ISSUE 7 JULY 2025

The MakeWaves Monthly

We develop students to become the best versions of themselves, so they can transform the world.



Superintendents' Message

Gulf Shores City Schools hope you and your family had a wonderful and relaxing summer! Many students were engaged throughout the summer in various camps that were held on campuses at GSCS. School supplies are being gathered, teachers are hard at work preparing their classrooms, and football and volleyball teams are already on the field and court practicing. Students are picking up their schedules, and signs of the new school year are visible across all campuses. If you have any questions about summer assignments or registration for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year, please contact your child's school. It's clear that everyone is getting ready for the first day of school on Thursday, August 7th! As a school system, we are thrilled that you have chosen to "Be A Dolphin". We are looking forward to an exciting school year filled with active participation from our students, employees, parents, and community members. Your involvement helps create a strong and supportive school community. Be sure to stay informed about the many upcoming activities and events happening in August by checking the district and school website calendars regularly. Let's come together to MakeWaves and start the year strong!

Dr. Matt Akin - Superintendent makin@gsboe.org
Dr. Stephanie Harrison - Assistant Superintendent sharrison@gsboe.org

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL

VIRTUAL ACADEMY



Health & Wellness



Athletics



Arts Education



Teaching & Learning



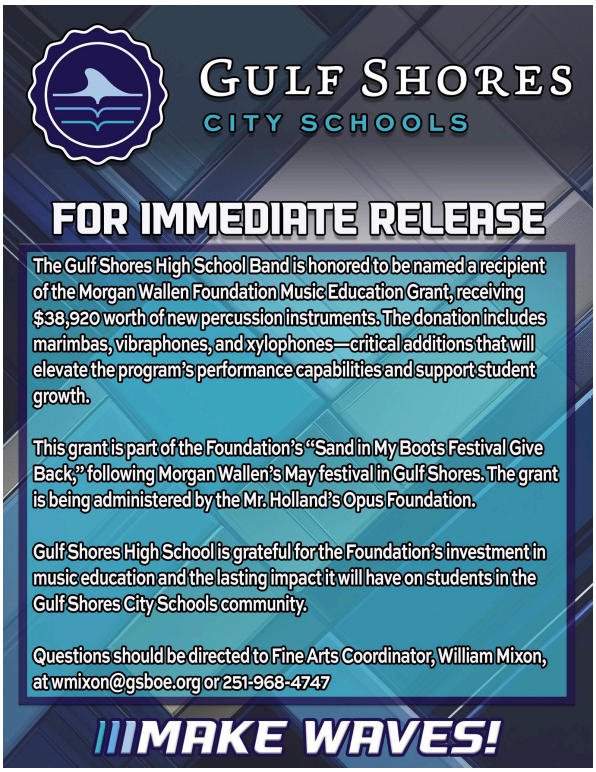
Congratulations Grey Goodman on your top 4 finish at the SJGT in Oxford, Mississippi!! Grey had 2 low rounds at The Ole Miss Golf Club. Day 1 was a low score of 75 and day 2 was a low score of 74!



Congratulations Evelyn Lamar last week at the ECJGT Summer Championship at Emerald Bay!
Evelyn won her division!

We are proud to announce GSCS has added 10 new Big Trikes to our fleet, allowing students with mobility and balance limitations to fully participate in our state park biking field trips. Sending a big shout out to Kerry Dey, teacher and cycling enthusiast, who facilitated the purchase and assembled them. Thanks also to Infinity Bicycles of Orange Beach for their support of this project.





Mrs. Wilson and Ms. Burleson at GSHS are working hard to build new lessons for the 25-26 school year



Several GSES teachers just wrapped up an incredible experience at Camp Elevate through Camp Explore for Educators in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina with an amazing group of educators! We spent the week diving deep into what truly matters in the classroom — building strong relationships, fostering rich academic discourse, ensuring 100% student engagement, and of course, making learning FUN!
We also learned the power of brain breaks to keep students (and teachers!) refreshed and ready to learn. Feeling inspired, motivated, and ready to bring the energy back to our schools this year!





Ms. Pitts at GSHS spent a week in Salt Lake City, Utah grading hundreds of student responses for AP Gov!

