



# George Jenkins

Volume XXVI

Issue 2

"A Five Star School"

★★★★★

September  
2023

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) 648-3018

Guidance Fax

(863) 701-1131

## Administration

Tom Patton

*Principal*

Carmen Bonilla

*Assistant Principal*

Lacy Emmerling

*Assistant Principal*

Kyle Guira

*Assistant Principal*

Brad Hiers

*Assistant Principal*

Tanishia Simpson

*Assistant Principal*

Erin Crosby

*Dean of Student Activities*

Danisha Rivera

*Dean of Students*

Gavin Osborn

*Dean of Students*

<http://georgejenkinshs.com/>

George Jenkins High School Newsletter  
September 2023 • 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. 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 100 students and staff working together to make our campus look amazing for the star! 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.

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."*



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# News from Student Services

The Student Services office is excited about serving the needs of our students and parents. 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. Alpha assignments are as follows:

## C O U N S E L O R S

A - Cl: Giselle Duque: email – [Giselle.duque@polk-fl.net](mailto:Giselle.duque@polk-fl.net)

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

Gr - Lo: Courtney Franzino: email – [Courtney.Franzino@polk-fl.net](mailto:Courtney.Franzino@polk-fl.net)

Lu - O: Antoinette Bazunu: email – [Antoinette.Bazunu@polk-fl.net](mailto:Antoinette.Bazunu@polk-fl.net)

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

Sn - Z: Frederick Eruchalu: email – [Frederick.Eruchalu@polk-fl.net](mailto:Frederick.Eruchalu@polk-fl.net)



## Juniors & Sophomores: PSAT is coming, October 18th!!!

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholar Qualifying Test) will be administered on Wednesday, October 18th 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 are required to register and pay for this test. 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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Poor Academic Motivation

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# '24

## Seniors-

On September 12th, we held our 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 2024 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.

FAFSA opens later this year on December 1st. Our annual Financial Aid Night will take place in December. Seniors and their parents should plan to attend and be ready to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and a college financial aid advisor will be there to help.

## Graduation Requirements

**All students** are required to earn 24 credits to earn a high school diploma including:

- 4 English (ELA)
- 4 Math (must include Algebra and Geometry)
- 3 Science (must include Biology)
- 3 Social Studies (1 World History, 1 US History, .5 Government, .5 Economics)
- 1 Physical Education (.5 Personal Fitness AND .5 any other PE OR 1 credit in HOPE)
- 1 Practical/Performing Art
- 8 electives
- Maintain a 2.0 un-weighted cumulative GPA.

**State Assessment Requirements: will update with legislation changes**

- Grade 10 ELA (or ACT/SAT concordant score)
- Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) or comparative score on SAT, ACT, PSAT, or Geometry EOC

Students must participate in the EOC assessments and the results constitute 30 percent of the final course grade. These assessments are in the following subjects:

Algebra I, Geometry, U.S. History, Biology I

**Scholar Diploma Designation:** In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must:

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra II
- Pass the Geometry EOC
- Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course
- Pass the Biology I EOC
- Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics
- Pass the U.S. History EOC
- Earn 2 credits in the same World Language
- Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course

A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP Biology or U.S. History course and the student takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment and earns the minimum score to earn college credit.

### **Industry Scholar Diploma Designation:**

- Meet the standard high school diploma requirements
- Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.)

### **State University Admissions Requirements**

Florida universities have a competitive admissions process. The MINIMUM eligibility requirements for admissions are as follows:

Earn a standard diploma with a minimum 2.5 GPA in 18 academic courses which include:

- 4 English
- 4 Math (Algebra 1 and higher-level courses)
- 3 Science
- 3 Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (in the same language)
- 2 Academic electives

Earn competitive scores on national college entrance exams:

- SAT or ACT

However, students only earning minimum requirements will not gain admissions to most Florida universities. These schools are also looking for a rigorous curriculum, strong GPA with an upward trend, competitive test scores, a well written essay, a passionate commitment to extracurricular activities, and leadership experiences. Each school accepts their most competitive applicants. To view each universities average freshmen profile of GPA's and test scores, visit Florida Shines, then 'Go to College' at [www.floridashines.org/go-to-college/get-ready-for-college/average-university-freshmen-profile](http://www.floridashines.org/go-to-college/get-ready-for-college/average-university-freshmen-profile).

