



# George Jenkins

Volume XXIII  
Issue 1  
"A Five Star School"  
★★★★★  
November  
2019

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

## Principal's Message

### School Contact Information

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### Administration

Tom Patton  
Principal

Ladreda Akins  
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Dan Durham  
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<http://georgejenkinshs.com/>

George Jenkins High School Newsletter  
November 2019 • Issue #1  
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George Jenkins High School  
6000 Lakeland Highlands Road  
Lakeland, Florida 33813

As we near the holiday season and the end of the first semester of the school year 2019-2020 in December, our students must continue to work bell to bell and be on task. Teachers and students are busy preparing for exams and end of year testing. Teachers are working continuously to make sure all students are prepared to do their very best at all times. This is the time for our students to buckle down on studies for the upcoming assessments in all areas. Teachers are being constantly reminded to provide students with meaningful assignments and to give additional instruction where needed. We have tutoring available after school...just ask our guidance counselors for details. Students are using various computer labs to enhance learning in all subjects, as well as work on developing better reading comprehension, writing skills and computer test taking skills. Students are being reminded continuously of the importance of completing work and making wise choices in all areas of school activity both on and off campus. This is the time of year students let the holiday spirit take over a little too early. Help us in stressing the importance of being present, on time with assignments, completing assignments and making good choices. Please, remind your child "it's not over-till it's over." You see on our marquee and hear us say to students, be **prompt, polite and prepared**, this is our Mission.

I would like for everyone to take a few minutes to reflect on what you have accomplished up to this point in the school year. What could you have done differently to make a greater impact on yourself, your friends, your school and your community? The choices you make now can and will affect not only yourself, but also those around you. Every choice you make does come with a consequence. Some consequences are more readily seen or heard by others, but never the less, all have an impact. The ability to reflect on your choices and how you could have changed the response, if needed, is a valuable learning tool. You are not always the main person affected by your choice...it may be someone younger or older that you have influenced in a positive or negative way. **Please, make good choices both on and off campus.**

Parents and families of George Jenkins' students, I would like for you to make a special effort this holiday season to talk with your children about the following areas of concern I have for all adolescents:

- Maintaining positive relationships with peers, adults, authority figures and you the parent
- Establishing good habits in diet and nutrition; personal hygiene and physical exercise
- Getting enough rest and sleep to properly function during the school day
- Finding a balance involving school life and personal life
- Becoming a knowledgeable, responsible, nonviolent, caring citizen-contributing to community service or environmental projects, understanding how the government works and participating in it
- Dealing with love and loss
- Planning and preparing for career
- Earning and budgeting money
- Developing personal goals and interests, including hobbies, clubs and future education plans
- Meeting responsibilities and finding outlets for ideas and creativity
- Appreciating people of different races/cultures
- Encountering and nurturing one's spirituality

I know the list is long, but I believe that every one of the topics is important. I want you, the parent, to make it a point to discuss the topics at some point over the long holiday break with your child. Involvement in any of our many clubs, sports, and arts programs improves academic performance, attendance, and discipline issues. We have something for everyone. Participation in these activities enhances school life and looks good on career and college applications. Also, help your child plan and execute community service, which is a requirement for earning Bright Futures scholarship money.

If we all stress the importance of these topics, I am sure at some point it will become the norm, our **Mission that each student is Prompt, Polite and Prepared** to fulfill our **Vision that each student will graduate with the necessary skills to be successful in college or in a career.**

Just take a few minutes on each topic and see what your child's thoughts are concerning these areas. I believe a little discussion about these items can go a long way in developing a close relationship with your child. Spend your holiday time together. Show your children that you support them in all of their endeavors. Share your knowledge and expertise of your life experiences. We are all in this together, **REMEMBER, YOU ARE AN EDUCATOR TOO.**

**Thanks to all of you and our Business Partners for your continued support of GJHS**

Wishing you a healthy and happy Holiday Season!

Tom Patton, Principal

### 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."*

## GJ Counselor News

We've already completed the 1st quarter of the 2019-2020 school year! The 2nd quarter will end on December 20th. Students should be working hard to earn the best semester grades possible. Only semester grades are posted to student's academic records and included in their cumulative GPA. End of Course Exam (EOC's) will be given in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, and US History in May and will count as 30% of the course grade. Grades in these courses will be re-calculated with semester 1 grade (35%), semester 2 grade (35%), and the EOC grade (30%) for one final course grade at the end of the year.