Meet the 2025 GSVB Rosters! We are so excited for this talented group and the bright future of Lady Dolphin Volleyball!

GULF SHORES LADY DOLPHINS VOLLEYBALL

VARSITY

NAME	YEAR
KAYLA ROSE	12TH
MACEY MOORE	12TH
NORA MALONE	12TH
MADI NELSON	12TH
ABBY TRUE	12TH
JACKI BATIZ	12TH
ALI LAWSON	12TH
CHASTYN COVINGTON	11TH
CAMELIA PEREZ	11TH
MORGEN MUELLER	11TH
CALLIE HOPKINS	10TH
VELMIRA SOBOL	10TH
ELLE HELTON	9TH
RYLEE DEAL	9TH

COACH: LAURA DAVIS

GULF SHORES LADY DOLPHINS VOLLEYBALL

JUNIOR VARSITY

NAME	YEAR
HARMONY MOYERS	10TH
JAYDEN DEESE	10TH
VADA WOOD	10TH
CALI NELSON	10TH
CHARLIE WALSH	10TH
SULLY KUTTER	10TH
EVIE WAUGH	10TH
MARIA (NANDA) ESPINHEIRA	10TH
MARIA KATRUK	9TH
ELIZA NELSON	9TH
SOPHIE POOLE	9TH
MADDIE ANDREWS	9TH
KASON TODD	9TH

COACH: LEAH COOPER

GULF SHORES LADY DOLPHINS VOLLEYBALL

9TH GRADE

NAME	YEAR
SOPHIA CORTES	9TH
CARLEE NIUMATA	9TH
MANUELA MARTINS	9TH
AUDREY GRISSOM	9TH
GRACELYNN COLLINS	9TH
MADDIE MILLER	9TH
KINSLEY KING	9TH
CAILEIGH CRAWFORD	9TH
OLIVIA COLEY	9TH
BAILEY BURGESS	9TH

COACH: TBD

GULF SHORES LADY DOLPHINS VOLLEYBALL

MIDDLE SCHOOL

7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
HARLEE REES	ANNIE BRERETON
ALI COOPER	ELOISE JOHNSON
OLIVIA COOPER	AVERY MCCLURE
DAISY CARROLL	KALEA MORGAN
ELLA DE'ARMAS	ARYANA FUNDERBURK
CARLEIGH ROBINSON	ISLA MAY
ISABELLA THIES	MILAN FRANCI
ANNABELLE DENT	MACI ANNAN
CARLEIGH LIZARRAGA	JILLIAN SMITH
VICTORIA NICULITI	SAWYER FEIT
NAOMI WHITE	ELLIS MORRISON
ISABELLA DASILVA	MALLORY FREDERICKSON
ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ	LEAH MILLWOOD
	CAMI ZELEDON
	TINSLEE BEEBE
	CHARLOTTE COLVIN
	HADLEY REEVES

7TH GRADE COACH: KESLEY CANAAN
8TH GRADE COACH: LEANN DOYLE

Congratulations to all of our AP Scholars. This title is granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

2025 AP SCHOLARS

Julianna Achimon
Alexander Beal
Thassia Belo
William Butler
Wynn Buzbee
Baylen Byrd
Alexander Byrom
Brian Canham
Abigail Chamblin
Riley Dennis
Ella Gilbert
Alyssa Goff
Tristen Grover
Levi Howard
Amelia Kozyuk
Emma Lloyd
Nora Malone
Madeline Mattson
David Metz
Ray Pepperman
Kayla Rose
Alexis Tetreau
Julianna Thrasher
Abby True

Gulf Shores High School band camp.



ProStart Summer PD in NOLA! What an amazing opportunity to meet with other ProStart Culinary teachers, industry professionals, & NRAEF leaders. NOCHI, the Roosevelt, WWII Museum, Cafe Reconcile, Commanders Palace, and more. Learning from the best!



