



# George Jenkins

Volume XXV  
Issue 2  
"A Five Star School"  
★★★★★  
September  
2022

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

## School Contact Information

Main Number  
(863) 648-3566

School Fax  
(863) 648-3573

Attendance Office Fax  
(863) 701-1015

Guidance Fax  
(863) 701-1131

## Administration

Tom Patton  
Principal

Dan Durham  
Assistant Principal

Lacy Emmerling  
Assistant Principal

Brad Hiers  
Assistant Principal

Erin Crosby  
Dean of Student Activities

Daniel Rawson  
Dean of Students

Jonathan Walton  
Dean of Students

<http://georgejenkinshs.com/>

George Jenkins High School Newsletter  
September 2022 • Issue #2  
Published Five Times Per Year  
George Jenkins High School  
6000 Lakeland Highlands Road  
Lakeland, Florida 33813

## 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 Eagle Family,

**What an OUTSTANDING START to another school year!** We are on the right track to make this another successful year. The teachers, students and you (the parents) have been very patient while, Mrs. Emmerling, Mr. Hiers and the Guidance Counselors have worked through the scheduling process as it applies to the Class Size Amendment Law. Class sizes are up in our electives and most core classes are closed. When you have a great tradition, students and parents want to be part of the success.

The campus cleanup with staff and students was a tremendous success with over 70 people here working together. My Administrative team members work hand in hand with testing, safety and security of the campus, and making sure students are engaged in class and learning the skills necessary to make them successful upon graduation.

As I walk the hallways and visit classrooms, the staff and students are reaching the highest academic expectations. All different styles of learning modalities are being exhibited in the classrooms and rigorous questioning and student-led discussions to solve problems should be in every class, not an exception. It is a joy to walk in the classroom and see the students actively involved in the learning process. The academic expectations are high.

The continued improvement and accomplishment of higher academic expectations takes a great deal of planning, time, and effort. I am confident that in our working together, we will do **"whatever it takes"** to ensure that every student will reach the highest academic level possible. Our mission is to make sure our students are prompt polite and prepared to meet the challenges they will face upon graduation. Our Vision that each student will graduate with the skills necessary to be successful in college or in a career is always a part of everyone's discussion with our students.

**KEEP SOARING EAGLES!**

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."*

# News from Student Services

## Upcoming Parent Nights, Classroom Presentations & Student Conferences

**GJHS Financial Aid Night/ FAFSA & Bright Futures lab – Tuesday, October 11th** in the GJHS Media Center from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Seniors and their parents should come ready to complete the free federal financial aid application and a financial aid advisor will be available to help. Over \$24 billion of financial aid goes unclaimed each year. Seniors, do not miss this opportunity to get your financial aid process started!

### GJHS Senior Night

On September 20th, we held our second annual Senior Night. Links to the information presented at this meeting are on the Senior Information portion of the GJHS website. Students and parents received information on graduation, senior activities, yearbooks, college application process, post-secondary planning and financial aid. For the most up to date information, refer to the 'Class of 2023 Senior Information' link under Announcements on the main page of our website.

Senior conferences will take place during the month of October. Students should refer to their school email for a link to sign up for their preferred date and time. When the time/date is selected, the student will receive a confirmation email that can be used as a pass to attend the conference. Please review the Senior Conference Packet on the Student Services section of the GJHS website to see what will be discussed and have your questions ready to ask your counselor.

The Student Services office is excited about serving the needs of our students and parents. Our Professional School Counselors follow state and county guidelines to assist students in meeting graduation requirements, planning for college or careers, and achieving personal/social growth and wellness. Our team works together to ensure all students graduate with the skills necessary to be successful in college or in a career. Use our GJHS website at [georgejenkinshs.com](http://georgejenkinshs.com) to stay current with news and information.

Emily Higgins ([Emily.higgins@polk-fl.net](mailto:Emily.higgins@polk-fl.net)) is our Student Services Secretary. She gladly assist with transcripts, student records, and community service.

Melanie Moore ([melanie.moore@polk-fl.net](mailto:melanie.moore@polk-fl.net)) is our Registrar and Terminal Operator. She will assist with registration, demographics, and student transfer information.

