrats to our most recent Heavy Equipment Operator: Skidsteer certificated students! Jace Pagan

Cooper Stephenson

Dawson Akins

Will Langston

Thanks to Coach Mitchell and Mr. Tuggle for providing this opportunity to our students! And special thanks to Coastal Alabama Community College for this awesome partnership!











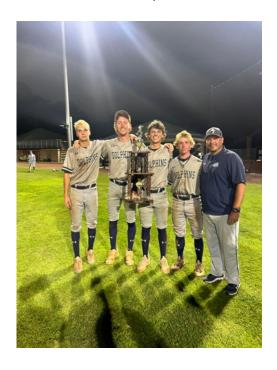


So proud of these five girls for being published in the spring edition of Celebrating Art!

Congratulations to Zaden Bautista. He was 1st place in cookie dough fundraiser sales. He received \$100!



The Baldwin County team brings home the win in the inaugural Mobile-Baldwin Senior Showdown! These Dolphins and Coach Jacks represented us well!

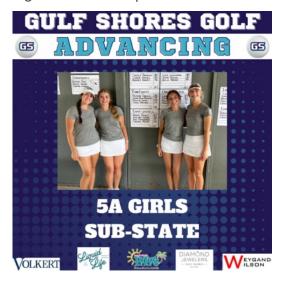


GSHS Women's Soccer AL 5A State Runner Up! Two years straight! MakeWaves!!!





Congratulations to the girls golf team on advancing to the State Championship next week for the first time in school history The girls were lead by Evelyn Lamar who shot a 78 and finished as the runner up low medalist! Way to go girls, let's bring home a blue map!





WEYGAND

Congratulations to the boys golf team on back to back Sub-State titles and back to back State Championship appearances. The boys were led by tournament low medalist Graham Stewart! Grey Goodman and Jesse Roberts also had outstanding rounds. Next up is a chance to bring another blue map to Gulf Shores!



Invent Camp from the Inventor's Hall of Fame

Invent Camp from the Inventor's Hall of Fame is coming to Gulf Shores again this year!

SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY

Register at https://www.invent.org/programs/camp-invention or 800-968-4332

Grades: K - 6th (this is the student's current grade for 23-24) Location: Gulf Shores Middle School 450 E 15th Ave, Gulf Shores,

Date: July 8 - 12, 2024 Time & Cost: 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM \$270

(before discount)

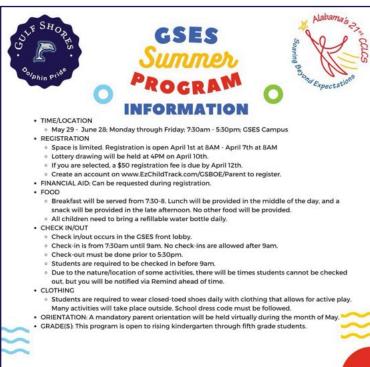
Please send all questions to

Camp Director: Hilary McKinney hmckinney@gsboe.org



GSES Summer Program





GSMS: Themed Camps

Registration has opened for our July Camps. Each week has different options for students so make sure to see all that is offered and click on the link below to sign up before all the spaces are filled! https://www.ezchildtrack.com/gsboe/parent/

GSMS THEMED CAMPS 8AM - 12PM WEEK 1: JULY 8 - 12 A World of Art Dive into a vibrant palette of creativity at our 'N World of Art 'campt Unleash your imagination as we journey through various mediums, crafting self-portrait collages, intricate zentangle dragonfiles, capturing moments through photography, mastering the ancient art of Japanese tie-dying, and molding day into decorative dishes. With each stroke and shape, you'll explore the depths of your artistic expression. Cap off you're welk with an Art Walk where proud parents can marvel at your masterpieces on display, showcasing the culmination of your toes into the crystal-clear waters of the Gulf of Mexicol Embark on an immersive exploration of our coastal paradise as we delve into ocean zones, uncover fascinating habitats, and encounter the diverse species that call this stunning region home. From sandy shores to vibrant coral reefs, every splash unveils a new world of wonder and discovery. Let's dive in together and unlock the mysteries of our coastal ecosystem! SkateCraft: STEAM Skateboard Embark on a week-long adventure at our STEAM Skateboard Camp where students dive into the realms of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics to build their very own skateboards from scratch. From shaping the deck to engineering the trucks and wheels, participants will delve into the physics of balance and motion while exploring their creativity through custom grip tape designs. Once their creations are complete, campers hit the pavement to test their boards, mastering new tricks and conquering obstacles with the third of adrenaline-fueled excitement. Whether beginners or seasoned skaters, this camp promises a blend of learning and fun, fostering camaraderie and unforgettable experiences on wheels.