Students should be taking advantage of assistance offered by teachers and Eagle to Eagle peer tutoring. All teachers are available in their classrooms after school on Wednesdays and Thursdays to help their students. Eagle to Eagle tutoring is available on Mondays and Tuesdays, 2:15-3:15, in room 19-210. Parents, be sure to take advantage of the information accessible through Parent Portal. Check student's grades, missing assignments, attendance, graduation progress and more. Parents can also email their student's teachers for the most efficient communication. When first setting up a Parent Portal account, parents must visit the front office or the Guidance Office for the activation PIN. Students can obtain their student portal login ID and password from any of their teachers.

Parent  
Portal

## Important Test Information

The Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) for Writing, Reading, Algebra and Geometry and the Pearson Assessments (NGSSS) for Biology and US History will be administered beginning April 1, 2020.

End of Course Exams (EOCs) in Algebra, Geometry, Biology and US History will count as 30% of the entire course grade. This means it will affect the first semester grade. Students who do not take their EOC will receive a Zero (0).

Students will have an opportunity to participate in a practice test to become familiar with the computer-based testing platform, item types, and response formats he or she will see on the FSA and Pearson assessments. Computer-based practice tests can be reviewed at home at the following links: <http://www.FSAssessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/> and <http://download.pearsonaccessnext.com/fl/fl-practicetest.html?links=true>.

### Testing Policies:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, Bluetooth devices (including headphones and earbuds) at any time during testing or during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them.** If a student is found with an electronic device, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculators**—For Algebra and Geometry EOC assessments – Approved hand held calculators are allowed only on Session two of the exam. Any student who is found with a hand held calculator during Session 1 will have their test invalidated. GJHS will provide hand held calculators for Session 2 of these EOCs. There is also an online calculator available. An example of this calculator can be found at <https://fsassessments.org/resources/eoc/>
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: "I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated." Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students states: "Because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, you may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items, passages, and prompts) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, or Instagram." Please understand that "discussing" test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If a student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment, illness), he or she **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If a student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If a student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL), the student will be provided the accommodations as stated in his/her plan.

Please review the test dates and May calendar on the next page. Make up test dates are not guaranteed as most students will be taking more than one test. FSA tests are two sessions over two days. **May 6, 7, 12, and 13 - Juniors and Seniors will be excused from school on these days only with prior parental written consent.**

*continued on next page*

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AP Exams will be administered at GJ. Students are excused from school the day they are taking an AP exam. The AP exam dates as well as the criteria for requesting a late test are set by College Board.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>MAY 2020</b>				<b>1</b> US History EOC (All students enrolled in US History and AP USH History)
<b>4</b> Biology EOC AP Govt a.m.	<b>5</b> AP Calc a.m. AP Human Geo p.m.	<b>6</b> FSA ELA Reading 9th and 10th grades (Jr/Sr OFF CAMPUS) AP Eng Lit a.m. AP Euro p.m.	<b>7</b> FSA ELA Reading 9th and 10th grades (Jr/Sr OFF CAMPUS) AP Chem a.m. AP Physics p.m.	<b>8</b> AP USH a.m. AP Art Hist p.m.
<b>11</b> AP Bio a.m. AP Env Sci p.m.	<b>12</b> FSA Algebra and Geometry EOC (Jr/Sr OFF CAMPUS) AP Spanish a.m. AP Seminar a.m. AP Psych p.m.	<b>13</b> FSA Algebra and Geometry EOC (Jr/Sr OFF CAMPUS) AP Eng Lang a.m. AP Micro p.m.	<b>14</b> AP World Hist a.m. AP Macro p.m.	<b>15</b> AP Stats p.m.
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>25</b> HOLIDAY	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	<b>29</b>

**OTHER IMPORTANT TEST DATES:**

- NOV 6: PERT for juniors and seniors who have not yet passed the Algebra EOC.
- NOV 20: ASVAB (must register between 11/4 and 11/8 in Guidance or JROTC Class)
- DEC 4 & 5: Algebra EOC Retake (two day test, must attend both sessions)
- FEB 5: PERT for juniors and seniors who have not yet passed the Algebra EOC.
- FEB 25 & 26: ACT School Day for juniors and seniors who have not met the ELA graduation requirement (two day test, must attend both sessions)
- FEB 27 & 28: Algebra EOC Retake (two day test, must attend both sessions)
- MAR 2: FSA ELA Writing Retake (must complete the Writing section in order to sit for Reading)
- MAR 4 & 5: FSA ELA Reading Retake (two day test, must attend both sessions. Only students who completed the Writing section will be scheduled)
- APR 1: FSA ELA Writing test – 10th grade (must complete Writing section in order to sit for Reading)
- APR 2: FSA ELA Writing test – 9th grade (must complete Writing section in order to sit for Reading)
- APR 22: PERT for juniors and seniors who have not yet passed the Algebra EOC.