Congratulations to all of our students who have earned AP Scholar with Distinction awards. This title is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

2025 AP SCHOLAR WITH DISTINCTION

Caiden Bennett
Gavin Burttram
Ethan Coeur
Claire Colvin
Eleanore Flaig
Tucker Graham
Aidan Holdsworth
Amanda Larenas
Kylie Meeks
Patrick Nguyen
William Russell
Ella Sanders
Cline Steward
Joshua Sutherland
Alexandrina Vodi
Lucas Waugh

Congratulations to all of our students who have earned AP Scholar with Honors recognition. This title is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

2025 AP SCHOLAR WITH HONOR

Charles Bias
Charles Brenner
Madalyn Cusulos
Noah Daigle
Rory Davis
Derek Dement
Sonny Dove
Isis Eberly
Henry Gramm
Ashley Jennings
Carleigh Jurkiewicz
Stachel Kornegay
Victoria McFarland
Nicolette Meade
Prina Patel
Amelie Walker

Kindergarten team at GSES ready to kick off the 25-26 school year!



Making waves all the way to Auburn! Mrs. Cagle represented Gulf Shores High School at AP Statistics training at Auburn University!



GSCS will be offering a Student All-Sports Pass (Grades 1st-12th) for the 25-26 school year through GoFan! The digital pass can be used for any Gulf Shores High School or Gulf Shores Middle School regular season home game (please note the pass will not be accepted at away games or AHSAA post season games). The pass is available to any students at the link below for $50!
Please visit **https://gofan.co/event/3854502?schoolId=AL19814**

Student All-Sports Pass

STUDENT ALL-SPORTS PASS (Grades K-12) - Boys Varsity/JV/Freshman/MS & Girls Varsity/JV/Freshman/MS

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 6:00 PM - Wed, Apr 29, 2026 at 7:15 PM

Event Details

The Gulf Shores City Schools Student All-Sports Pass can be purchased for any Gulf Shores student in grades K-12. The Pass can be used for admission to all Gulf Shores High School & Gulf Shores Middle School regular season home games during the 2025-2026 school year.

Huge shoutout to our very own Sophia Bauer (Winifred Banks) and Charlie Wheat (Von Hussler) on their wonderful performance in “Mary Poppins Jr.” At **South Baldwin Community Theatre** directed by the legendary Mrs. Gay James.







What an unforgettable time GSHS Culinary Teacher, Kristen Madsen, had at the Alabama CTE Summer Conference! From powerful sessions to seeing my amazing students featured throughout the event — I couldn’t be prouder!











A few of the 5th grade teachers from GSES, along with the Math Coach, learned more about the new Fraction Screener required this year as part of the Alabama Numeracy Act.



Landon Everett and Price Stephenson represented the GSHS football team at the Baldwin County Media Day!





It won't be long before GSES is filled with children! You know there are lots of preparations being made to welcome all our students!





