



## GSMST Newsletter September 19, 2016



### Mark Your Calendars

September 20, 2016: UGA and Georgia State Honors Program @ 4:00 p.m.  
September 20, 2016: Senior Parents - Financial Aid Information @ 6:30 p.m.  
September 28 & 29, 2016: Cyber Days  
October 10, 2016: Student Holiday

### GSMST congratulates 16 National Merit Scholars

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has started its nationwide search for the students who will be named 2017 National Merit Scholars, winners of scholarships worth some \$33 million that will be announced starting next spring. As part of this first step, 60 Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) seniors have been named 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalists. Congratulations to the following GSMST students: Edward Cho, Abigail Drun, Sabrina Edwards-Swart, Jason Fan, Ian Graham, Zaki Hafeez, Satya Jella, Albert Kim, Tarun Naren, Apurva Routhu, Sabarish Sainathan, Khalil Sayid, James Michael Siochi, Jacob Ward, Sebastian Williams, and Srisurva Yadavalli.



### Attention Juniors and Seniors: Important meetings tomorrow beginning at 4:00



**JUNIORS AND SENIORS:** Interested in Honors programs at UGA or Georgia State? Come hear from both programs tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. in the Main Level Lecture Hall. UGA's Associate Provost, Dr. David Williams, will discuss the Honors program and the huge opportunities for students who earn a place in their Honors Program. Georgia State University will follow with information about their Honors Program, growing each year with opportunities for tuition offset and other unique opportunities. These Honors Programs are the best in our state and afford the students tremendous opportunities. We hope to see you tomorrow at 4:00!

**SENIORS and SENIOR PARENTS:** Please make plans to attend the Financial

Aid Night tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m. in the Infinite Cafe. Sylvia Jones of Wells Fargo will discuss the FAFSA in detail, as well as give tips and information about the entire financial aid process. With the recent changes to FAFSA, it is important to get this information. We hope to see you there! (Seniors, this is following the Honors Programs for UGA and Georgia State. You will have time between to get dinner locally or have a snack!)

## 114 Academic Letter Winners

Congratulations to the 114 students who were recognized last week during Guided Study for earning their academic letter for the 2015-16 school year. To earn an Academic Letter, the student must have a combined 95% or higher average in all of the courses they took during Fall 2015 and Spring 2016. This is a great achievement for each of these students. Click [here](#) for a complete listing. Way to go students!



## A note from PTSA...

GSMST PTSA is excited to announce the start of the annual Reflections Program. Reflections is a National PTA program that provides students with the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition.

This year's theme: "What Is Your Story"

Deadline for Entries: October 3, 2016

There are six categories in the Reflections program:

- Dance
- Choreography
- Film Production
- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts

Entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, mastery of the medium, and interpretation of the theme. Entries can be found on the GSMST PTSA website or in the attendance office. For questions, please contact Alison Johnson at [reflectgsmst@gmail.com](mailto:reflectgsmst@gmail.com).



## Morning and Afternoon Car Safety Guidelines

Parents, please take a moment to review the guidelines we have in place for the safety of our students as well as our faculty members for morning and afternoon dismissal. Click [here](#). Thank you.



## Intramurals are in full swing...

Intramurals are off to a great start. If your child would like to participate, they must have a physical on file.



See Mr. McAuliffe for more information. Intramural schedules are announced daily on morning announcements. Have your child check it out!

## From our Counselors

We know how important it is for students to have internet access when they are away from school. Many students rely on free WiFi from libraries, restaurants, and other public spaces. Low-income families may also qualify for discounted rates on home internet service from AT&T and Comcast. You can visit the following links to learn more and to apply.



AT&T Access [Program](#) (based on qualification for SNAP benefits)  
Comcast Internet [Essentials](#) (based on Free/Reduced school lunch benefits)

## Study Abroad Information



During Spring Break of 2017, Ms. Vega will be leading a school trip to Ecuador for a week study abroad! We will travel to several cities in Ecuador with a knowledgeable guide. This is a great opportunity to learn about culture, history and to practice Spanish! All students are invited; you do not have to be in Spanish course to go. Click [here](#) to learn more information. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Vega at [jamie\\_vega@gwinnett.k12.ga.us](mailto:jamie_vega@gwinnett.k12.ga.us).

During Summer of 2017, Mr. Burse will be leading a school trip to Germany for a nine-day study abroad! We will travel to Berlin, Dresden, Prague and Munich with a knowledgeable guide. This is a great opportunity to personally discover German culture, history, music and modern art, and to practice your German! All students are invited; you do not have to be currently enrolled in a German course. Click [here](#) to learn more information. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Burse at [carlos.burse@gsmst.org](mailto:carlos.burse@gsmst.org) or [Carlos\\_Burse@gwinnett.k12.ga.us](mailto:Carlos_Burse@gwinnett.k12.ga.us).

## School Spirit!

Visit the GSMST School Store [here](#) and order your spirit wear, school supplies, etc. today. Please email [laura\\_ridderhof@gwinnett.k12.ga.us](mailto:laura_ridderhof@gwinnett.k12.ga.us) and place your order with her today. The orders can be picked up in the front office once they've arrived.



## Before school and after school supervision, please provide transportation.

On Mondays, students must be out of the building by 3:15 since all teachers are in school-wide meetings.  
On Tuesdays - Fridays, students must leave the building as soon as the SRC closes (4pm) or as soon as their activity ends. Please be at



school, ready to pick up your child when the activity ends. Students will have to stand outside to wait for their ride and cold weather will be coming soon. Students are not allowed to enter the building before 6:15 a.m. Thanks for your help.

## GSMST Upcoming Events and Reminders

- NO cost for breakfast for all students!
- Cyber Days are coming soon! 9/28 and 9/29: no afternoon buses
- Visitor Badges must be worn while visiting, volunteering, etc. This is to keep our school safe.

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*STAY CONNECTED*



GSMST, 970 McElvaney Lane, Lawrenceville, GA 30044

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