



THE GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS CONNECTION

A MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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The GCS VISION

Gordon County Schools is a unified school system with strong community partnerships committed to the growth of all students, individual empowerment, and the transformation of public education resulting in graduates ready for college, career, and life.

Our Daily Mission

To build a collaborative culture that engages all students and staff in learning experiences leading to growth, empowerment, and transformation.

#GETGCS

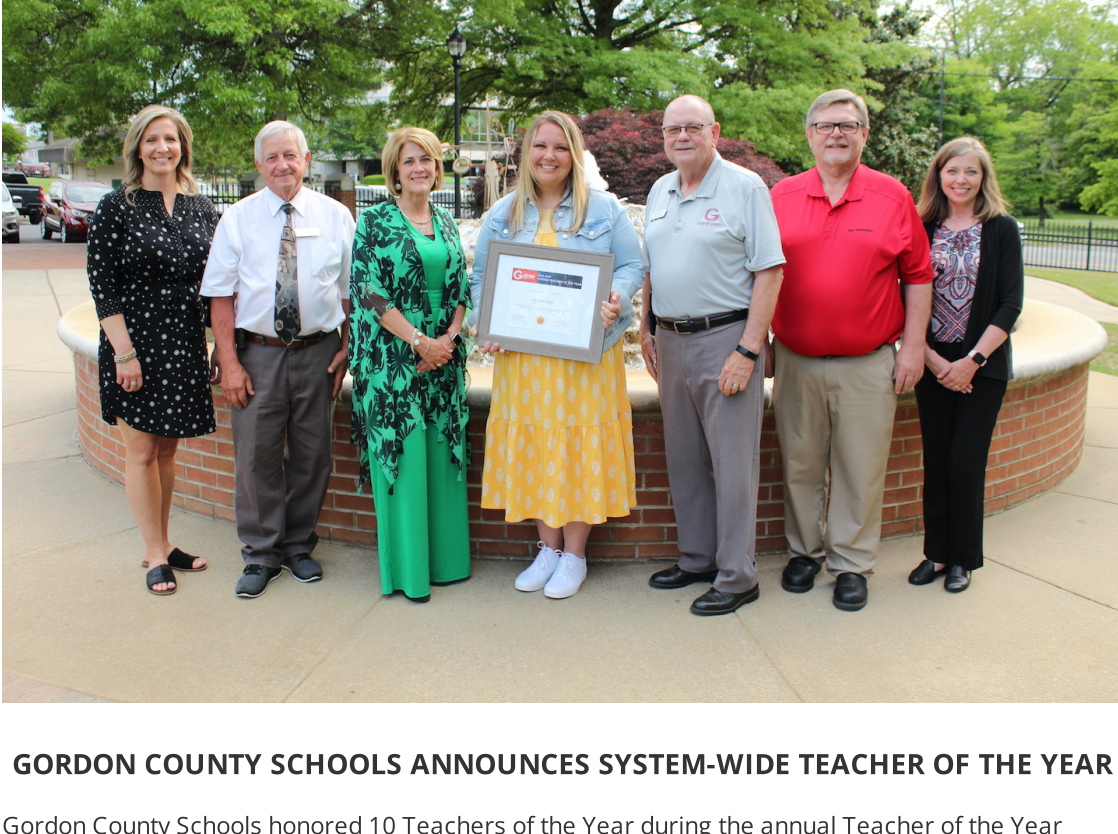
Upcoming Events

Please check your school's website and social media for school additional event information.

