

George Jenkins

Volume XXV
Issue 4
"A Five Star School"
★★★★★
February
2023

For The Parents, Students, Staff And Community of George Jenkins High School

Principal's Message

Our Mission...each student is Prompt, Polite and Prepared.

Our Vision...each student will graduate with the skills necessary to be successful in college or in a career.

Dear parents,

As we continue to progress through this school year, I am proud of the accomplishments and sense of urgency on our campus. We have our days of laughing, caring, crying, sharing, and working together. These moments create our culture of everyone pulling together to make sure each student is receiving the best instruction each day. **As we enter the testing season, I need you to keep encouraging your child to do their very best on every test they take the remainder of the school year and to be present the day of testing.** The results of their scores do have an impact on what courses they can take next year and keeping them on track to graduate on time. Your encouragement is greatly appreciated by all of us.

Everyone has read about the different scenarios about the federal and the state legislature appropriating money or not for personnel and programs. Once the budget is finalized, then our District makes decisions with the funds that are allocated to us. We may have to reduce in some areas and tighten our belt in others. I appreciate your patience as we work through this process as it relates to student scheduling.

Although this school year has presented its challenges, I am very proud of how the staff, students and community of George Jenkins High School has adjusted. We continue to excel in all academic, athletic, and co-curricular areas at both the district and state levels. Our students have been involved in various school and community projects that have benefited those in need of assistance. The continued success in all areas of academics, athletics, student performances and club activities are the reasons parents want their child at GJHS. My administrators, staff, students and parents have been very helpful in sharing information that I have needed to make decisions, which affect our school.

It is important that you know and understand what is going on at our school. I urge you to become involved at GJHS...be a volunteer, be a substitute teacher, or be a mentor. Maybe you would like to work with one of the many clubs or sports teams, some place or someone is waiting for you, take an active part in George Jenkins High School. You can also stay up to date with activities and accolades on our website, Facebook, and Twitter. I would also like to encourage you to think about joining our Academic Booster Club. Our strongest parent organization that supports many things we do on campus throughout the year.

Our mission is each student is Prompt, Polite and Prepared...with a vision that each student will graduate with the skills necessary to be successful in college or in a career.

Keep Soaring Eagles!

Tom Patton
Principal

School Contact Information

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(863) 648-3018

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Assistant Principal

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Assistant Principal

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Carmen Bonilla
Dean of Students

Gavin Osborn
Dean of Students

<http://georgejenkinshs.com/>

George Jenkins High School Newsletter
February 2023 • Issue #4
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George Jenkins High School
6000 Lakeland Highlands Road
Lakeland, Florida 33813

Polk County Schools Mission Statement

"The mission of Polk County Public Schools is to ensure rigorous, relevant learning experiences for our students that result in high achievement."

Spring 2023 Assessment Information

In order to receive a high school diploma in Florida, students must achieve academic requirements, which include passing state assessments, specifically one for English Language Arts and one for Algebra 1. The FSA ELA Retakes (11th & 12th graders) has a one-day Writing section and a Reading section, which is divided over two days. The FSA Algebra EOC is also divided over a two-day period.

Adopted this year, The FAST Progress Monitoring (must pass 10th grade assessment for graduation requirement) is administered 3 times a year for 9th and 10th grade students. It is a one-day test. The third (PM3) is the end of year assessment that counts for the passing score to meet graduation requirements. PM 1 & PM2 are administered to give students/teachers data on the projected student performance for PM3.

B.E.S.T. Alg 1 EOC has been adopted to replace the FSA Alg. 1. For those who took Alg. 1 and participated in the FSA Alg. 1 EOC previously and did not meet graduation requirement are considered Alg. 1 FSA retakers and will be administered the FSA Alg. 1 within the retake window below.

In addition to these assessments, students are also required to participate in End of Course Exams when enrolled in the following courses: Geometry, Biology, and US History. All EOCs (even the B.E.S.T. Alg 1) will count as 30% of the entire course grade – which could possibly affect the first semester grade.

Dates below **are tentative** for Spring Assessments (at the time this newsletter was in the process of publishing, Testing Schedules were awaiting approval). Other than the ACT School Day for Seniors – ALL tests are taken on the student's school issued device. **Please** remember your devices daily, keep your devices charged and bring the chargers with you daily.

*****PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THESE DATES; MAKE-UPS ARE NEVER GUARANTEED!**

February 21: FSA ELA **Writing Retake** for juniors and seniors who have not met this graduation requirement

February 22 and 23: FSA **Algebra EOC Retake** for students who completed the course but have not met this graduation requirement.