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## Jenkin's Reach Higher Polk! College and Career Week

The Reach Higher initiative is a nationwide effort to inspire students to pursue education beyond high school. Our Reach Higher Polk! Week inspires to do the same in Polk County and took place November 18th – 22nd. This year, our GJ theme is 2020 Vision to your Future inspiring students to think about their life after high school.

This 2020 Vision to your Future week focused on exploring careers and their education pathways including college, technical school, and military. ENN showcased videos each day. Roundtables during lunches provided students with opportunities to talk with college, technical, and military representatives along with financial information and future employment opportunities including Publix and Career Source Polk. The goal is to help students make more informed decisions about the post-secondary options. Graduates take one of five pathways after high school: 4 year college/university, 2+2 State College System, technical college, military, or full time employment.

**State Universities:** State Universities have a competitive selection process. To be eligible for admissions to a state university, a student must meet these requirements:

- Earn a standard high school diploma with a minimum of 18 core academic courses which are:
  - 4 English
  - 4 math (Alg I & higher)
  - 3 natural science
  - 3 social studies
  - 2 in the same foreign language
  - 2 academic electives
- Earn scores in reading, math and writing on one of two nationally-recognized college entrance exams: SAT or ACT.  
SAT – collegeboard.org  
ACT – actstudent.org

Admissions is based on the university calculated weighted GPA (academic core courses only), admission test scores, and course selection. The more competitive universities, such as UF, FSU, UCF, and USF, are looking for students with 21 or more academic courses and a rigorous course selection. Students seeking university admissions are advised to take additional academic courses such as Psychology, Sociology, Advanced Placement, higher level sciences, and the 3rd and 4th years of foreign language.

Students are encouraged to use FloridaShines @ [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org) when exploring post-secondary education plans. The State University System of Florida and the Florida College System includes 12 public universities and 28 public state colleges with hundreds of campus locations. At [floridashines.org](http://floridashines.org), students can search these colleges for degrees, majors, locations, tuition, size, admission requirements, and more.

**State Colleges & Florida's 2+2 System:** State colleges have an "open door" admissions process. To be eligible for admission to a state college, a student must earn a standard high school diploma (or equivalent). Florida is nationally-recognized for its highly effective articulation between these state colleges and universities. For instance, in Florida's 2+2 System, students:

- Can complete the two-year Associate in Arts (AA) degree at a Florida College System institution.
- Are guaranteed admission with an AA to at least one of the SUS or baccalaureate-granting Florida College System institutions.
- Do not need to complete any additional general education requirements to complete the baccalaureate degree.

Florida is strengthening this 2+2 articulation agreement. Universities have partnered with their state colleges to provide direct pathways with specific course work that leads into their university programs. These programs include Direct Connect to UCF and FUSE at University of South Florida.

**Technical College:** With the high costs of college and the majority of jobs NOT requiring a 4 year degree, the smartest choice may be less college. However, some post-secondary education will push students into the higher paying jobs that are in high demand. The Florida College System which includes Polk State College offers Associate of Science (2 yr. degrees), Certification Programs and Technical Diplomas in many of the fastest growing career fields. For more information, visit [polk.edu](http://polk.edu) or [www.floridacollegesystem.com/info](http://www.floridacollegesystem.com/info). Other options are career & technical colleges which include our local Triviss Technical College and Ridge Technical College. These programs include career training in Fire Fighting, Automotive Repair & Service Technology, Construction, Dental Assisting, Electricity, and even some medical programs including Medical Coding, Practical Nursing, and Phlebotomy.

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**Military options:** Through many different branches of the military, there are a huge variety of career options available to high school graduates. Each branch has different requirements for age, physical condition, and education. With five branches including Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard, there are full time and part time options. The first step is meeting with a recruiter. This recruiter contact can often be made on our campus during lunches or through our ROTC program. Interested student will also need to take the ASVAB. This is a multiple-aptitude test that measures abilities across several subject areas. Minimum scores are required to be eligible for enlistment in different military branches or for certain jobs within the service. The ASVAB is administered at GJHS every November. For more information go to [www.todaysmilitary.com](http://www.todaysmilitary.com).