Students are assigned a counselor based on their last name. Counselor alpha assignments are as follows:

### Students in grades 9-11:

A - Cl: Brenda Jackson: email - [brenda.jackson01@polk-fl.net](mailto:brenda.jackson01@polk-fl.net)

Co - Go: Laura Chancey: email - [laura.chancey@polk-fl.net](mailto:laura.chancey@polk-fl.net)

Gr - Li: Deborah Wilk: email - [Deborah.wilk@polk-fl.net](mailto:Deborah.wilk@polk-fl.net)

Lo - O: Raquel Manning: email - [raquel.manning@polk-fl.net](mailto:raquel.manning@polk-fl.net)

P - Sm: Darius Jones: email - [Darius.jones01@polk-fl.net](mailto:Darius.jones01@polk-fl.net)

Sn - Z: Alexis Tullock: email - [alexus.tullock@polk-fl.net](mailto:alexus.tullock@polk-fl.net)

### Senior counselor

#### assignments:

A - Cl: Brenda Jackson

Co - Go: Laura Chancey

Gr - Li: Deborah Wilk

Lo - O: Raquel Manning

P - S: Darius Jones

T : Laura Chancey

U - Wh: Alexis Tullock

Wi - Z: Deborah Wilk

### Freshmen & Sophomore Classroom Presentations:

On Monday, October 3rd, School Counselors will meet with all 9th and 10th grade students in their science classes. Students will get a basic GJHS 101 lesson and gain valuable information about graduation requirements, post-secondary planning, grade point averages, high school courses, and making the most of the high school experience. We are excited to welcome and get to know our Class of 2025 and Class of 2026!!! Please check our website to view this class presentation.

### Juniors:

Individual junior conferences will take place in the spring. For now, sign up for the PSAT!!! It will provide the best test preparation to start taking the SAT & ACT in the spring. For college & career planning, preview the Senior Night information to be familiar with post-secondary options.

### Juniors & Sophomores: PSAT is coming, October 12th!!!

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/ National Merit Scholar Qualifying Test) will be administered on Wednesday, October 12th at GJHS during 1st and 3rd periods. The PSAT, from the College Board, the same company that creates the SAT and AP, is a comprehensive program that helps put students on the path to college. It measures critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills and is the best indicator of how a student will perform on the SAT. This test is important to juniors as it is the

only qualifying test for National Merit Scholarship Programs. Taking the PSAT gives students access to SAT practice with College Board and Khan Academy. This test preparation is free and personalized based on the PSAT results. All sophomores will be tested without fees. Juniors (who have met the Algebra EOC requirement) are required to register and pay for this test with Mrs. Heady in Room 1151. Payment of \$18.00, check, cash or money order, must be received upon registration. Please bring exact change or make checks payable to GJHS. Emails will be sent to students from College Board when their test scores are available to access online. For more information, visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) and [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).



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## George's Closet

The benefits to working in George's Closet are the ability to earn service hours, earn teamwork and collaborative skills, as well as becoming an active member in 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 and our meetings every other Thursday in room 2115, earning hours is a breeze, especially when volunteering for drives. Throughout the year, we will hold drives for items we need, emphasizing on personal hygiene items and men's clothing. Not only will we hold drives, but we will promote school events like our upcoming Homecoming. Keep an eye out for our HOCO fashion show in the next few weeks! If you have any questions, reach out to Mr. Lee Robinson or Mrs. Crosby. (863) 648-3566.



## Yearbook News

### Picture Day

Underclassmen students (9th- 11th) took their school pictures on September 15th. If your student missed this opportunity or wants to retake their picture, retake day is scheduled for October 20th. Retakes are for students that previously purchased their pictures and are unsatisfied with them or were absent on September 15th. Original picture packets must be returned if the student would like to retake their picture.

### Did You Forget to Purchase Your Student's Pictures?

Pictures are available for purchase online at [www.leonards.com/order](http://www.leonards.com/order) No=C579633 and just search by school name: **George W. Jenkins High School**.

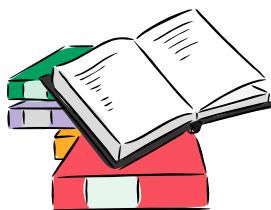
### Senior or Business Ads

The last day to purchase a senior or business ad in the GJHS yearbook is October 11th. The yearbook staff will gladly design your ad and provide you with a proof before publication. If you have any questions please email Mrs. Salas at [Jessica.salas@polk-fl.net](mailto:Jessica.salas@polk-fl.net).