March 1 and 2: FSA ELA **Reading Retake** for juniors and seniors who have not met this graduation requirement.

(You must have completed the Writing session in order to sit for the Reading sessions)

March 28: ACT School Day (non-college reportable/triple time) English section for seniors who have not met the FSA ELA graduation requirement.

March 29: ACT School Day (non-college reportable/triple time) Math section for seniors who have not met the FSA ELA and Alg. EOC graduation requirement.

March 30: ACT School Day (non-college reportable/triple time) Reading section for seniors who have not met the FSA ELA graduation requirement.

April 6: Writing Field test for 10th grade students.

April 18: ACT School Day (college reportable – standard time) Students will complete all sections of the test on this day. **ALL** juniors will be scheduled for this test. This test is taken online on student's school issued devices in a testing room environment.

May 1 and 2: FAST PM3 for all 9th and 10th graders (one grade one day, one the other)

May 3 and 4: B.E.S.T. Algebra and Geometry EOC for all students enrolled in these courses (one subject one day, one the other)

May 9: Biology EOC for all students enrolled in Biology.

May 10/11: Florida Civic Literacy Exam (FCLE) for all students taking US Government, including honors and AP/ US History EOC for all students enrolled in this course (includes those enrolled in AP US History) (FCLE one day, US History the other)

Advanced Placement (AP) exams will be given May 1nd – May 12th. Please check with your teacher and the CollegeBoard website www.collegeboard.org.

If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available. Please see links below.

Students taking the Algebra or Geometry EOC should practice using the online calculator and the equation editor. Handheld calculators **WILL NOT** be allowed for these EOCs. This information can be found in the FSA Portal <https://ffast.org/families.html> (FAST) when you scroll down on page you will see the link for B.E.S.T. resources as well.

<https://fsassessments.org/resources/subject-specific/fsa-scientific-calculator>

<https://fsassessments.org/resources/subject-specific/equation-editor-item-tutorial>



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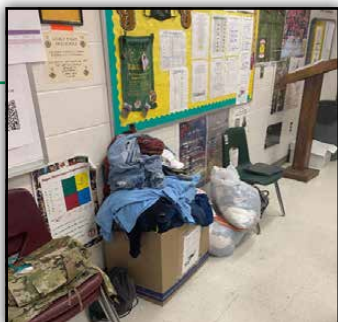
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thoughtfulcounseling.com





JROTC

JROTC Cadets collaborate with George's Closet to help less fortunate students.



George's Closet

The benefits of working in George's Closet are the ability to earn service hours, learn teamwork and collaborative skills, as well as becoming an active member of the community. Service hours are important for scholarships, college applications, and standing out against the rest of the student body. With the ability to work half an hour each morning in room 2115, earning hours is a breeze, especially when volunteering for drives. Throughout the year, we will hold drives for items we need. Our February drive emphasizes the need for prom attire and dressier clothing. The drive will run from February 6th to February 17th. All donations may go directly to room 2115 or designated classrooms. If you have any questions, reach out to Mr. Lee Robinson or Mrs. Crosby. (863) 648-3566.



Art Department



Artwork by:
Arioney Nucci



Artwork by:
Cassidy Baber



Artwork by:
Gracie Goodman

Congratulations to GJ's art students whose work will be shown at the District High School 9-12 Exhibition; Transcendence, at the Polk Museum of Art!

Gracie Goodman
Brooke Butler
Alexandra Frabota
Cassidy Baber

Jaden Woehlke
Savannah Covington
Jacob Adams
Andrea Arocho Cruz

Melanie Acevedo
Maggie Morris
Arioney Nucci
Lili Rees

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News from Student Services

Our elective course registration for the 2023-2024 school year starts on Tuesday, February 21st. The main academic courses (English, Math, Science, Social Studies) follow a District Progression Plan for each subject area which is based on current course, course grades, and testing data in that subject area. Students will be choosing their elective courses using a google document online registration form. This form will open on Tuesday, February 21st, and close on Monday, February 27th. Students will have an opportunity to complete the form at school or may choose to complete it at home with their parents. Once submitted, the student will receive an email confirmation with their chosen courses. Students are encouraged to review course choices with their

parent prior to making selections but will be able to resubmit their requests through Monday, February 27th. Counselors will be available in the Food Court during all lunches for students to ask questions and gain advice on selecting elective courses. All students must submit an elective registration form or their elective courses will be chosen for them.