**Full time employment:** While post-secondary education is recommended and needed for higher paying jobs, there are still many careers that offer dependable pay, job growth, and retirement options while only requiring a high school diploma. These jobs often require on the job training, apprenticeships, or state licensure. Some students pursue full time employment to gain life experience, explore career options, or start saving to pay for college. Mrs. VanCamp, our Success Coach, often works with these students to expose them opportunities like our Publix job fair and Polk State College's Earn & Learn program.

#### Money for College

Colleges have been researched, applications carefully completed, and the wait for acceptance notifications has begun. So while waiting...let's talk money! FloridaShines refers to "financial aid" as money provided by a third party to help students meet the costs of attending college. With most colleges and universities, the financial aid process begins with completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

Four types of financial aid are scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study.

- **Scholarships** are free money that does not have to be paid back. They come from a variety of sources including federal, state, institution, companies, and individuals. This money can be awarded based on academic achievement, financial need, athletics, programs of study, or other background factors. Each scholarship sets its own criteria and application process. Information on Florida scholarships, including the Bright Futures Scholarship, can be found at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org).
- **Grants** are also free money that does not have to be paid back. They are usually awarded based on financial need, college cost of attendance, and/or enrollment status.
- **Loans** are money that is borrowed and must be paid back. Student loan programs offer long term, low interest education loans which generally do not have to be paid back until they graduate. Loans should be used as a last resort but can be used as an affordable way to finance education. Federal loans require the completion of the FAFSA.
- **Work-study** is when the student works to pay for their education. This employment can be for the school or community business. Some work study positions are obtained after completing the FAFSA and working with the financial aid office at their college.

**Remember... Never pay for a scholarship!!!** Beware of scams! Never pay for a scholarship search service and never give out your social security number. When you win a scholarship, the provider will ask for your social security number, as this is required by the IRS for tax reporting purposes. Educate yourself at [www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams](http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams).

#### Bright Futures and Financial Aid Night

Jenkins's Financial Aid night was a huge success!! We served over 400 students and parents who came to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with special help from Financial Aid Advisors from Polk State, Florida Polytechnic University, Florida Southern College, Southeastern University, and Keiser University (Lakeland Campus). Seniors, if you missed this opportunity to get help completing your FAFSA, the application can be found at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov). There are several very informative YouTube videos that take this application step by step. This FAFSA is the first step in the financial aid process. Most university priority financial aid deadlines are in the fall which means the FAFSA must be completed by then, and even with local state colleges, the earlier the better. Over \$24 billion of financial aid goes unclaimed each year, so seniors, don't miss this opportunity to find money for college. And juniors, make sure you mark your calendars for October of next year!



**Florida Bright Futures information for the Class of 2020:** Applications opened October 1st. Counselors met with seniors during financial aid night and in Government and Economics courses to assist students in completing the Florida Financial Aid Application. Students who missed this opportunity are encouraged to complete their application at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org). The application requires students to enter correct names, social security numbers, and birth dates. This information MUST match what GJHS has in our system in order for the application to be processed.

All students can check their Bright Futures status by logging into their FloridaShines account. On [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org) under 'Pay for College' and Bright Futures, click 'Check now'. Students use their Social Security number plus an 'X' (### # ##x) or their student ID (5300#####) to access their academic history. FloridaShines information is reliable, secure, and free for Florida students. For more information, please visit [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org). Residency in the State of Florida is mandatory for this scholarship and must be used in the State of Florida.

#### PSAT

For sophomores and juniors who took the PSAT/NMSQT, score reports will be emailed to students in December. Students should use the email link to access their PSAT score reports and connect to Khan Academy for individualized test preparation. The PSAT score report will show projected SAT scores. Each question can be reviewed, see the correct and incorrect answer, and view explanations of the correct answers. By setting up an account on Khan Academy and connecting it to the College Board PSAT account, students will get personalized practice for the SAT with hundreds of practice questions. Go to [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) for more information.

*"In a way, you've already won in this world because you're the only one who can be you."*

*Fred Rogers*

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## FFA

The George Jenkins FFA Chapter has been hard at work since the beginning of the school year. To kick off our 2019-2020 year here at Jenkins, the GJ FFA Chapter hosted a Tailgate at Key Club Park which brought out many students, staff, and families to come and celebrate the start of a new year.