SEE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP

GSMS THEMED CAMPS 8AM - 12PM **WEEK 2: JULY 15 - 19 All Things Science** Gear up for a whirlwind adventure through the wonders of science! From biology to earth science and everything in between, prepare to roll up your sleeves and dive headfirst into a series of mind-bending. experiments. Grow plants, build contraptions, and even sample some daring culinary concoctions—all in the name of scientific exploration! With each discovery, you'll ignite a spark of curiosity and unleash the scientist within. Get ready to get messy, get curious, and get scienced! **Calling All Readers** Attention all bookworms and literary enthusiasts! It's time to bring your favorite stories to life in our immersive 'Calling All Readers!' camp. Dive into the pages of your most cherished books as we create maps of fantastical worlds, craft costumes inspired by beloved characters, whip up delectable meals or snacks straight from the pages, and perhaps even embark on a thrilling literary field trip. Let your imagination run wild as we celebrate the magic of reading and RC Rev-Up: Build and Drive Gear up for a week of high-octane excitement at our RC Car Build and Drive Camp! Dive into the world of remote-controlled vehicles as you Drive Campi Dive into the world of remote-controlled vehicles as you design, assemble, and customize your very own RC car from the ground up. Delve into the realms of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics as you learn about circuits, motors, gears, and aerodynamics. Unleash your creativity through custom paint jobs and personalized decals, then buckle up and hit the track as you race against fellow campers in thrilling competitions and obstacle courses. Whether you're a novice enthusiast or a seasoned pro, this camp offers an electrifying blend of hands-on learning, and adrenaline-pumping fun that will leave you reved up for more! SEE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP

GSMS THEMED CAMPS 8AM - 12PM

WEEK 3: JULY 22 - 26

Archeology and the Alabama Indian Canal

Embark on a journey back in time to uncover the secrets of Gulf Shores' ancient past Join us for a week of archaeological exploration as we delve into the fascinating history of the Mississippian Indians who once inhabited this very land. From ancient artifacts to sacred sites, each dig reveals a new chapter in our region's rich cultival heritage. Get your hands dirty and your minds engaged as une unearth the mysteries of the Alabama Indian Canal, connecting past and present in a thrilling archaeological adventure!

Game On: Virtual Arena eSports

Step into the virtual arena and level up your gaming skills at our esports Campl Get ready for a week-long gaming extravaganza where you'll dive into the worlds of Rocket League, Fornite, League of Legends, and more, alongside thrilling virtual reality experiences. Whether you're a seasoned competitor or just starting out, our expert coaches will guide you through strategies, teamwork tactics, and individual techniques to help you dominate the digital battlefield. Engage in heart-pounding matches, hone you reflexes, and collaborate with fellow gamers in a supportive and immersive environment. With state-of-the-art equipment and cutting-edge technology at your fingertips, this camp promises an electrifying fusion of competition, camaraderie, and endless fun. Get ready to game like never before and unleash your inner champion!

Live Your Best Life

Get ready to embrace the power of wellness and live your best life at our energizing campl Explore the fundamentals of nutrition, decode food labels like a pro, and uncover the secrets of how diet and exercise fuel your body and mind. From invigorating workouts to scenic walks and bike rides, each day is packed with opportunities to move, groove, and feel your best self. Get ready to unlock the keys to a healthier, happier you—and unleash your full potential!

SEE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP

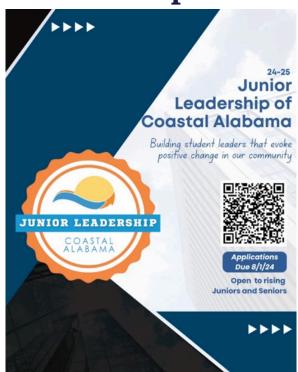
GSMS: EcoCamp

Registration for our EcoCamp opens up tomorrow so make sure you are ready to register your child for this amazing summer opportunity!