Full Page .....	\$425.00
Half Page .....	\$275.00
Quarter Page .....	\$150.00
Eighth Page .....	\$80.00

### Yearbooks on Sale

Don't forget to pre-order your yearbook for the 22-23 school year. Yearbooks may be purchased with cash or check (made payable to George Jenkins High School) in room 4224 or by a yearbook staff member. Credit and debit card purchases may be made online at [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com), job #0140. Extra yearbooks will not be purchased this year so all orders must be pre-paid.



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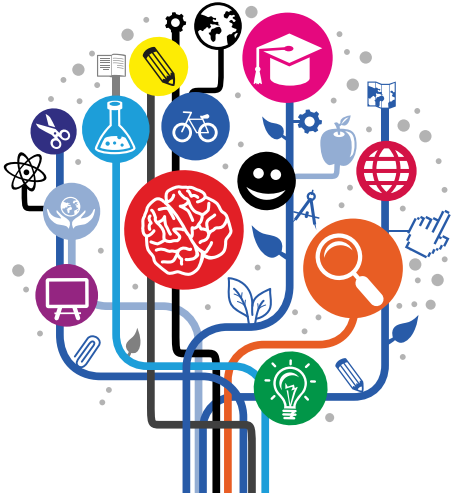
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- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org)
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

## NEHS

Our GJHS Chapter of the National English Honor Society held their first meeting of the fall semester on Thursday, September 1, 2022. After following up a year of drastic growth and blooming community service participation, the officers – President Emma Abdoney; First Vice President, Sarah Ceranic; Second Vice President, Nolan Fernandez; Third Vice President/Secretary, Kelly Granger; Treasurer, Lydia Shi; Historian, Colton McManus; and Parliamentarian, Nalanie Davila, along with their sponsor, Mrs. Barr – have set major goals for this school year's NEHS Chapter.

Among the Chapter goals for 22-23 includes continuing the abundant and frequent participation in community service, both on and off George Jenkins' campus. Last year, our Chapter was able to donate 117 pairs of socks to George's Closet during *Socktoberfest*, aid in the formation of three Thanksgiving baskets, of which Spanish Honor Society received, donate both hard and paperback books to the *Little Book Bus*, and donate gifts for our *Adopt-a-Christmas-Child*. The Chapter plans to participate in all these activities again with the addition of a few new projects.

One new project is the creation of a school wide Lego drive, which aims to collect used Legos, which will then be repackaged and sent

off to *Lego Replay*, with LEGO themselves. Additionally, Lizzy Day will be leading the Chapter's involvement with *The Angle Tree*, a program that allows students to write to and befriend children of incarcerated parents. The final new service development with the Chapter is that of reinstating *After School Tutoring*. Any student is welcome to visit room 19-127 and work with current National English Honor Society officers or members on any subject of their choosing. Tutoring will be offered every Wednesday and Thursday from 2:05–2:35 PM.

The NEHS's main desire for the 22-23 year is to double in size, as we currently hold 32 members, with hopes of ending the spring semester with over 64 members. The Chapter has already grown with the addition of a sponsor and new staff member, Ms. Gant.

Additionally, all standing officers have received ten or more applications, of which they are free to advertise "New Membership" within their classrooms and to their peers. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the GJHS NEHS Chapter, please reach out to Mrs. Barr, Ms. Gant, or any of our current NEHS officers.

–Emma Abdoney, President

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## Visual Art Department

### Visual Art Dept. is Looking for Old Unused Cameras & Parts:

If you have any old film cameras or darkroom parts that you do not want anymore, please consider donating them to the GJHS Creative Photography classes! We teach students about current smartphone and original film camera techniques. Students are so inspired to see the history of photography through cameras from different decades-the more vintage the better!

If you are able to donate items, please identify box as "Debra Smith, Creative Photo, Art Dept." – Thank you!

