



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, September 18th, 2020

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

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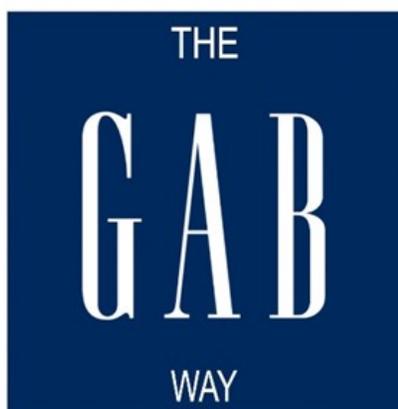
Georgia Academy for the Blind - GAB



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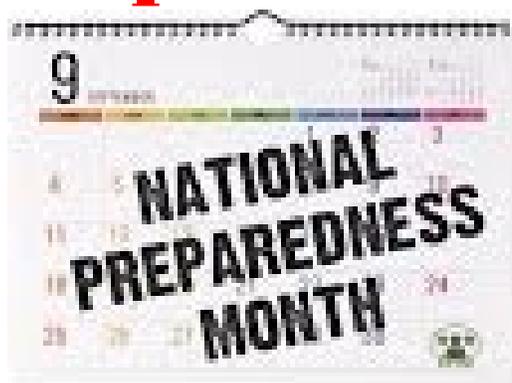
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Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind provides quality education services to Georgia's students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of independence in transition to college and career readiness. *Check out this student produced video featuring this Mission Statement:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRrbhkGSe98>



Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful

September:



Mark your Calendar :

9/21- Bring your swimsuit & towel ...classes will start swimming next week. Also bring anything else needed to swim like goggles, ear plugs, and swim cap.

9/13th-18th Housekeeping Appreciation week!

11/23 through 11/27 -

Thanksgiving Break

This newsletter is published by our Parent Mentor/Family Engagement Specialist, Jennifer Minter. Please send your ideas, news and resources in your community to her: JMinter@doe.k12.ga.us or call **478-262-3303**. ***Please remember to contact her if you've had a change in address, phone number and/or email!***

A message from our Superintendent

Dear GAB Families,

We are closing the fourth week of an eventful opening of school 2020-2021 thanks to our working together for what is best for the children. We are weathering the fidelity of COVID-19 vigilance, continuing to upgrade and disseminate technology, tirelessly providing online and onsite instruction, and most recently withstood the deluge of Hurricane Sally! So, it is times like these that inspired the song *“Just let a Smile Be Your Umbrella.”*

For all the irregularities of the season, we are thankful for our GAB family, to be back in school and to have provisions that many school systems and job locations lack or struggle to provide. We especially miss having some of our students onsite and look forward to the full implementation of our being together and providing the myriad services for which GAB is appreciated. The current hybrid model of choice, online or onsite, is in effect thru Friday, October 23, 2020. We will continue to update you as these next weeks show data for school implementation guidance. Safety is always the highest priority.

At this time, we have staff challenges relative to employees who must be on leave because their children’s schools are online or not open. Following COVID guidance, agencies have strategies that are encouraged for this temporary situation. In that light, School Nutrition Program will continue to prepare fantastic breakfast and lunch meals, according to federal guidelines, served in the dining hall. The dinner meal is purchased from community restaurants, except for special meals required by IEPs. The students are liking it! We apologize for any inconvenience of this needed accommodation.

See the pictures of our family celebration honoring our Housekeeping Team. They do make a house a home! Most have dedicated service for longer than I have been here, over 13 years! As Team leader Tiara Akridge inspires and models Our best for Our children! I should have set a “bug” at their Olive Garden table to see what they talk about when they get away from us. Thank you to Property and Supply Manager Larry Harris for being the limo driver today! Thank you also to parent/guardians who contributed to this celebration.

Enjoy the weekend,
and we will see you again next week!

**Always,
Cindy**



HOUSEKEEPER APPRECIATION WEEK



Ms. Tiara
Housekeeping Supervisor





Ms. Kinitra



Ms. Sylvia



Ms. Roselyn



Renon



Ms. Joann



Ms. Lisa



LAST CALL:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 IS THE BIG DAY

ATTENTION all GAB PARENTS and teachers! It's time for fall housecleaning. Do you have any used canes sitting in your garage or closet? Perhaps your student has outgrown a cane and gotten a replacement. Get those canes out of your house or classroom and send them to GAB. Our "Canes for Kenya" Special Project is closing. Please check your closets for any used canes and them to the office of Jennifer Minter jminter@doe.k12.ga.us, Parent Mentor, at GAB no later than MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020. All sizes are accepted and will be sent to visually children and young adults in Kenya. For further information, contact Mary Keith, mkeith@doe.k12.ga.us, GAB Special Projects.

Thanks for making life a little better for visually impaired students around the world!

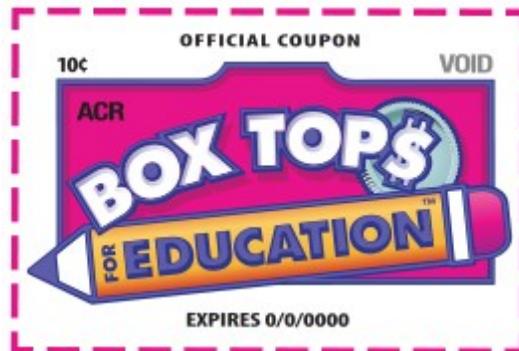


**GAB Special Project
"Canes for Kenya"**

Hello GAB Panthers,

It has been a crazy few months since we were all together. I hope this letter finds you well. I am still collecting BOX TOPS for the school. There are still two ways to collect as of now. Below is an example of the BOX TOPS. You can choose to still cut out and send to me at school, or you can choose to upload the app and scan your receipt if you bought items that have BOX TOPS. If you chose not to load the app, I will be glad to scan your receipt so just send it in and I will get it done. Thank you, Ms. Layson

THE OLD BOX TOPS CLIPS



Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip them and send them to school. **Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢ for your school.** Make sure each one has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS



Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label. If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. **Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school.** The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.

September Birthdays

9-7	Lucas	9-15	Armando
9-7	Destiny R.	9-15	Trinity B.
9-9	Felix	9-23	DJ P.
9-10	Korey		