GSHS: Junior Leadership of Coastal Alabama



GSMS: Genetics Lab

Students are studying inheritance and variation in genetics lab by cooking brussel sprouts! Some people have a genetic trait that causes them to taste bitterness in brussel sprouts because of a compound called phenylthiocarbamide (PTC). The students sautéed brussel sprouts and recorded who liked the taste of them and who didn't. Next, they will taste PTC paper strips to test our hypothesis: people who perceive the bitterness in PTC strips will not like the taste of brussel sprouts.







GSMS & GSHS: Turbo Dolphins

The team has been busy updating the electrical systems with new quick connects. They loaded the race trailer and are now at the Talledega Superspeedway for the race!













GSMS: Boys' Basketball Banquet

Our Boys' Basketball team wrapped everything up with an end-of-the-season banquet. We are so proud of the season that both teams had! The 7th grade team set a school record for wins this season!

Baldwin All County Players

8th - Davis Barnett, Jett Todd, and Jayden Nguyen

7th - Bennett Taylor and Tanner Speirs

The Heart of the Dolphin Award

Jackson Nock

Mr. Defense

8th - Jayden Nguyen

7th- Mays Rizzuto

Mr. Offense

8th - Davis Barnett

7th - Bennett Taylor

Hardwood Hustle

8th - Jett Todd and Benton Brereton

7th - Alex Talantis

Most Improved

8th - Griffin Klatt

7th - Jonathan Barragan

All-Academic Award

8th - Benton Brereton

7th - JP Meador

Permanent Team Captain

8th - Lachlan Steffek and Drew Furr

7th - Alex Talantis and Tanner Speirs

Best Dressed

Lachlan Steffek, Jackson Nock, and Jonathan Barragan

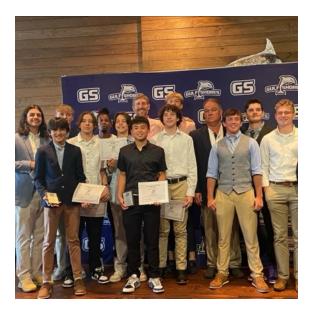














GSCS: Earth Day 2024



GSMS: Gulf Shores 6th and 7th grade Spring Football Game 2024

















GSMS & GSHS: The Future is EPIC!

Do you want to be a part of something EPIC in South Baldwin County? Are you a student in grades 7-12 looking to start your own business? If so, apply today at sbchamberfoundation.org/epic for the 2024/25 school year. The future is EPIC!



STUDENT BUSINESS & NETWORKING PROGRAM

Epic is a year-long interactive and educational business program that will teach students the fundamentals of starting a business, offer networking opportunities, and grant resources and funding for student start-ups. Students looking to start a business will be paired with a mentor, classes offer an online curriculum with a monthly in-person meeting at Coastal Alabama Community College in Gulf Shores.



GSMS: Year 2 of the "Trash Collection"

Our art students participated in Earth Day by create outstanding fashion pieces using only recycled material! Year 2 of the "Trash Collection." I had some proud teacher moments this earth day. I am proud of my students for making their recycled fashion pieces this year, but I was also blown away to find out that my former students (now in high school) continued the trash collection tradition by creating recycled fashion on their own time, not asked or guided by a teacher. These kids are really amazing!





GSES: MakeWaves of Kindness Grants Awarded

The first round of MakeWaves of Kindness Grants were Awarded. Andrea Cocke is using board games to support academic, communication, and social skills learning in her 3rd grade classroom. Kelly Nelson is using wobble stools as flexible seating. Thank you for supporting student learning at GSCS!







GSHS Theatre: "All Shook Up"







GS Garden Club Visits GSES

Gulf Shores Garden Club had another fun day with Mrs. Miller's 2nd grade class today at Gulf Shores Elementary School. The raised beds are doing great, and we enjoyed teaching them about the stages of growth and how some plants flower to become fruit/vegetable and some flower to become seeds. They also learned about the Spider plant and got to take a baby Spider home! They planted some new flower seeds after pulling out the pansies, thyme, oregano and onions. Watering all the plants always part of every lesson too!











GSES: Student Go On Dolphin Cruise

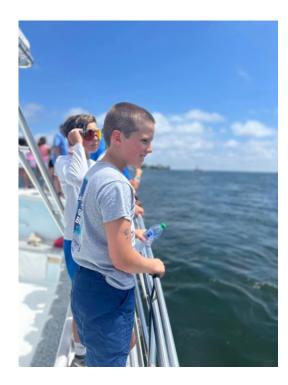
















GSCS: Island Schools Special Olympics!



























