



# Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Thursday, April 16th, 2020

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider*

**Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent**

2895 Vineville Avenue

Macon, GA 31204

478-751-6083



Georgia Academy for the Blind - GAB

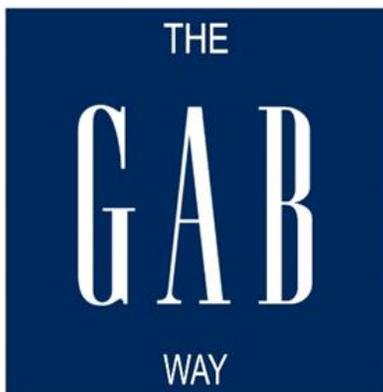


Follow our library:

@gablibrary

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

## APRIL:



**For National Poetry Month:** If your child writes a poem during this time at home, please email me a copy of his/her poem so I can share in the GAB newsletter:  
[jminter@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jminter@doe.k12.ga.us)

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**May 20: Graduation GAB—**Will be Rescheduled****

**May 22: Last day of School**

### **April is Occupational Therapy Month:**

Please see attachments to this email for more resources from Allison Hawkins, OT at GAB.

### **CAMPS:**

Most camps will not make a decision about being open until the end of May.

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), 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 school Counselor

I just wanted to share a few important pieces of information as I continue to be available to students and families and as we move forward with Distance Learning.

1. Email is always a great way to contact me. I check it multiple times of day throughout the day. It's probably more reliable than my phone! Feel free to share my email with others who may need it or use it to contact me if needed.
2. My Google Voice Number: **478-246-4588**. This number rings directly to my cell phone or computer. It can also receive text messages. This number may be shared with students and families.

Lastly, lots of school counselors have been implementing virtual office hours as an additional support. Although I am available throughout the day, this will be designated time set aside to be available directly to students and families. During this time, I may be contacted via phone, text, email, and or face-to-face via zoom. Office hours will be: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. The times may be adjusted depending its utilization or the needs of students and families. My zoom log in information is below:

## *Shelly Robinson's Personal Meeting Room*

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7080337882?pwd=MGNPQnZFNkV1THJYNDMzVEUzU3I0dz09>

Meeting ID: 708 033 7882

Password: 2020GAB

## ZOOM ON MOBILE APP FOR BLIND/LOW VISION USERS

If you have not downloaded the Zoom app  
then this link below can help:

I will also put this on  
GAB's FB and GAB's website:

[https://techowlpa.org/news/zoom-mobile-blv/?fbclid=IwAR0TQ931tBb1IceGOd2UzFTHL3W9ejFI8-gKfpdWcFXkY1a\\_G8rKnH79bSQ](https://techowlpa.org/news/zoom-mobile-blv/?fbclid=IwAR0TQ931tBb1IceGOd2UzFTHL3W9ejFI8-gKfpdWcFXkY1a_G8rKnH79bSQ)

Need help, contact me at: [jminter@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jminter@doe.k12.ga.us)





**POSITIONING FOR EATING  
WITH FEET ON THE FLOOR**



**UTENSIL GRIP WITH  
THUMB FOR EATING**



**Allison Hawkins MHS,OTR/L  
Sensory Integration Certified  
Occupational Therapist  
The Georgia Academy for the Blind  
&  
Dodi Good, COTA/Occupational Therapy  
The Georgia Academy for the Blind**

Steps	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
I prepared my own drink	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
I set up and organized my mealtime space-(cup to top right of plate, napkin placed to side of plate, utensils placed to side of plate)	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
I used my napkin to wipe my mouth, hands and fingers	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
I used my fork to pierce	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
I used my spoon to scoop	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
I cleaned up my plate, cup and utensils	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
I pushed my chair in	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No

# **GOT TALENT**

**Dear Parents and students,**

**Dr. Gibson has given us permission to carry on the beloved tradition of a school talent show. Polish those tap shoes, dust of the piano, pull out the joke book, and get ready to share.**

**This will be a virtual talent show, so you'll need to videotape performances and email me the MP3 version or (better yet) the Youtube link. If the files are too large, they won't send. Try to keep the performances short: 30 seconds to two minutes if possible. My email address is [kapplebee@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:kapplebee@doe.k12.ga.us)**

**Content must be appropriate to be included so make wise choices and let your light shine!**

**Deadline for entries is April 30th.**

**Thank you!  
Kristen Applebee  
Art Teacher**



# Our New HVAC system is under construction at GAB!



The electricians are connecting the large transformer outside to several Electrical panels in the Hendricks building. Those panels will later power the various HVAC units in Hendricks.

They are connecting and burying the 3" Electrical PVC conduits that will power the new AC units in Hendricks building. The next step will be to pull all the electrical power cables into the panels.

The new building (see below) will be used by Larry and his team for School supplies and warehouse storage items. They hope to start putting on the roof this week!