## Let's be Social



### ABC

Welcome back to school! We hope everyone is having a great school year so far. The Academic Booster Club (ABC) is already off to a busy start. We recently sorted academic and volunteer awards based on grades and volunteer hours for last school year. The awards were given out at the annual academic awards. Now we are working on the annual teacher/staff member of the year banquet. We would love to have you join our club. The ABC is open to all students, staff, and parents, similar to a PTO/PTA. With the help of your membership, we are able to provide many student and teacher incentives and awards throughout the school year. Members of the school administration are always at our meetings to present school news. Seniors that are members (by themselves or as part of a family membership) by October 31st will be eligible to apply for the ABC scholarship. Our meetings are held on the second Monday of the month in the Media Center at 6pm. Everyone is welcome. Check out our Facebook page for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. Feel free to email us at [GJHSABC@gmail.com](mailto:GJHSABC@gmail.com) with any questions you may have about how to join and get involved.

### Prism Fine Arts Night

Prism Fine Arts Nights on Friday, September 23 from 6 pm - 8 pm in the auditorium area. You can be a guest orchestra conductor, make some cool spin art, or just enjoy and watch the dancers, singers and bands play throughout the event!

### Key Club

Key Club will be meeting on the first Tuesday of each month after school in the Media Center. Meetings last about 20 minutes. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Key Club is a great way to get involved in a club and earn community service hours with many projects on campus and in the community. Applications are available in Student Services. Dues are \$25. Both the application and \$25 are due by November 1st.

### JROTC

ASVAB test is September 4th, please contact 1sg (Ret) Williams JROTC.

JROTC Raiders practice is underway if you are interested please see 1sg Williams, you must be in JROTC! Practice is Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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# Testing

## SAT Test Dates

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

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
Oct 1, 2022	Sept 2, 2022	Sept 20, 2022
Nov 5, 2022	Oct. 7, 2022	Oct 25, 2022
Dec 3, 2022	Nov 3, 2022	Nov 22, 2022
Mar 11, 2023	Feb 10, 2023	Feb 28, 2023
May 6, 2023	April 7, 2023	April 25, 2023
June 3, 2023	May 4, 2023	May 23, 2023

## ACT Test Dates

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

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Reg. Deadline
Oct. 22, 2022	Sept. 16, 2022	Sept 30, 2022
Dec. 10, 2022	Nov. 4, 2022	Nov. 11, 2022
Feb 11, 2023	Jan. 6, 2023	Jan. 20, 2023
April 15, 2023	March 10, 2023	March 24, 2023
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023
July 15, 2023	June 16, 2023	June 23, 2023



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[emily.higgins@polk-fl.net](mailto:emily.higgins@polk-fl.net)

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## BBQ Team

The GJQ BBQ team is getting prepared for their first inter-school competition which will occur in the coming weeks in the Ft. Myers area. To continue their successes in both their competitions and caterings, they are looking for sponsors to help offset the costs of practice cooks and supplies. The students will be holding a pulled pork and YETI fundraiser on Saturday, December 3rd from 10am – 1pm at The Old South Country Market on South Florida. If you would like to contribute to the growing successes of these students with any financial or product donations, please contact Matt Townley ([matt.townley@polk-fl.net](mailto:matt.townley@polk-fl.net)).

## GJHS Eagles Bowling Team

For the first time in school history, GJHS is participating in the FHSAA sanctioned sport of Bowling, and it is already successful and growing. The Men's and Women's Varsity and Junior Varsity Bowling Teams have opened their seasons with multiple wins against local schools in the county, and they look to continue their victories in upcoming matches. Each level is steadily increasing both individual and team averages and they look forward to keeping their successes going as they move through the season. Consider sponsoring the Bowling team and be a part of the newest sport in the GJ community!

## Senior Information

All Seniors and Parents:

It is very important that each senior (and their parent/guardian) is aware of all activities and upcoming events as we move through the year; the sponsors cannot be held responsible if you miss a date or deadline. Please access the "Class of 2023 Senior Information" webpage on the school's website frequently as events, dates, and times could change. Events and dates are provided under each month and be sure to scroll down to the bottom for additional information concerning senior year prices and contact information. We are all looking forward to an awesome year! See Mr. Townley or Mrs. Iatarola with any questions.

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## Athletics News



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*To Addressee or Current Resident*

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## Inside This Issue

George's Closet

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JROTC

and more!