- **May 5-7: Gordon Central Performing Arts presents: Mama Mia**
 - Tickets: [Mama Mia Tickets](#) - Location: Gordon Central Blue Box Theatre - Time: 7:00 PM
- **May 7: The Gordon Central High School Concert Band Spring Concert**
 - Cost: Free - Location: BB&T Park in downtown Calhoun - Time: 1:00 PM
- **May 9: Gordon County Schools Board Meeting**
- **May 9: PUBLIC NOTICE GCBE Budget Meeting** - The Gordon County Board of Education will hold a public meeting on the budget, for school year 2022-2023, on May 9, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. at the Gordon County College and Career Academy. During this meeting, the public will have the opportunity to provide input on the budget. A copy of the budget can be requested by contacting the Central Office at 706-629-7366 or visiting our website [here](#).
- **May 12 - 15: Sonoraville High School Spring Theatre Production: "The Play That Goes Wrong"**
 - Purchase Tickets: email [Hannah Nelson](#) - Location: Black Box Theatre
- **May 17: 6th Grade Parent Orientation For Rising 6th Graders - Parents Only**
- **May 23 - May 24: Gordon Central Warriors Youth Football Camp**
 - Registration Link: [Gordon Central Warriors Youth Football Camp - Online Registration](#)
- **May 25: Last Day of School**
- **May 25: Sonoraville High School Graduation Ceremony**
 - Time: 7:00 PM
- **May 26: Gordon Central High School Graduation Ceremony**
 - Location: Ratner Stadium - Time: 8:00 PM
- **May 30 - June 1: Gordon Central Warriors - Basketball Camp**
- **May 31 - June 3: Gordon Central Performing Arts Alliance - Kids Performing Arts Camp**
 - Registration Link: [Kids Performing Arts Camp - Online Registration](#)
- **May 31 - June 2: SHS Majorettes - Camp SuperTwirl**
 - Registration Form: [Camp SuperTwirl Registration Form](#)
- **May 31 - June 3: STEAM Camp**
- **June 1 - July 19: Summer Feeding Program**
- **June 2: PUBLIC NOTICE- Special Education Proportionate Share Meeting**
- **June 6 - 15: Driver's Education Program**

ADDITIONAL EVENTS HAPPENING IN GORDON COUNTY CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#).

Top Stories



GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES SYSTEM-WIDE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Gordon County Schools honored 10 Teachers of the Year during the annual Teacher of the Year reception on May 2, 2022. At this event, the system-wide winner of Teacher of the Year title was also announced.

Katy Waters of Fairmount Elementary School is the 2022-2023 Gordon County Schools Teacher of the Year. Waters currently serves as both the media specialist and a first-grade teacher at Fairmount Elementary and has served in education in multiple positions for over twelve years, with ten of those years in Gordon County Schools. She holds a bachelor's degree from Dalton State College, a Master of Arts degree from Piedmont College, and an education specialist degree from Piedmont College. She and her husband, Matthew, have three children.

School-level winners were first selected by their peers and submitted applications as their school's nominee for the system-level competition. Utilizing a rubric reflecting state and national teacher of the year scoring, a panel of judges made up of educators from across Georgia determined the three finalists that would be observed in consideration of naming the district teacher of the year. Finalists for the system-wide honors, announced in April, were Amal Yacoub from Sonoraville High, Christina Cote from W.L. Swain Elementary, and Waters.

Before naming Waters as the recipient of the district title, the panel of judges was then given the opportunity to observe each finalist in the classroom, review the finalist applications, and speak with students, colleagues, and administrators at each of their schools in an effort to effectively evaluate what each finalist would bring to the Gordon County Teacher of the Year title.

As the Gordon County Schools Teacher of the Year, Waters received a banner, certificate, and gifts in honor of her achievement. She will now advance as the Gordon County Schools nominee for the Georgia Teacher of the Year competition.

To learn about each of the school-level Gordon County Schools Teachers of the Year, finalists, and view photos from the event please navigate to [www.gcbe.org/teacheroftheyear](#).



GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS EARNS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Gordon County Schools (GCS) recently earned the Award of Excellence by the Georgia Education Workers' Compensation Trust (GEWCT) for dedication to safety and in recognition of an outstanding safety year.

Learn more [here](#).



GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS AWARDED GEORGIA EDUCATIONAL LEADERS VISION AWARD

The Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL) recently recognized Gordon County Schools with the 2021-2022 Vision Award.

The Vision Award is presented to school systems that encourage school and system leadership to engage and participate in statewide advocacy, professional learning, and networking to support the future of public education in Georgia.

Learn more [here](#).

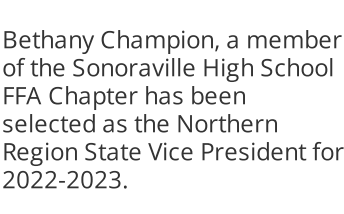


SONORAVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AWARDED OPPORTUNITY GRANT

Sonoraville High School has been awarded the World Languages Providing Access for Rural Teachers for New Equipment and Resources (PARTNER) grant which will allow world language teachers to implement sustainable world language instruction initiatives and increase access to quality world language education.

