



# Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

January 31st, 2020

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

**Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent**

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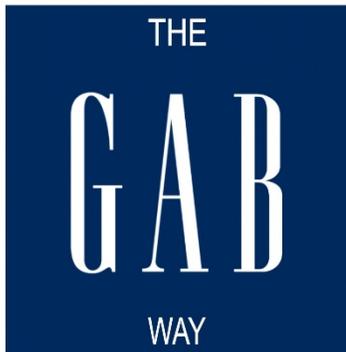
Georgia Academy for the Blind - GAB



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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



Don't miss out on important announcements from our Parent Mentor.

Text your student's name and your name to 478-262-3303 and you will be subscribed to *Family Engagement @*

## Mark Your Calendars

**February 1: Self Determination Conference, Macon**

**February 12: Valentine's Dance-Media Center at 6pm**

**February 14: Valentine's Day – Dr. Love Week**

**February 17: Presidents' Day - **Holiday****

**March 5 – Braille Challenge at GAB!**

**March 23 – 27: Paraprofessional & Residential Advisor Appreciation Week**

**March 27: Spring Program- Reynolds Auditorium**

**March 28-30: New York Trip, Mrs. Holloway**

**March 30 - April 3 : Spring Break Week – **Holiday****

**April 9: Prom Night at GAB**

**April 13: Monday after Easter – **Holiday****

**April 30 – May 3: Senior Trip**

**May 20: Graduation at GAB**

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!**



National School Counseling Week 2020, "School Counselors: Helping Build Better Humans," will be celebrated from Feb. 3-7, 2020, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems. It is sponsored by the American School Counselor Association, also known as ASCA, and highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have on student success. GAB School Counselor Mrs. Robinson has planned a host of activities for staff and students to promote the week. Students should tune in to the GAB news and teachers should check their email regularly to participate.

How does school counseling impact your child? Your child's school counselor interacts with him/her in a variety of ways to include providing individual and group counseling, classroom guidance lessons, crisis prevention and intervention, and more. Some topics that are addressed and include academic planning, social/emotional skills, as well as college & career awareness. This school year students have been exposed to lessons such as "Who is the School Counselor", bullying prevention, self-advocacy, goal-setting, interviewing skills, friendship, and mindfulness. Future topics include career conversations and financial literacy.

You may contact your child's school counselor anytime at [srobinson@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:srobinson@doe.k12.ga.us) or 478-751-6083 ext. 1150. Visit [www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org) for more information about National School Counseling Week and consider supporting your school counselor's classroom project at <https://donorschoose.org/SchoolCounselorShelly>.



# SCASB TRIP TO TEXAS 2020!

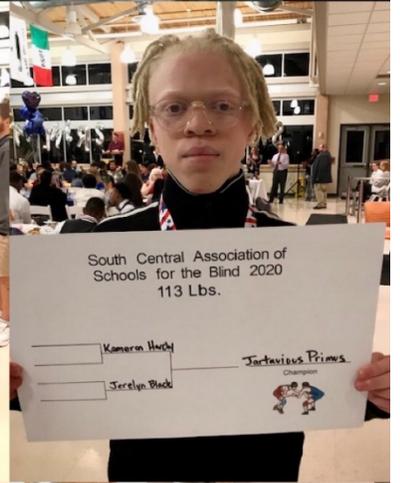


For the cheerleaders... Jayla got Miss Congeniality (of course!)

