



# Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, September 11th, 2020

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider*

**Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent**

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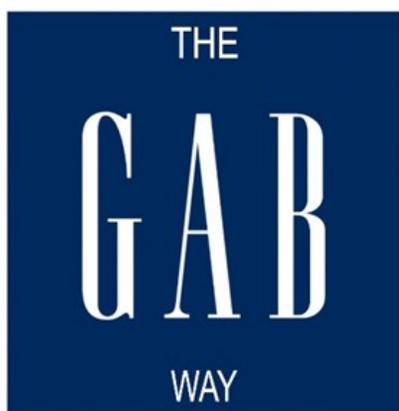
Georgia Academy for the Blind - GAB



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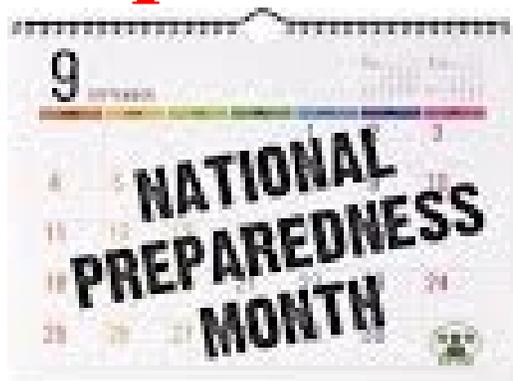
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Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind provides quality education services to Georgia's students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of 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 :***

9/11 -

TAKE A DAY TO REMEMBER  
THE DAY THAT CHANGED  
US FOREVER.



9/13 - 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](mailto: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,**

It is a pleasure to report another astounding week at GAB. Your resilience with the adaptations and challenges is a true inspiration that motivates us in unprecedented times. We are receiving and disseminating brand new devices as quickly as possible. Our families and students are adapting to online or onsite instruction per the choices that will be in effect thru October 23.

With our Teams platform we can be anywhere and everywhere any time! We have had teachers teaching from home to their students at their homes and onsite students at the same class period. This enhances our thankfulness to be at a specialty school with resources and workable student to teacher ratio.

In my picture I am on Teams in my yoga frog garden getting ready to take on the day with the Wellness mindfulness. Indeed, we do care for student and staff wellness. This week our Georgia College and State University interns began their music therapy sessions in the after school program and Friday morning classes. Let me say music therapy is not just for children! Ms. Jackson and I were connecting with the inner peace too. The importance of movement and self-expression is a cornerstone of becoming one's "best self." That, in a nut shell, is all anyone really wants or needs, is it not?

Our pool is serviced and reopened! What a wonderful thing to have a pool on campus. Staff and students are receiving therapy of all descriptions--OT, PT, physical exercise, mental health, and mindfulness. Our maintenance staff is stretched with all of our projects and regular care, but they make time to be sure our pool is ready for instruction, as it was designed for therapy. We truly owe many people a debt of gratitude for our pool.

Enjoy your weekend and come bouncing back on Sunday or Monday!

**Always,  
Cindy**



# MUSIC THERAPY





# **GAB Special Project “Canes for Kenya”**

## **FINAL CALL for GENTLY WORN CANES**

In October, 2019, Georgia Academy for the Blind embarked on an ambitious outreach project, “Canes for Kenya”. This special project was designed provide used canes to students at Machakos Technical Institute for the Blind, Thika Primary School and High School for the Blind , and Kibos Primary School for the Blind, all located in various parts of Kenya, Africa. With the help of GAB’s Student Council, faculty, and staff, we have raised over \$60 and collected more than 100 gently used canes of various sizes.

Originally, our date of completion was set for April 1, 2020. However, due to CoVid 19, the project was temporarily suspended. With GAB now providing on campus instruction, we have set our project completion date for Monday, September 21, 2020.

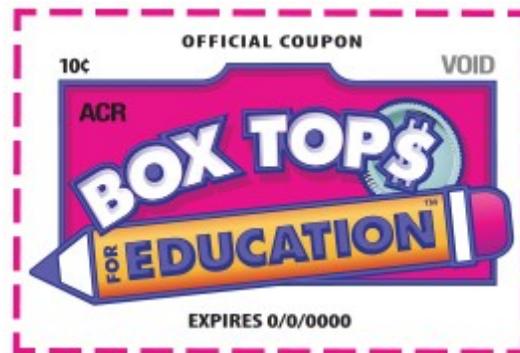
There is still time to send any used canes to GAB to be included in our Canes for Kenya outreach project. Any donations will be accepted through the office of Jennifer Minter [jminter@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jminter@doe.k12.ga.us), Parent Mentor, at GAB no later than MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020. For further information, contact Mary Keith, [mkeith@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mkeith@doe.k12.ga.us), GAB Special Projects.



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		