In May, students will be able to see all their courses that will be scheduled for the 2023-2024 school year on their Student Portal. Students will receive an email with directions on how to view these courses with a link to request any course changes. Any course change requests must be submitted to prior to the end of the school year. Over summer, counselors will turn course requests into schedules. Final schedules will be distributed at orientation. Please remember, we do not have the flexibility to honor course change requests once schedules are complete. Requests for course changes must be submitted prior to summer break.

How to Choose Electives: Elective courses should align with post-secondary goals. Students wishing to attend a four-year university after high school should have academic rigor that includes additional AP, academic, and foreign languages

courses. Even though foreign language is not required for graduation, two years of the same foreign language is required for admission to a four-year university and the Bright Futures scholarships. Additional academic courses include foreign language, science, AP, and social studies courses such as Psychology, Sociology, and Creative Writing. Universities require a minimum of 18 academic courses for admissions, which would be 4-5 academic courses per year. Colleges that are more competitive want 5-6 academic courses per year. More information on State University System requirements can be found at www.floridashines.org or on each university's website under admissions. Dual Enrollment opportunities allow students to earn college credit while still in high school and offer additional opportunities at academic rigor, especially for students interested in the state college's 2+2 option. More information on dual enrollment can be found on our website under Student Services, and another dual enrollment information meeting will be held in April. Our Career Academies give students experiences and exposure to different career fields. Most offer industry certifications that prepare students for direct entry into the workforce. Students should

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use these courses to explore career options, build their work resume, make connections with professionals in these industries, and/or prepare for further education in that field of study. For a complete list of courses along with the course descriptions, please refer to the registration page on our website at www.georgejenkinshs.com.

Juniors: Counselors plan to meet with juniors individually in April to review graduation status, post-secondary plans, and other important information. Students will review their requested courses for next year and make changes as necessary. Do not forget about the ACT School day this spring! These ACT scores can be used for college admissions and qualifying for Bright Futures.

Seniors: It is now the final semester of your high school careers. Avoid 'senioritis'! Grades, attendance, and behavior continue to be of high importance. Remember, colleges may rescind acceptance based on semester schedule changes and/or final grades. All courses taken on FLVS/PVS must be completed by **May 12th** to count for graduation and be included on the high school transcripts. Community Service hours are due **April 3rd**. Be sure to stay up to date on the latest graduation ceremony information by visiting

our GJ webpage at www.georgejenkinshs.com under 'announcements' on the front page and 'Class of 2023 Senior Information'.

FAFSA (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*) is a crucial component in paying for college. Students who plan on pursuing postsecondary education, whether it be at a university, community college or technical school, should complete a FAFSA. Once the FAFSA is complete, students can work with the financial aid office of the school they are planning to attend to find out their 'cost of attendance' and other financial aid opportunities. The official website is studentaid.gov. *There is no charge to complete the FAFSA. If the site requests any form of payment, it is the wrong site!!*

Bright Futures Scholarships:

The Florida Academic Scholars, Florida Medallion Scholars, Gold Seal Vocational Scholars require specific coursework, minimum GPA, minimum SAT or ACT scores, and community service hours. Students have until the June test dates of their senior year to achieve the required scores. The Florida Financial Aid Application must be completed prior to graduation at www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org. Please see this website for more information.

Type	16 High School Course Credits ¹	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT [®] /SAT [®])	Volunteer Service*	Paid Work Hours*
FAS	4 - English <i>(three must include substantial writing)</i>	3.50	2022-23 Graduates: 29/1330	100 hours	100 hours
	4 - Mathematics <i>(at or above the Algebra I level)</i>		2023-24 Graduates: 29/1340		
	3 - Natural Science <i>(two must have substantial laboratory)</i>				
FMS	3 - Social Science	3.00	2022-23 Graduates: 25/1210	75 hours	100 hours
	2 - World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>		2023-24 Graduates: 25/1210		

NEHS

You Are Cordially Invited To Attend

The 4th Annual National English Honor Society Awards & Induction Ceremony

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Thursday, March 30, 2023
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What Do You Want To Do When You Grow Up?

If the average person changes careers 6-7 times in their lifetime, wouldn't it be wise to do some research before choosing a career that's supposed to last a lifetime? The most common reasons for changing a career are disillusionment of the job and not utilizing a person's strengths. With technology changing our work force at lightning speed, it's more important than ever for high school students to research careers that will align with their interests and strengths.



Two beneficial resources available to Florida high school students are Bigfuture by the College Board and the Kuder Navigator through Floridashines at MyCareerShines.org.

At bigfuture.collegeboard.org, students can choose topics in which they are interested, then combine these interests to get career ideas. These career ideas can lead to possible college majors. A plethora of information is available for students to learn more about what careers are out there and how to make career choices.