On September 13th, GJ FFA hosted a Rib Sale to support our very own State Champion Ag Mechanics team on their journey to National Convention. Students who presold 10+ rib tickets automatically paid for their yearly FFA membership dues and this brought a huge success. Another fundraiser that we hosted was a spirit night at Pelican's SnoBall's, where all proceeds were donated to our Area IV State FFA Vice President, Madison Dvorak to assist in her expenses for the International Leadership Seminar for State Officers trip to Spain and Portugal in January 2020. On October 15th, members and families from GJ showed up to support our Vice President and her endeavors as a Florida FFA State Officer this year and fellowship with one another.

Our members have already been participating in numerous leadership and career building conferences. Some of these include the FNGLA Tradeshow and Chapter Officer Leadership Training in September, as well as Chapter Presidents Conference and Swine Showmanship Clinic in October. These events have taught our members many new techniques and leadership skills along with assistance in career goals.

George Jenkins FFA has succeeded in many Career and Leadership Development Events (CDEs and LDEs) since the start of the school year. The first LDE that took place was the County Opening and Closing Competition where Chapter Officers in Polk County conduct the opening and closing sections of a meeting in front of three judges. The Officers who competed include Mady Keim, Olivia Centanni, Kristin Steller, Ally Keim, Gracie Smith, Jake Smith, and Kyle Adrian. George Jenkins FFA was represented well and took home the 1st place trophy on September 26th. Next, was the District Forestry Competition where a team of 4 GJ FFA members not only earned 1st place but took home 11 out of 18 ribbons out of the entire contest. Those members include Ally Keim, Madison Carlton, Cheyanne LaBarr, Benjamin Williams, and alternate Chloe Lynn. These students will be moving on and representing District 8 at the 2019 State Forestry Contest in November where they will be judged on their ability to identify trees, pests/diseases, tools, evaluate maps, and timber cruise forests. The most recent Leadership Development Event was the County Creed Competition on October 22nd, where our very own Chloe Lynn and Sydney Wingate competed against 7th, 8th, and 9th graders in presenting and answering questions on The FFA Creed. Chloe placed 2nd in county and will go on to represent GJ FFA at the Sub-District Contest in December. Our chapter will be competing in numerous upcoming competitions and are thankful for the support of George Jenkins' staff and students as we represent them across the state.

Lastly are our upcoming events for the GJ FFA Chapter. The 2019 National FFA Convention will take place from October 29th – November 2nd in Indianapolis, Indiana and 13 of our members will be taking part in the many opportunities offered at the convention. Our State Champion Ag Mechanics team consisting of Kyle Adrian, Jake Smith, Ronald Abney, and Logan Hancock will be representing Florida as they compete for the title of National Ag Mechanics Champions. For all members there will be a workshop on November 12th where we will be making items as a chapter to enter the Stuart Center (Family and Consumer Sciences Division) at the Youth Fair in January. Ag Literacy day is also coming up, if you are interested in advocating for agriculture through reading agriculture-based books to elementary students see Gracie Smith and sign up on the sheet on the officer room door, the date is to be announced. The annual collection for thanksgiving baskets will be throughout the month of November to help provide less fortunate families with a meal for Thanksgiving. For all members who are showing in a fair this year, there will be a record book/buyer letter workshop on November 22nd to assist you with any questions you may have. The last of the events for November is the annual Pie and Cake auction on November 19th, this is open to all people willing to support the GJ FFA Chapter. We encourage each member to bring in at least one baked good to auction off. Thank you for your continued support and interest in the many endeavors of the George Jenkins FFA Chapter.



*Chapter Presidents Conference participants from Left to right Kyle Adrian, Mady Keim, and Ally Keim.*



*Opening and Closing Ceremonies from Left to right Hannah Turcios, Jake Smith, Gracie Smith, Kyle Adrian, Ally Keim, Mady Keim, Kristin Steller, and Cassidy Jackson*



*State Champion Ag Mechanics Team from left to right, Mr. Carlton (advisor), Kyle Adrian, Jake Smith, Ronald Abney, and Logan Hancock.*



*Swine showmanship clinic on October 11th where members came out and listened to the tips and tricks instructed by Morgan Odum and Shelby Carlton.*

*No Appointment Needed*  
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## George Jenkins High School Establishes National English Honor Society Chapter

We welcome the National English Honor Society to our GJHS campus!

A reputable nationwide organization, the NEHS exists for those who have not only exceeded expectations in English class, but those who also demonstrate a love for competitions, learning, literature and writing. Opportunities for local, state and national scholarships are available for active members of the NEHS.