# April Birthdays

4-2 Bentlee

4-2 Pierce

4-4 Caden

4-7 Quay

4-17 Dillion

4-25 Josiah

4-28 Hope

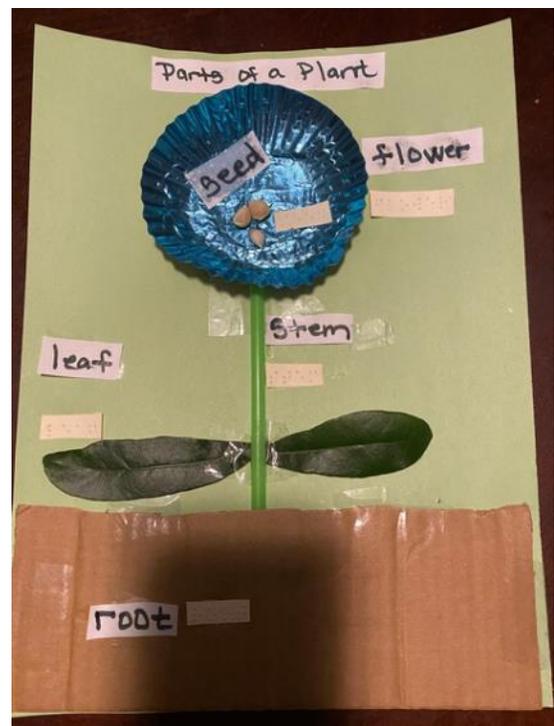
4-30 Joe M.



## National Poetry Month:

I got a new teddy bear,  
It was broken, that wasn't fair.  
I thought my teddy bear was  
great,  
So I thought "let's go on a date."  
We went to the store to shop,  
Teddy did not want to stop.  
I ran out of money,  
Teddy thought that was  
funny.

Poem by Brayden Ellis, 4th grade 3/24/20  
Teacher: Mrs. McDavid



I sent out a themed choice board for my students to do. It was on the Life cycle of a plant. They would read a book and this was one of the activities they could choose to do. BJ's Mom sent me this picture and made me so proud!

Art by BJ King Teacher: Mrs. Mullis



**CAMP AT GAB** — A week long summer camp that will start on Sunday, June 7th and end on Friday, June 12th. Fun week of learning disguised as exciting activities tailored to accommodate students who are blind or visually impaired. Stay connected for more information on GAB Camp coming soon.

**CAM's Camp** is held July 6 - 17, 2020 at:

Mason Creek Elementary School 3400 Johnston Road Winston, Georgia 30187

8:30am to 3:00pm daily July 6 - 17, 2020

Age groups served Kinder thru 12th grade

2Tee Morgan

Program Director, CAM's Vision Foundation, Inc.

770-598-6669

Summer enrichment geared toward blind youth :there is a twist that sets my camp apart from typical camps, my camp is for blind kids AND is open to their sighted siblings, friends and peers. We function as any other camp except the activities are adapted to accommodate and highlight the special abilities of our blind children.



An intensive camp for visually and hearing impaired children that is based at Ivy Green, the birthplace of Helen Keller in Tusculmbia, Alabama. A family member must accompany the student.

Dates: Arrive on Thursday, October 1st by 3 pm and leave on Sunday, October 4th, 2020.

For more information: Call (256) 383-4066 or email: [suepililton@comcast.net](mailto:suepililton@comcast.net)





# GEORGIA LIONS CAMP, INC.

5626 Laura Walker Road

Waycross, Georgia

Phone (912) 283-4320 Fax (912) 283-5130

Toll Free (GA only) 888-297-1475

Email: [director@www.glcb.org](mailto:director@www.glcb.org)

Staff Training - June 5 thru June 12, 2020

Staff report to camp at 6:00 pm June 5, 2020

Session #1 Pre-Teens- Ages 6-12	<b>June 14 thru June 19, 2020</b>
Session #2 Senior Adults- Ages 40 & Up	<b>June 21 thru June 26, 2020</b>
Session #3 Young Adults- Ages 26-39	<b>June 28 thru July 3, 2020</b>
Session #4 Transitional- Ages 18-25	<b>July 5 thru July 10, 2020</b>
Session #5 Teenagers- Ages 13-17	<b>July 12 thru July 19, 2020</b>

**LIONS DAY July 18, 2020**

Come Join us for a Summer Filled with New Adventures, Programs, and Activities.

Campers can register by going to the camp's website, [www.glcb.org](http://www.glcb.org) and click on registration, which will allow them to fill out their application by using [campdoc.com](http://campdoc.com)

**KEEP THE CAMP FIRES**



**BURNING**

# BlazeSports All-Star Summer Camp 2020



★ June 7-12, 2020 Camp-Will-A-Way, Winder, GA ★

Cost: \$350

Early Bird Special: \$300 (Ends May 6<sup>th</sup>)

Registration opens March 6<sup>th</sup>, please email [campdirector@blazesports.org](mailto:campdirector@blazesports.org) to register

## Ready for a summer adventure?

The BlazeSports All-Star Summer Camp is the only overnight adaptive sports camp in Georgia for youth with physical disabilities. This camp is an incredible opportunity for youth 7-18\* with physical disabilities to learn and experience a wide variety of adapted sports, meet other individuals with similar disabilities, become more independent and have a summer experience to remember!



*\*Youth eligible for camp must have a physical disability such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, acquired brain injury, dwarfism, amputation, spinal cord injury, visual impairment, muscular dystrophy or other related physical disabilities.\**

For more information:  
[tshipeck@blazesports.org](mailto:tshipeck@blazesports.org)

(404) 270-2036

[www.blazesports.org](http://www.blazesports.org)