At MyCareerShines can use the Kuder Navigator to complete career assessments and explore careers in areas which their interests, skills, and work values align. Floridashines explains this new tool as follows:

MyCareerShines Kuder Navigator® is an online planning tool made just for students in high school. It gives you everything you need to start planning for your future. You can:

- Assess your interests and skills to connect with careers that are just right for you,
- Explore the extensive catalog of careers to find exciting job opportunities in the dynamic 21st century economy,
- Get information about colleges and financial aid to turn your plan into reality, and
- Create a resume that gets you in the door and moves you up the ladder of success.



Campus Safety

Morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up are very busy times on campus. For the safety of all students and staff, **please use the appropriate routes on to and off campus.** Students and parents should **not be using the Faculty Lot for drop-off or parking.** Walkers should use the front gate or **pedestrian gate on Peterson Rd** to enter campus.

The **gates to campus are locked** promptly at **7 AM daily.** Any student arriving after 7am will be required to check in through the Main Office. All visitors to campus must, as always, request access through the Main Office.

Please discuss with your student the importance of maintaining a secure campus. Students have been instructed not to open gates for anyone during the school day and **never to "prop open" security gates** for any reason.

Thank you for your help in keeping our students and staff safe!

Knowledge is Power!

Use these resources:

- www.floridashines.org
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.actstudent.org
- www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org
- www.fastweb.com
- bigfuture.collegeboard.org

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Football

January ushers in the kick off Football's spring season as the Eagles football team begins weightlifting and training. We are excited, as this short important season gets underway. During this time, the team concentrates on conditioning and fundamentals with our up and coming Juniors becoming new leaders of our team in preparation for the fall. We have over 10 Juniors returning to lead our 2023 Fall Team and are excited to see their leadership develop.

On May 1st, we look forward to the FHSAA allowing official spring practice to begin. Daily practice, Monday through Thursday, commences at GJ where players learn positions and run plays in preparation for the spring game. Emphasis is placed on precision, consistency and sportsmanship. In May, the team will have a green and gold scrimmage in preparation for the annual spring game on May 18th at Celebration High School. Be sure to come out and support your Eagles.

To continue to build the sports programs, on February 9th all incoming freshmen will be invited to "Eaglefest" at GJHS to learn about what sports are offered. Football information will be prominently displayed to inform and recruit new players. Our Eagle Booster Club will be present to explain their volunteer program and answer questions.

Make sure to follow all of our social media for up to date information on the Eagles. Please contact the Eagles Booster Club @ gjfbboosterclub@gmail.com or visit us

- **website** : www.georgejenkinsfootball.org
- **Insta**: [georgejenkins_football](https://www.instagram.com/georgejenkins_football)
- **Facebook**: George Jenkins Football

August cannot come soon enough! Cannot wait to see you all at Veterans Stadium under the Friday night lights! We look forward to the 2023 season. Go Eagles, Soar High!

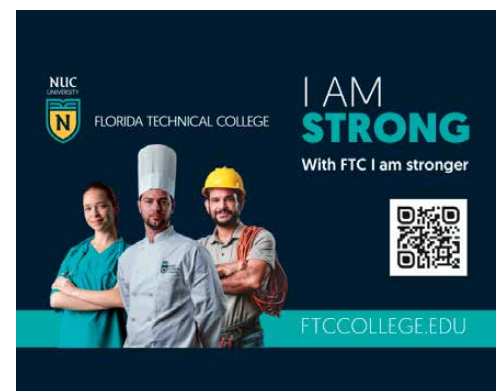
~ Eagles 2023 Football Team



ABC

It is hard to believe that the school year is already half over. The ABC (Academic Booster Club) continues to be hard at work providing support, encouragement, and appreciation to the students and staff at George Jenkins throughout the school year. We will be sponsoring the 4.0 breakfast sometime in February. Keep an eye out for that date. In addition, if you are a senior, you will soon be able to apply for one of two \$500 college scholarships through the Polk Education Fund. To qualify, you need to be an Academic Booster Club member (student or family membership). Information will be available on the Polk County Public Schools' website.

The ABC continues to meet on the second Tuesday of the month in the media center at 6:00pm. The monthly meetings are a great way to find out what is going on at GJHS - testing requirements, new school/district/state rules and policies, and so much more. It is never too late to join the ABC and we would love to have you.



"Be the change that you wish to see in the world"

Mahatmas Gandhi

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To Addressee or Current Resident

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Inside This Issue

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