Our GJHS NEHS Chapter is now open to all students maintaining a 3.0 GPA or higher overall, holding a 3.0 GPA or higher overall in English class, and submitting their Parent Permission Forms and Teacher Recommendations. Once selected, NEHS Inductees are asked to contribute \$20 as Chapter Dues and attend meetings on designated Thursday mornings (6:20 AM) or afternoons (2:05 PM). More information about the requirements for joining the

GJHS NEHS may be secured from our GJHS English teachers.

The GJHS NEHS Chapter is both academic and service oriented. Our September service project included honoring our Media Specialist, Mrs. Nikki Iatarola, with a gift basket of encouraging notes and gift cards; she is valuable to all of us, and we extend our best wishes to her. We also began assisting and tutoring students with their English assignments and started collecting \$20 Chapter Dues.

Our October service project included serving a *Spooktacular Faculty Breakfast* on October 31 complete with Dunkin Donuts, chocolate chip and pumpkin pancakes, bacon and an array of beverages and fruits. We are donating two Thanksgiving Baskets in November, assisting with Wreaths Across America and serving the South Lakeland community in December. The Spring Semester is sure to be exciting with our Induction Ceremony, service projects, *Spoken Word Showcase* on April 17, and other accolades.

Join today and be part of the first National English Honor Society Chapter in Polk County. For more information regarding the organization, visit with any of our NEHS Advisors – Mrs. Barr (3216), Mrs. Mooney (3214) or Mrs. Peterson (3218).

### 2019-20 George Jenkins High School National English Honor Society Chapter Officers

President  
Vice President Activities/Meetings  
Vice President Community Service  
Vice President Marketing /Recruitment  
Corresponding Secretary  
Recording Secretary  
Treasurer  
Historian  
Parliamentarian  
Advisors

Kelcey Langham  
Ashlyn Baumann  
Melissa Norman  
Rachel Borgen  
Carolyn Carey  
Maleik Alterno  
Logan Birket  
Chloe Daigle  
Yanah Boss  
Michele Barr, Shannon Mooney, Briann Peterson



## GJHS Competition BBQ Team

The GJHS COMPETITION BBQ TEAM is off and cooking as the students are already experiencing successes on the smokers and grills. On a recent weekend, the team practiced competition ribs where they learned the process of injecting, seasoning, slow smoking, and saucing ribs at a competition-level excellence; each student carried a full rack of ribs home to practice cook for their family and friends. The team members also met in the GJ culinary classroom where they studied and learned about regional BBQ sauces, and then made a competition style BBQ sauce that they also carried home for their home practice cooks. Each of the team members have earned their kitchen and food safety certifications, and are progressing toward upcoming competitions and catering their own events.

The BBQ team would like to thank the following local businesses for their incredible support of the growing program: WhiskeyBent BBQ Supply, The Old South Country Market, Lakeland Image Depot, and Ovation Bistro. These students could not learn these cooking and life-long skills without their partnership with financial and product donations. Please consider visiting these businesses and thank them for supporting the students of George Jenkins High School!

If you or your business would like to become a partner with this exciting and innovative group of students or if you have any questions, please contact Matt Townley ([matt.townley@polk-fl.net](mailto:matt.townley@polk-fl.net)). We look forward to seeing everyone at 2020 Pigfest in January!

## FAFSA Night

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## Performing Arts

Wonderful things are happening within the George Jenkins Performing Arts Department. First, welcome Mr. Branigan Lawrence! Mr. Lawrence took over as Director of GJPA at the beginning of the 2019 school year, coming to us from Pasco County. And we are excited to have him!

Do you love to sing? Do you love to perform? Would you like to belong to an awesomely unique and diverse family? Do you want to participate in lots of fun activities? Consider joining Performing Arts! George Jenkins offers the following electives under the guidance of Mr. Lawrence: Men's Chorus, Beginning Women's Chorus, Musical Theatre I, II and III, and Vocal Ensemble (Golden Harmony).

Performing Arts students have performed at each home football game this season, and is now actively preparing for a busy Holiday Season: District IE's 12/14, Choral-ing at Gaylord Palms on 12/16, and our biggies – Madrigal Theatrical Dinner 12/13 at 7:00 pm and the Winter Concert on 12/17 at 7:00.

Madrigal Theatrical Dinner is our big fundraiser for the year. Come enjoy dinner and a show. The menu includes: a 2 ½ pound turkey leg, sides and dessert from Big J Catering.

Email Mr. Lawrence for tickets and/or questions. See you there!