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## GJHS Academic Booster Club

Thank you, staff, students, family, and friends who supported the Academic Booster Club (ABC), membership drive and JBurns spirit night! We made \$210. Once of our best spirit nights we have had. Thank you again. Your membership dues and the proceeds from the spirit night will help fund programs of support, encouragement, and appreciation for GJHS students and staff throughout the school year, including the academic awards programs held in October. It's not too late! You may still join ABC. Contact Lilly Harris at LAA97@hotmail.com. Student membership is only \$5; staff \$10; and family \$25. Joining ABC and supporting our spirit nights helps us raise funds to celebrate students and teachers. The proceeds from these events go a long way to cover the cost of academic medallions, honor cards, and the many other recognition programs that ABC sponsors. Attendance at our monthly meeting is not required, but it provides a wealth of information about what's happening at George Jenkins High School. Join us on the second Monday of each month at 6PM in the GJHS Media Center to learn about decisions being made that affect your student(s), important events, and much more!



## George's Closet

The start of the new school year means a new year for George's Closet! Our 2023-2024 Executive Board consists of Lydia Shi (President), Laura Flores (Vice President), Alexis Rocque (Vice President), Tiffany Lin (Secretary), and Hannah Fairley (Photographer). This month, we are getting ready for the Homecoming Fashion Show. We are also holding a hygiene drive from now to September 23rd. We are accepting donations of hygiene products such as bottles of shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and any other hygiene products you can think of! The Closet is open to clothing donations

year-round and students wishing to earn community service hours can volunteer to help sort and organize donations. This year, we hope to start a George's Closet Fashion Magazine which will include outfits created by members from the Closet, the newest fashion trends of the season, and a gallery of photos from drives and events we hold! Make sure to follow our Instagram account @georgescloset\_gjhs to stay updated! Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 at 2:05PM in Mr. Robinson's room (2115).



*George's Closet Executive Board (from left to right): Hannah Fairley, Lydia Shi, Alexis Rocque, Tiffany Lin, Laura Flores*



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## Statsquatch Club

A gifted young machinist and a prodigious mathematician join forces with their fellow students looking to solve some of the world's greatest mysteries. With Tyson's cutting-edge differential equations and Connors ability to create a 3D mockup...this crew is on the cusp of worldwide renown. Rocco is there trying to keep up and guide this genius force. Squatchmen merrily jump out of bed every morning and jog off to class with humble yet complete expectation that each day could be the day that they bridge the gap between Sasquatch, UFOs, World Peace, and true humanity. Sound fun? Of course, it does! Join.



## 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 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.

## Yearbook News

### Picture Day

Underclassmen students (9th- 11th) took their school pictures on August 31st. If your student missed this opportunity or wants to retake their picture, retake day is scheduled for October 26th. Retakes are for students that previously purchased their pictures and are unsatisfied with them or were absent on August 31st. 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/photoprepay](http://www.leonards.com/photoprepay) Access Code No=C620320 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 November 17th. 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 23-24 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.

Yearbook Only → \$90.00  
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## GEORGE JENKINS HIGH SCHOOL 2023-24 Fall / Winter Testing Calendar Test

Fall PERT Test for Dual Enrollment – (only those needing it)

Required Fall Computer Check for Testing Platforms  
Directions to be emailed.

FAST ELA Reading Retakes for 11th and 12th Grade

FAST ELA Progress Monitoring 1 (PM1) 9th Grade

FAST ELA Progress Monitoring 1 (PM1) 10th Grade

Geometry, Biology, and US History EOC for  
Scholar Designation only

**Sign Up Only - Also offered 12/1/23 - This is not a retake**

B.E.S.T Algebra Retakes

FSA ELA Writing (ONLY Seniors – non-passers of FAST retake)

FSA ELA Reading Day 1 & Day2 (ONLY Seniors- non-passers  
of FAST retake)

FSA Algebra (ONLY Seniors – non-passers of BEST ALG 1)

2 day test- no make ups

1st District Quarterly Assessments  
(Algebra, Geometry, Biology, US History, Environmental  
Science)

