



The Ninth Grade Speaker Series, 2017-2018

Executive Summary

The Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Our school is a public theme school that specializes in advanced STEM education, located in Lawrenceville, GA. As part of our unique curriculum, our students participate in a multi-tiered career readiness and internship program that begins in the 9th grade with our quarter-annual Speaker Series.

The Ninth Grade Speaker Series

The **GSMST Speaker Series** brings in professionals and academics from around the state to provide 9th grade students with exposure to and information about various areas of interest in research and professional fields. The series itself occurs four times throughout the school year: this year, those dates are **October 11th**, **November 16th**, **February 15th**, and **March 30th**.

On each of these dates, speakers provide a **25-minute presentation/demonstration** of a research area or topic of interest, including their own educational background, their area of expertise, their research and/or professional endeavors, and the school and/or business that they represent. Topics can include anything with which participants have experience or interest in speaking, usually ranging from science, technology, engineering, economics, and mathematics to business, society, culture, and innovation. Following each presentation, audiences will have a 5-10-minute Q&A for students to engage with the speaker. If it is more convenient, businesses or schools can choose to create a **panel of speakers** on their own and create a 55-minute presentation that spans the length of the event (see schedule below).

The entire 9th grade class is pre-sorted into areas of interest to comprise approximately 12-15 different audiences. Then, two speakers will be assigned to each audience to provide presentations (or one panel if requested). On each date, the series follows this schedule:

11:45am-12:00pm –	Speaker Arrival and Sign in
12:00pm-12:10 –	Ambassador meet/greet with Speakers; Group Photo
12:10pm-12:15pm –	Student Ambassadors Escort Speakers to Rooms
12:20pm* -12:45pm –	First Speaker Presentation w/ Q&A
12:45pm-12:50pm –	Speaker Transition
12:50pm- 1:15pm* –	Second Speaker Presentation w/ Q&A
1:20pm-1:40pm –	Speaker Reception and Address from the Principal
1:45pm-2:15pm –	Optional Tour of GSMST

*Panels present from 12:20-1:15 without interruption, splitting that time however they see fit.

I welcome your or your colleagues' participation in one, many, or all of these series' dates – because the audiences are only snapshots of the freshman class, speakers may choose to return for a future series date to present their material to another audience.

If you are interested, please contact Dr. Kerri Napoleon, GSMST Program and Internship Coordinator, at kerri.napoleon@gsmst.org or by phone at GSMST at 678-518-6691. I would also love the opportunity to provide you with more information about our school and our Partnership and Internship Programs if you would like any further information. I look forward to the possibility of working with you to help continue the exemplary education GSMST provides to its students!