Tyzia won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the individual cheer

Quay won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the mascot competition

GAB won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in overall cheer.....To sum it up, they did AWESOME! 😊



**The GAB Wrestling Team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall out of 6 schools !!!**



**GAB'S FINE ARTS STUDENTS WOWED THE SCASB AUDIENCE WITH A COMPILATION OF DISNEY PRINCE AND PRINCESS SONGS. THE GAB DRUMLINE ALSO PERFORMED FOR THE FIRST TIME AT SCASB!**



## Georgia Academy for the Blind

Macon, Georgia

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH PROJECT 2019-20

### “Canes for Kenya”

**WHY:** It has come to the attention of Georgia Academy for the Blind, through information from Ken Medema, a blind musician and founder of the non-profit organization, Interlude, that several schools for the Blind in Kenya, South Africa, have no canes nor dedicated orientation and mobility instruction for 300 students. Currently students get around their schools with one student acting as a guide and other students following behind with hands on shoulders. They have extremely limited or no access for off campus mobility. Additionally, assistive technology devices are also in very short supply. Georgia Academy for the Blind, in collaboration with Interlude, plans to address these needs through our international outreach program, “Canes for Kenya”.

**WHAT:** “Canes for Kenya” is an outreach project of Georgia Academy for the Blind, in collaboration with Interlude, to provide 300+ good condition used canes of all sizes and/ or other good condition used assistive technology devices, as well as a visiting Orientation and Mobility Specialist to students of First School for the Blind ; Machakos Technical Institute for the Blind; Thika Primary School for the Blind; and Kibos Primary School for the Blind in Kenya, South Africa. We will be contacting our US sister schools for the blind as well as others who might have used canes and/or other used assistive technology devices available to donate to the project.