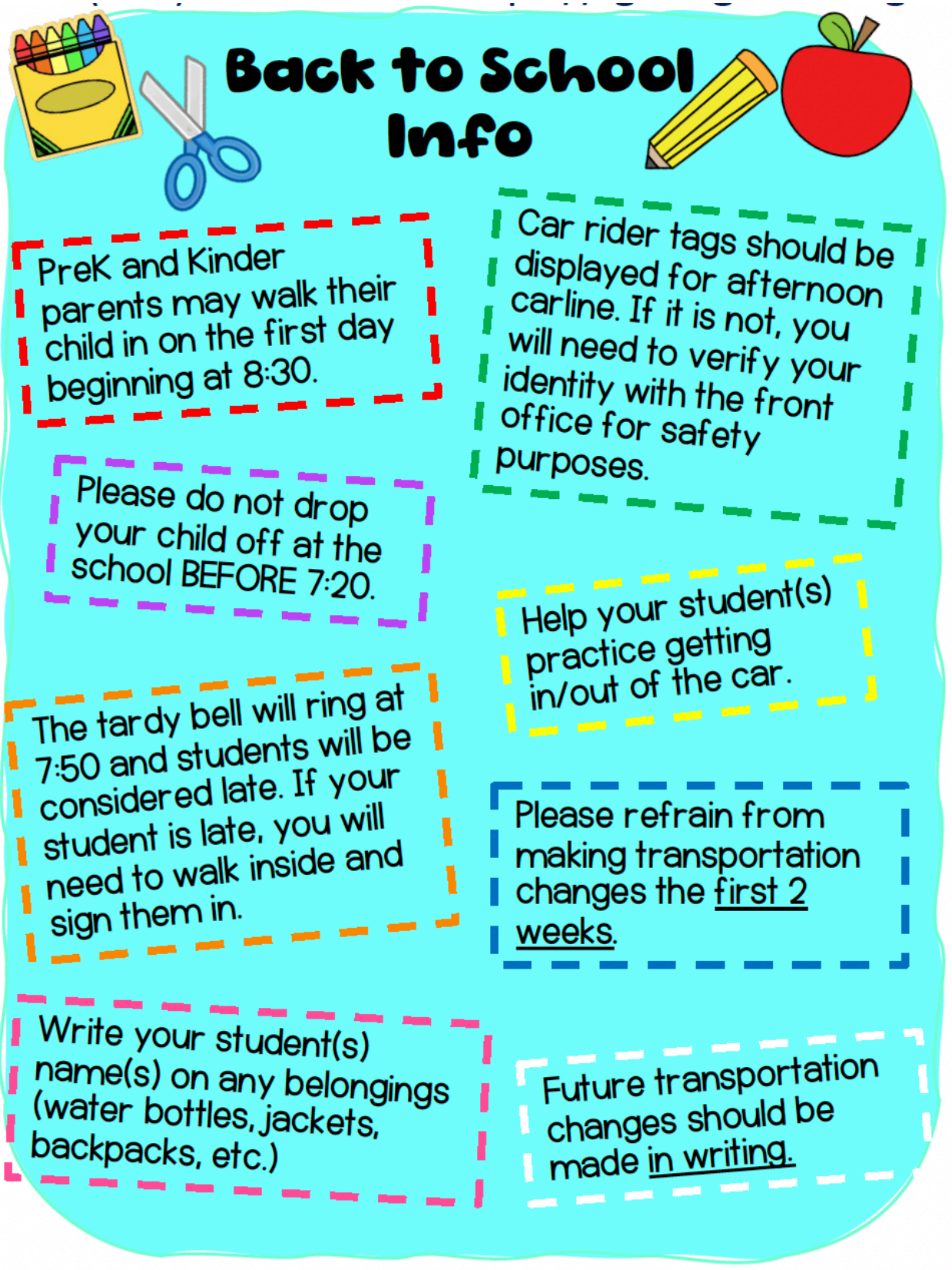








Info from GSES



Theatre Camp

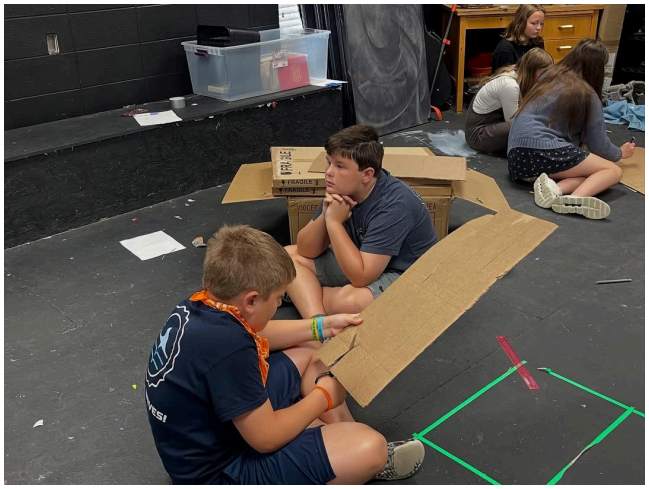
GSHS Theatre all had a wonderful time teaching the middle and elementary school students how to make props, cast, and act out scenes together!
We hope everyone can join us this year for all the amazing productions and events the Gulf Shores City Schools Arts Department plan to have!





