



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, August 28th, 2020

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent

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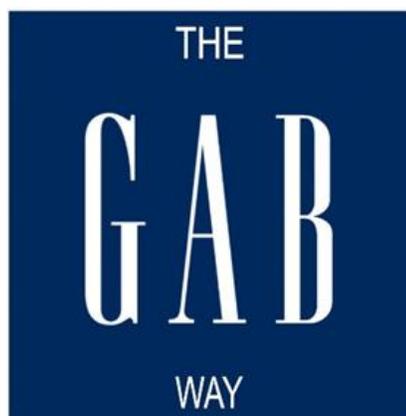
Georgia Academy for the Blind - GAB



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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

August:



Mark your Calendar :

8/24 - First week of school

9/7 - Labor Day Holiday :
residential students return on
Monday

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,

There are no words for the joy of being together again! “Standing Together. Standing Tall.” is the 2020-2021 GAB theme, and that we are!

The Panthers have been poppin’ so fast and furiously this week that we have not sat at a computer long enough to compose our full-scale newsletter. We do have great news to share. Fall 2020 at GAB has been a very smooth process with 28 students on distance learning and 55 on-site students. 38 of those students are residential!! Technology prescribed for each student has been mailed out and in most cases received and in use. Thank you for using all means to join us virtually this week. Remember if any parent/guardian needs training on the virtual platform, we can do that too! Reach out to your case manager or to Dawn Day, Curriculum and Technology Director, mday@doe.k12.ga.us

We have sent you so much information on our COVID-19 prevention readiness and want to assure you that we have all mandated PPE and a few gadgets. **Check out the new hands-free key ring.** We are not touching anything if we don’t have to!! Be reminded to give your child a Wellness Check before sending him/her to school. Jon Smith, Assistant Principal, and team are providing Wellness Checks before students exit busses. A student cannot remain at GAB if there are COVID-19 symptoms including temperature of 100 or above.

A huge hug (feel the arms around you?) goes to all of you who completed registration forms online. You make our jobs a dream. We are here to help if you are having any concerns. Jennifer Minter, Parent Mentor, is your 24/7 Go-To (LOL)! jminter@doe.k12.ga.us Your very special case managers and Tyrene Neil, Special Education Director, tneil@doe.k12.ga.us are very present help in times of need.

Soon we will publish the School Council meeting dates. This is an open meeting in person or virtual for any and all stakeholders in our students and school. At the first meeting we will discuss election of officers and select other meeting dates for a total of 4 meetings this year. Also, I am asking for 2 School Improvement Plan liaisons to work with us to be able to review, advise and share school data and plans with other parent/guardians. This is a fluid document which will be shared at the first School Council meeting. Let Jennifer Minter or me know if you are interested cgibson@doe.k12.ga.us

Here is wishing you a safe and healthy weekend. We’ll see you on Sunday or Monday!

Always,

Cindy

Clean touch:
antimicrobial
door
opener!



DR. GIBSON
USING HER
NEW CLEAN
TOUCH
KEY CHAIN!



GEORGIA ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND

2020-2021 School Calendar

180 Student/ 200 Day Teacher and Para

 Holidays	 First and Last Day for Students
 Regular School Days	 Open House
 Graduation	 Required Professional Learning

2020								2021							
Jul-20								Jan-21							
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
Work Days: 5													1	2	Work Days: 19
School Days: 0				1	2	3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	School Days: 19
Special Days: Pre-planning	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Special Days:
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	1st Winter Holiday
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	18th MLK Jr. Holiday
	26	27	28	29	30	31		31							
Aug-20								Feb-21							
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
Work Days: 21							1		1	2	3	4	5	6	Work Days: 19
School Days: 6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	School Days: 19
Special Days:	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Special Days:
23rd Open House	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	15th President's Day
24th First Day of School	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28							
	30	31													
Sep-20								Mar-21							
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
Work Days: 21			1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5	6	Work Days: 20
School Days: 21	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	School Days: 20
Special Days:	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Special Days:
7th Labor Day	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	29-31 Spring Break
	27	28	29	30				28	29	30	31				
Oct-20								Apr-21							
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
Work Days: 22					1	2	3					1	2	3	Work Days: 19
School Days: 22	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	School Days: 19
Special Days:	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Special Days:
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	1-2 Spring Break
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30		5th Easter Holiday
Nov-20								May-21							
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
Work Days: 16														1	Work Days: 20
School Days: 16	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	School Days: 15
Special Days:	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Special Days:
23-27 Thanksgiving Holidays	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	19th Graduation
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	21st Last Day of School
	29	30						30	31						24-28 Post Planning/ PL
Dec-20								Jun-21							
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
Work Days: 14			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	Work Days: 4
School Days: 13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	School Days: 0
Special Days:	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Special Days:
18th Professional Learning	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	1-4 PL at discretion of Superintendent
21-31 Winter Holidays	27	28	29	30	31			27	28	29	30				

Sem 1 Total: Work Days =99; School Days =78

Sem 2 Total: Work Days =101; School Days =92

August Birthdays

8-2	Devin W.	8-25	Josie
8-2	Kaden A.	8-29	De'Zereion
8-3	Logan A.	8-29	Rickoy
8-5	Montrez	8-30	Jesse
8-6	Marquan		