GSCS: Bike To School Day!









GSES & GSMS: Gulf Shores Indian Canal

Several of GSES and GSMS students had the opportunity to go on a field trip together. They visited the Gulf Shores Indian Canal and heard about our local history from Harry King and Joy Calloway.









GSES: Leader In Me Lighthouse School!

Today, the Gulf Shores Elementary school family celebrated being named a Leader in Me Lighthouse School! There are over 7,000 Leader in Me schools all over the world and today Gulf Shores Elementary joined the small percentage of those schools who have been named Lighthouse Schools. This recognition is evidence that the school has produced outstanding results in school and student outcomes, and because of the extraordinary impact the school is having on staff, students, parents, and the greater community. Leader in me is designed to build resilience and leadership in students, create a high trust culture, and help improve academic achievement. With Leader in Me, students learn to become self-aware, interdependent, take initiative, plan ahead, set and track goals, prioritize their time, be considerate of others, communicate effectively, resolve conflicts, find creative solutions, value differences, live a balanced life, and contribute to society. Our faculty/staff, students, and families have worked very hard to meet this status, and we are so proud of our entire school family. We look forward to continuing to move forward to continue instilling and honoring the greatness in others.





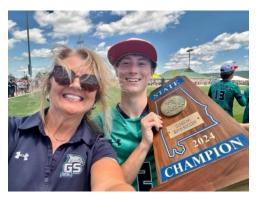


GSHS: 5A State Champs

Varsity boys soccer at the 5A STATE CHAMPS!









MAY 2024

ANIMATION

PERIENCI

GSVA: Heads To Disney World! GSVA visited the Behind the Seeds tour at Walt Disney World! Students also attended an

GSVA visited the Behind the Seeds tour at Walt Disney World! Students also attended an animation class, collected wilderness badges, went around the world to learn about different species of plants, and learned about the milestones in U.S. history on the Carousel of Progress! It's been a magical week!





























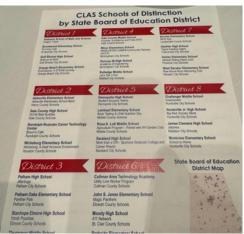
GSHS: CLAS Schools of Distinction

GSHS was recognized at the @clasleaders Schools of Distinction ceremony as the Banner School for District One for the Science at Work program! Science at Work stands as a hallmark of innovative, student-centered education. This visionary program weaves together existing courses—Gulf Coast Environmental Science and

Marine Science—with the addition of Chemistry of Food, which is a collaboration between our chemistry teacher and a local chef and owner of Southern Chili Lab. Science at Work opens doors to internships and field experiences, transcending traditional classroom boundaries.

Typically, only CTE courses integrate work-based learning and real-world opportunities; however, Science at Work bridges the gap between core and CTE and thrives on place and project-based learning, leveraging our local environment and workforce as teaching tools to engage a wide-range of students. The immersion in our community's fabric fosters a dynamic ecosystem where students learn science not in isolation, but in its tangible real-world applications. Congratulations to all involved—especially Coach Jason Hill, Mrs. Krista Fleming, Chef Jonathan Kastner, Mrs. Jessica Sampley, and all our amazing community partners!





GSES: Finding Nemo Jr. The Musical











GSHS: First Flight of Our Student Built FAA Approved Airplane



















GSCS: Walk To School Day







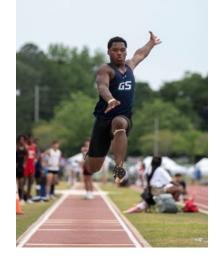




GSHS: AHSAA State Track and Field Championships at the Gulf Shores Sportsplex.

















GSES: Spanish Club

¡Feliz San Jordi/ Día del Libro! / Happy San Jordi/ World Book Day!

The GSES Sociedad Hispánica de Amistad (Spanish Club) celebrated this beautiful day at our annual GSCS Earth Day festival, recreating the Spanish traditions of giving books and roses, and holding a continuous reading of Don Quijote. Over 250 students of all ages read from Don Quijote this year! Thank you to the City of Gulf Shores Landscaping Division and Noel Hand for their annual donation of 10 dozen roses!