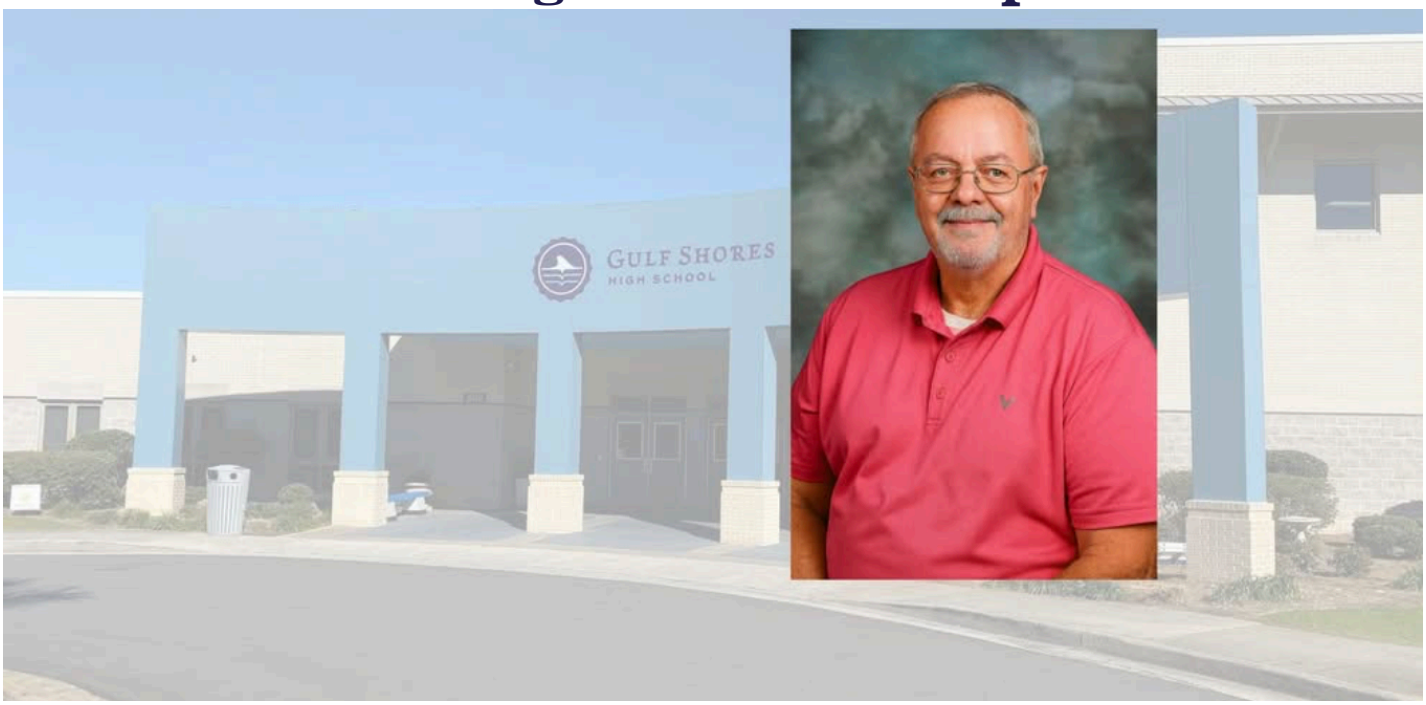








Congratulations Dr. Tim Webb
New High School Principal



Congratulations Jamie Hill
New Middle School Principal



New Central Office Annex

We are excited to share an update with the community about Gulf Shores City Schools' new Central Office Annex, which is on track to open for the upcoming school year.

The new annex will provide essential office space for key district-wide administrative departments, such as technology, special education, child nutrition, transportation, and mental health services. Additionally, the facility will function as a dedicated venue for Board of Education meetings and serve as a professional development center for teachers and staff.

To ensure safe access to school facilities, a portion of the existing bicycle and pedestrian trail will be realigned and separated from the driveway access to the new annex. Crews will begin work on the pedestrian pathway this week, and it is expected to be completed before the start of the school year. This new path will continue to be restricted to only pedestrians and bicyclists to allow safe travel between Dolphin Avenue and East 16th Avenue. Please refer to the provided map for details regarding path locations.