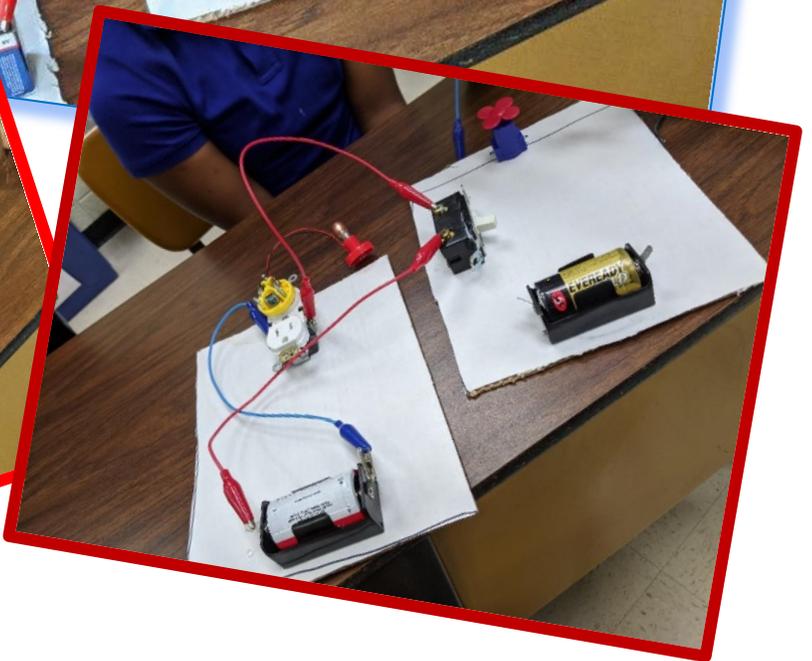
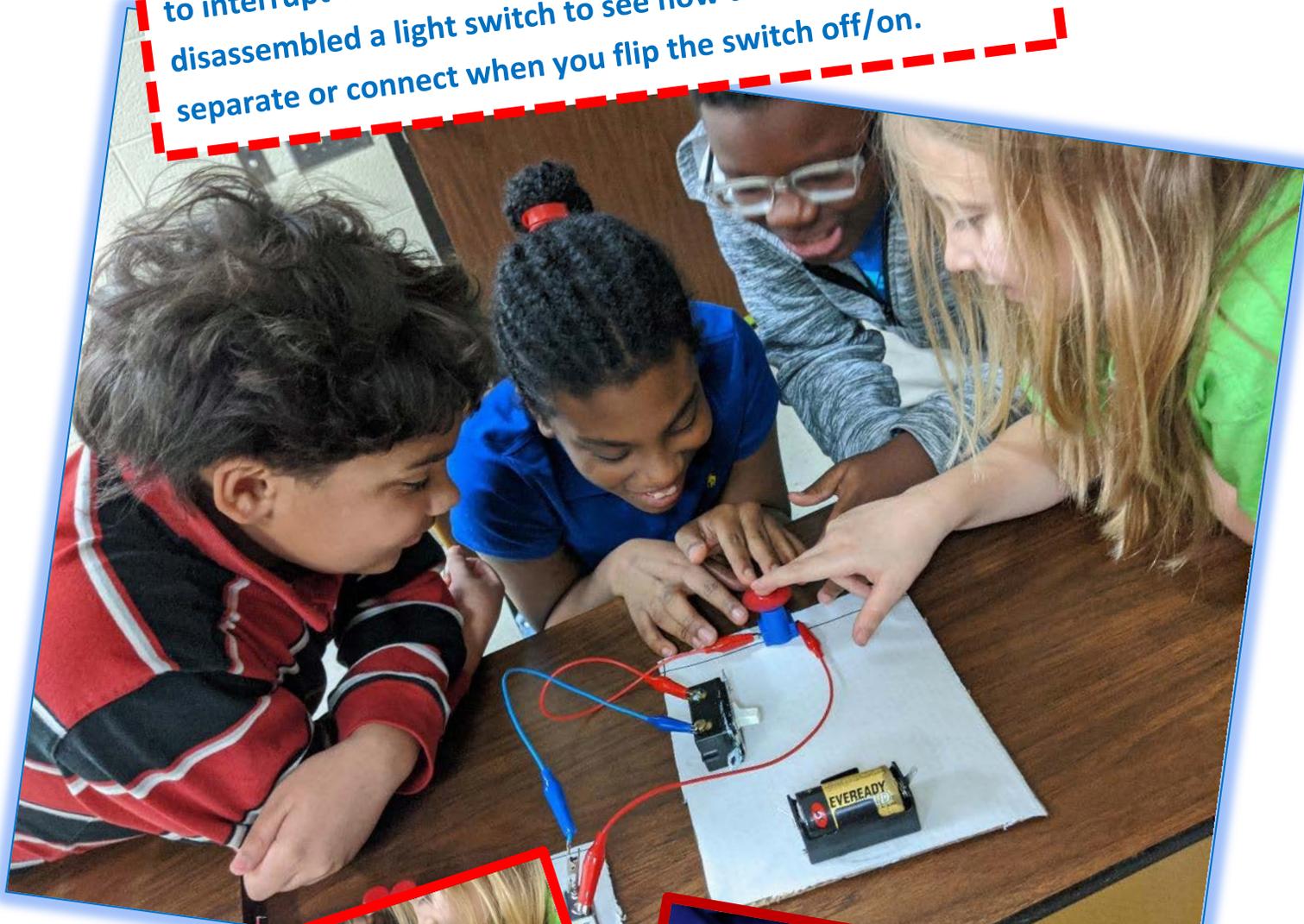
**WHEN:** “Canes for Kenya” will be taking gently worn, good condition canes and/or other assistive technology .now through the end of April. The target date for shipping is May 1, 2020. GAB Student Council, assisted by GAB Café workers, as well as interested classes, will be preparing snacks as an in-house fundraiser during February and March. Funds raised will provide additional canes for Canes for Kenya.

**HOW:** For more information, please contact Mary Keith:

[mkeith@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mkeith@doe.k12.ga.us) (subject Canes for Kenya)

**478-751-6983, ext 1270 (leave a message for Mary Keith with Deborah**

This week in Mr. Lyon's classroom: Students studied simple circuits, the flow of electrons through a conductor, and how to interrupt the flow of electrons with a switch. They also disassembled a light switch to see how the contact points separate or connect when you flip the switch off/on.



# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jestine	1/3
Devoneta	1/5
Malcolm	1/8
John	1/14
Brayden	1/21
Morgan	1/23
Ayden	1/24
Destiny	1/24
Jamari	1/31

**January 4<sup>th</sup>, 1809**