Learn more [here](#).

ACCOLADES



SONORAVILLE HIGH STUDENT ELECTED TO SERVE AS STATE FFA OFFICER

Bethany Champion, a member of the Sonoraville High School FFA Chapter has been selected as the Northern Region State Vice President for 2022-2023.

Champion is the first student from Sonoraville High to serve as a State Officer and the just the second student from Gordon County Schools to earn the honor.

Learn more [here](#).

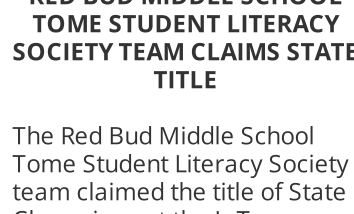


2022 K-KIDS SPECIAL EDITION MAGAZINE RELEASED

Best of North Georgia Mountains is proud to present the fifth annual salute to all 35 kindergarten classes in Calhoun and Gordon County Schools.

This issue also includes photos of the Class of '22 from all local high schools.

Click this link to see this 178-page issue: [K-Kids 2022](#)



RED BUD MIDDLE SCHOOL TOME STUDENT LITERACY SOCIETY TEAM CLAIMS STATE TITLE

The Red Bud Middle School Tome Student Literacy Society team claimed the title of State Champions at the Jr Tome Reading Bowl competition earlier this month.

Learn more [here](#).

FIND MORE #GoCoSchools NEWS STORIES HERE

- [GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS NUTRITION NEWS](#)
- [GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES 2022-23 TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS](#)
- [GORDON CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL NAMED AP HONOR SCHOOL FOR 2022](#)
- [GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS SELECTED TO RECEIVE READINESS IN LITERACY GRANT](#)
- [GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS TO OFFER FINE ARTS DIPLOMA SEAL](#)
- [GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES 2022 STAR STUDENTS & TEACHERS](#)

PARENT INPUT NEEDED



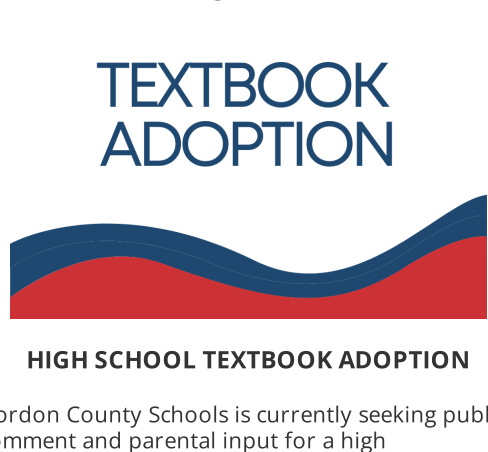
TITLE I PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT STAKEHOLDER INPUT OPPORTUNITY

This is an opportunity for you to provide input and suggestions to revise the following documents (found in the next section below):

- School-Parent Compact;
- School Parent & Family Engagement Policy;
- School Improvement Plan;
- District Parent & Family Engagement Policy;
- Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP); and
- American Rescue Plan (ARP); Use of Funds

You will also be able to share ideas on how parents can assist with Building School Staff Capacity and how the 1% set aside for Parent & Family Engagement can be best used.

Learn more [here](#).



HIGH SCHOOL TEXTBOOK ADOPTION

Gordon County Schools is currently seeking public comment and parental input for a high school textbook for the Entrepreneurship Pathway.

The window for providing feedback on this resources will expire on May 30, 2022.

Learn more [here](#).

PARENT RESOURCES



SUMMER CAMPS

Summer is just around the corner and spaces are filling up for our summer camps! The Gordon County Schools virtual bulletin board features links to various options within the Gordon County Schools community to explore!