Info from GSMS Nurse

GULF SHORES
MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Note from Nurse Jill

If your child will need prescription or over-the-counter medication administered during the school day, Nurse Jill will be available to drop off medication and the prescription order form before school starts. Her availability will be Friday, August 1st, Tuesday August 5th and Wednesday, August 6th 8-3 pm at the GSMS front office. All over the counter medication requires an order from health care provider if remains at school for over two weeks. Questions? She can be contacted via email jmorgan@gsboe.org or call the school at 251-968-8719. Thank you.

GULF SHORES
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Important information! All incoming 6th graders are required to have an updated immunization record prior to starting school on August 7th. If they have not completed the required TDAP, they will not be eligible to pick up their schedule on July 24th. Please email Nurse Jill at jmorgan@gsboe.org with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

MAKE WAVES!



8/1 GSCS: Teacher PD/Work Day
8/4 GSCS: Institute Day All GSCS Employees
8/4 GSES: Pre-K Orientation 4:00-5:00
8/4 GSHS: Camp Dolphin 9th Grade 5:30-6:30
8/5 GSCS: Teacher PD/Work Day
8/5 GSHS: Senior Portraits
8/5 GSES: Meet The Teachers (Last Name L-H) 2:30-3:30
Meet The Teachers (Last Name I-P) 3:30-4:30
Meet The Teachers (Last Name Q-PZ) 4:30-5:30
8/5 GSHS: Senior Parent Meeting 5:30-6:30
8/6 GSCS: Teacher PD/Work Day
8/6 GSHS: Senior Portraits
8/7 GSCS: First Day of School for Students
8/7 BOE: Work Session 4:00
8/12-13 GSMS: iReady Math/Reading Diagnostic
8/12 GSMS: Open House 5:00-7:00
8/13 GSHS: Wind Fundamental Camp 5:00-9:00
8/14 GSMS: IXL Sci/SS Diagnostic
8/14 BOE: Regular Board Meeting 5:00
8/15 GSMS: Back2School Dance 5:00-7:00
8/21 GSES: Spirit Night (Tacky Jacks)
8/21 GSMS: FB Jamboree @ Baker
8/22 GSHS: V Football @ Choctawhatchee 7:00
8/28 GSMS: Fall Pep Rally
8/28 GSES: Money due for Pizza Day $2.00
8/28 GSMS: Football @ Semmes MS 6:00
8/29 GSES: Pizza Day
8/29 GSHS: V Football vs MGM 7:00

Enjoy these new GSCS commercials!

We Believe…

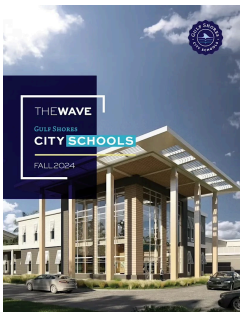
What If…

GSCS Board Meeting Round Up: Too busy to attend school board meetings, but still wanna know more? Check out the episodes of **"Board Shorts"** to stay up-to-date.

Happening at GSCS:

District
Elementary School
Middle School
High School
Virtual Academy

Gulf Shores City Schools has a new magazine - The Wave! Extra copies are available in school offices, most city offices, the visitors center, and the Chamber of Commerce! Please pick up a copy!



Gulf Shores City Schools have a new GSCS Mobile App! Available in IOS and Android Stores, the GSCS mobile app will give you immediate information! Download yours today!

Connect With Us:

Matt Akin - Superintendent
Stephanie Harrison - Assistant Superintendent
Sandi Harris - Office Manager
Chad Green - CSFO
Marcelina Speller - Human Resource Coordinator
Chezley Neth - Data Management & Reporting Analyst
Jason Watts - Athletic Director
Joey Drews - Director of Educational Technology & Student Support Services
Beau Roode - Director of Operations
Sonya Price - Director of Exceptional Education
Carrie Barragan - English Second Language
Tanya Hill - Child Nutrition Program Coordinator
Randall Carlisle- Student Engagement, Transportation and Safety Coordinator
Jessica Sampley - Career Tech Coordinator
Karen Pearson - District Testing Coordinator
Laura Goulden- Mental Health Coordinator

MAKE WAVES!

Do you have a suggestion or comment you would like to share with us?

Connect with GSCS

Joe McAleer-Social Media