El capítulo Don Quijote de la Sociedad Hispánica de Amistad (Gulf Shores Elementary School) celebró San Jordi y el Día del Libro el pasado viernes con libros, rosas, y lectura continuada de El Quijote. Más de 250 personas, entre ellas estudiantes, profesores, madres y padres, leyeron de la obra maestra de Cervantes. Muchas gracias a la ciudad de Gulf Shores por su donación anual de 10 docenas de rosas para nuestro querido evento.









GSHS: 2024 Seal of Biliteracy Recipients

We are proud to recognize the Class of 2024 Seal of Biliteracy recipients:

Bryan Nunez Fuentes

Mariana Ortega

Bryan Orellana

Estevan Kemp Molleiro

Ulrich Ramos Duarte de Mota

The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to Gulf Shores High School students who demonstrate proficiency in English based on ACT scores and/or ACCESS for ELL scores and proficiency in one or more world languages based on a world language proficiency exam score.

Congratulations to these students on this achievement!



GSHS: Groundbreaking Ceremony

The next wave of education in Gulf Shores just officially broke ground on Friday, April 26th. Upwards of an estimated 250 people, including city and school district officials, educators, lawmakers, parents and students, watched or participated in ceremoniously shoveling dirt at the site of the new Gulf Shores High School.

The 287,000-square-foot facility, which will house 1,000+ students and make room for the lower grade levels to spread out in the current campuses, is set to open its doors in fall 2026.

And what a place it's going to be! The new GSHS will offer state-of-the-art academy labs specializing in biomedical, marine biology, culinary arts and finance and dynamic spaces for music production, broadcasting and the arts. Widened hallways, a "flex suite" to accommodate varying group sizes and a new Dolphins athletics facility are also features the community is eagerly anticipating.

























GSHS: Capstone Projects

So proud of our HOSA Future Health Professionals! Three GSHS Capstone Projects who participanted this year are HOSA members! These lady dolphins are shining examples of dedication, initiative, and sustainability! Researching and stepping up on their own, these ladies are shaping the future of healthcare. Keep inspiring us all!

Trainer, Ashley Jennings, ACL Injury Prevention: Proprioceptive Injury Training





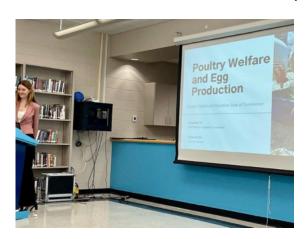


Marija "Marsha" Turkic - The Correlation Between Cardiovascular Diseases and Hypertension





Laura Calvert - Poultry Welfare and Egg Production







5/1: GSCS: Walk To School Day 5/2: BOE: Work Session (4:00pm)

5/3: GSMS: Spirit Day

5/7: GSCS: Special Olympics (Sportsplex OB)

5/8: GSCS: Bike To School Day

5/9: BOE: Regular Board Meeting (5:00pm)

5/10: GSES: Field Day

5/13: GSMS: 6th Grade Awards Day 5/13: GSMS: 8th Grade Honors Night

5/14: GSHS: Spring Concert

5/14: GSMS: 7th Grade Awards Day

5/14: GSMS: Spring Art Night

5/15: GSHS: Junior Awards Ceremony (10:45am)

5/16: GSHS: Senior Celebration (8:30am-11:00am)

5/16: GSHS: Sophomore Awards Ceremony (10:45am) 5/17: GSHS: Freshman Awards Ceremony (10:45am)

5/20: GSHS: Class of 2024 Graduation (7:00pm)

5/21: GSES: 1st Grade Come See My Genius (10:00am)

5/21: GSES: 3rd Grade Come See My Genius (1:15pm)

5/22: GSES: 4th Grade Come See My Genius (10:00am)

5/22: GSES: 2nd Grade Come See My Genius (1:15pm)

5/23: GSES: Kindergarten Celebration/Graduation (8:30am)

5/23: GSES: 5th Grade Come See My Genius (10:00am)

 $5/24 \colon GSCS \colon Last \ Day \ of \ School \ (Early \ Dismissal \ 11:30am)$

5/27-31: GSHS: Fine Arts Camp (8:00am-3:00pm) 5/29-6/28: GSMS: EcoCamp (8:00am - 12:00pm) 5/29-6/28:GSES: Dolphin Pride Summer Program

(7:30am-5:30pm)

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:

<u>District</u> <u>Elementary School</u> <u>Middle School</u> <u>High School</u> <u>Virtual Academy</u>





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

TBA - 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

IIIMRKE WRVES!

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

Connect with GSCS

Joe McAleer-Social Media