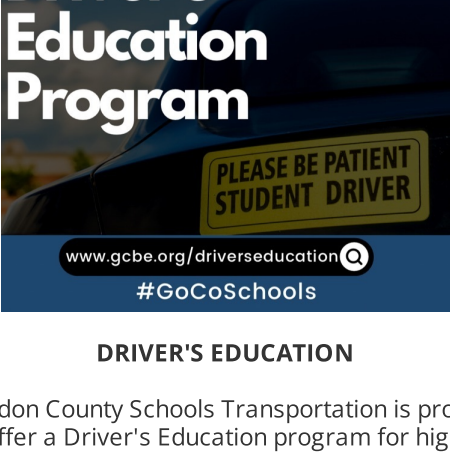
Learn more [here](#).



PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Our Parent & Family Engagement Specialists will bridge the gap between home and school by assisting parents in understanding ways they can help their children with academics.

Learn more [here](#).



DRIVER'S EDUCATION

Gordon County Schools Transportation is proud to offer a Driver's Education program for high school students.

Students in the program will gain knowledge and experience behind-the-wheel and in the classroom to prepare them for life as a responsible driver.

Learn more [here](#).



SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM

Our Summer Feeding Program will run **June 1 - July 19, 2022**.

We have many locations around Gordon County where all children ages 0-18 are welcome to enjoy a free breakfast and lunch each day. It isn't necessary to be a registered student to participate.

Learn more [here](#).

GCS MOBILE APP

We are thrilled to announce our new app for mobile phones!

Stay up-to-date with access to events, documents, news from administrators, student stories, and even emergency notifications.

You can download the app for free on Google Play or Apple App Store.

[Android App»](#)

[iPhone App»](#)

STAY INFORMED

Gordon County Schools encourages parents to stay informed about their students' academic progress through the parent portal to Infinite Campus, our student information system.

Learn more, register for an account, or login using the link below.

[Infinite Campus»](#)

PARENT SURVEY

The Georgia Department of Education's annual **Special Education parent survey** is now open through May 31.

Survey responses from parents of students who receive Special Education services are used for continuous improvement of services.

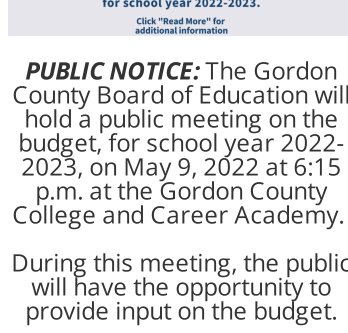
[Survey»](#)

PUBLIC NOTICES



PUBLIC NOTICE: The Special Education department will be holding its Proportionate Share meeting on **June 2nd, 2022, at 9 am.** Click "Read More" for additional information.

Learn more here: [Read More](#)

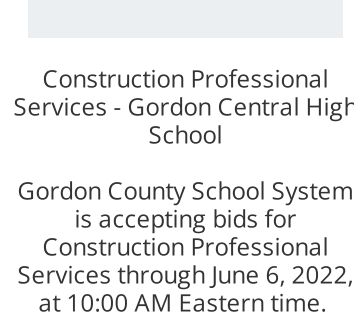


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Learn more here: [Read More](#)



Construction Professional Services - Gordon Central High School

Gordon County School System is accepting bids for Construction Professional Services through June 6, 2022, at 10:00 AM Eastern time.

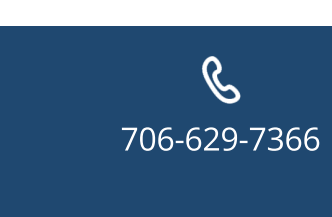
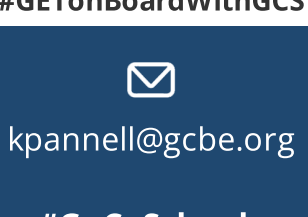
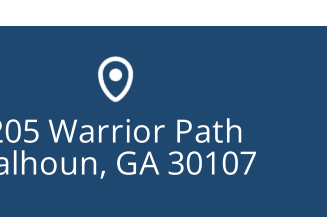
Please visit our website for more information.

View Current Solicitations [here](#).

GET ON BOARD WITH #GoCoSchools

We Are Hiring!

Gordon County Schools is seeking personnel for several positions for next school year. Our positions offer competitive compensation, excellent benefits, and wonderful work environments with caring teams. For more information or to apply now, visit: [www.gcbe.org/gcsemployment](#)



#GETonBoardWithGCS

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#GoCoSchools

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