PSAT Infrastructure Trial – Through English 2  
and Literacy Classes

PSAT for 10th Grade and 12th Grade Algebra Retake Students

District Writing Progress Monitoring #2 in ELA Class

ACT Non-College Reportable (Triple Time) Seniors ONLY

Fall ASVAB

Florida Civics Literacy Exam (FCLE) –  
Am. Government Students

Geometry, Biology, and US History EOC for  
Scholar Designation

**Sign Up Only - This is not a retake**

FAST ELA Reading Retakes for 11th and 12th Grade

B.E.S.T. Algebra Retakes

2nd District Quarterly Assessments (Algebra, Geometry, Biology,  
US History, Environmental Science)

**FAST ELA PM2 for 9th & 10th Grade will be after Winter  
Break in January**



### QUICK TESTING EXPECTATIONS

#### Testing Expectations

1. Students are **required** to bring their school issued computer updated **AND** fully charged to testing. If they do not bring their computer, they will not be able to test on their assigned date. It is highly recommended that they bring their charger as well. Note, not all tests in the Fall have make up days incorporated into schedule due to time restraints.
2. Testing date, time & room location lists will be sent out to staff; it is the staff's responsibility to check the lists for their students and inform them of their testing location, date and time. If there is a sub it is imperative a list is provided to them within the sub plans or arrangements made with a neighboring staff member. Please review the list with all your period classes to ensure testing students are informed.
3. Staff Training Date/Dates forth coming. Mandatory documents to sign.
4. PLEASE utilize the practice tests for ALL students testing. Students need to understand how the functions/ testing accommodations work. (More directions will be forth coming on how you as a TA can actually practice getting your sessions started within your classrooms while they complete the practice test) ALL teachers will be involved in testing.
5. Teachers assigned as Test Administrators must have their accounts set up PRIOR to the day of testing. Paperwork must be returned in the tubs in the order received with ALL documents filled out completely & correctly; otherwise we will have to move to a pickup/drop off system versus delivery. Holding room Teachers MUST have students sign in (print their names so it is legible) as proof of attendance and returned to assigned teachers to enter in to FOCUS.

**THANK YOU!!!!!!**

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## 2023-24 SAT Test Dates

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

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
Aug 26, 2023	July 28, 2023	Aug 15, 2023
Oct 7, 2023	Sept 7, 2023	Sept 26, 2023
Nov 4, 2023	Oct 5, 2023	Oct 24, 2023
Dec 2, 2023	Nov 2, 2023	Nov 21, 2023
*Mar 9, 2024**	Feb 23, 2024	coming soon
May 4, 2024**	April 19, 2024	coming soon
June 1, 2024**	May 17, 2024	coming soon

\*\* digital testing at testing locations

## 2023-24 ACT Test Dates

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

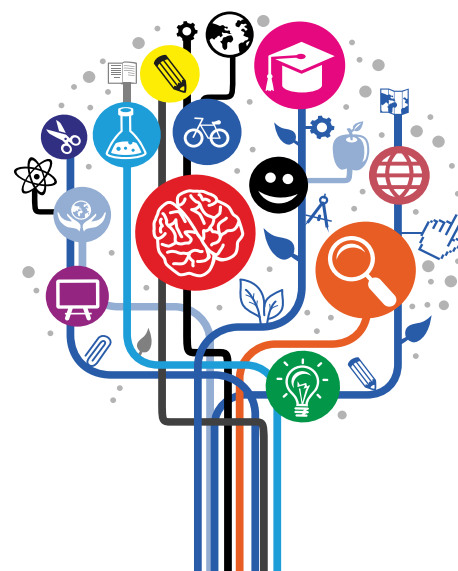
Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
Sept 9, 2023	Aug 4, 2023	Aug 18, 2023
Oct 28, 2023	Sept 22, 2023	Oct 6, 2023
Dec 9, 2023	Nov 3, 2023	Nov 17, 2023
Feb 10, 2024	Jan 5, 2024	Jan 19, 2024
*April 13, 2024	Mar 8, 2024	Mar 22, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024



**Waivers are available for those who qualify.** By completing a Polk County Examinations Fee Reduction and Waiver Form, students may be eligible for fee waivers. Student may receive up to a total of 4 ACT test waivers, 2 SAT test waivers and college applications fee waivers. To obtain a fee waiver see your counselor.

Photo required to be uploaded for registration for all tests. Photo ID required for admission to test.

\* Last testing to have scores received for Graduation Requirements.



### Knowledge is Power!

Use these resources:

- [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org)
- [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)

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## Inside This Issue

Statsquatch Club  
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and more!

