

KNIGHT LIGHTS



LSC Meeting

Mon., April 18
4:00 p.m.

PTSA Meeting

Tues., April 19
6:00 p.m.

Prom

Sat., April 23
8:00 p.m.

CINS Meeting

Mon., April 25
7:00 p.m.

Progress Reports Available

Wed., April 27

AP Art Show

Thurs., April 28
6:00 p.m.

Letter from the Principal

Spring is here and the school year is almost over. For students taking Milestones courses, there are approximately two weeks remaining until the testing window. Please encourage your children to utilize different test preparation tools on a daily basis so they will perform their best on the test days. Though there was an exception to this state requirement last year, the Milestones exam score will count as 20 percent of the 2nd semester final grade in applicable courses. It is critical that students prepare for this assessment as this twenty percent weight is not negotiable.

Please frequently check the Grady website for important school updates, and subscribe to the weekly GradyGram electronic newsletter published by the PTSA. The GradyGram includes announcements encompassing all aspects of the school and also posts special editions as needed. Click here to subscribe to the *GradyGram*.

Atlanta Public Schools has been approved by the state as a Charter System. As part of this transition, every school now has a Local School Governance Team (LSGT), also known as a "GO Team." The LSGT is a way to get the community, parents and teachers involved in decision making to improve educational opportunities for students. Unlike a Local School Council (LSC) which is an advisory group, the GO Team does have some governance responsibilities in the areas of curriculum, school operations, personnel, financial decisions and resource allocations. GO Team elections took place in March.

I am pleased to announce the three LSGT Parent representatives: Sharon Bray, Regina Brewer and Janet Kinard. The three instructional staff representatives are Mario Herrera, John Brandhorst and Marlon Pilson. The two community representatives and at-large member will be voted on at the March 30th LSGT meeting (has not taken place as of this writing but will have before publication).

Finally, please note that graduation will take place on Thursday, May 26th. This is a change from the original projected date that was communicated to parents in January via the school website and the GradyGram.

If you have a concern or a suggestion for school improvement, please feel free to contact your child's grade level counselor or administrator. If you need any additional assistance, you can contact me at tguiney@atlanta.k12.ga.us or by phone at 404-802-3000. I look forward to partnering with you this year and beyond.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Guiney, Principal



Letter from Principal Guiney on Prom

Although the prom is intended for juniors and seniors, many students invite students from lower grade levels as their guests. This letter is for all students and guests who plan to attend the prom and their parents.

The Junior/Senior Prom is an event sponsored by the Junior Class. This event is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2016 at The Twelve Hotel in Atlantic Station from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. Teachers and administrators serve as chaperones for the prom, and additional security is provided by our police officers. Our expectation is that students will behave responsibly which includes no drinking, no use of drugs, and no inappropriate behavior before, during, or after the prom. As a reminder, page 20 of the Atlanta Public Schools' Student Handbook points out specific violations that we consider to be serious violations of our code of conduct:

- Possession, sale, use in any amount, distribution, or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturates, marijuana, drug paraphernalia or alcoholic beverage or other intoxicant. A student is subject to immediate suspension and mandatory referral to the disciplinary tribunal with a recommendation of placement at another school, alternative school, expulsion or long-term suspension.
- Possession, distribution, attempted sale or sale of substances represented as drugs or alcohol. A student is subject to immediate suspension and mandatory referral to the disciplinary tribunal with a recommendation of placement at another school, alternative school, expulsion, or long-term suspension.
- Sale, attempted sale, distribution, or being under the influence of a prescription or over the counter drug unless so ordered by a physician. A student is subject to immediate suspension and mandatory referral to the disciplinary tribunal with a recommendation of placement at another school, alternative school, expulsion, or long-term suspension.
- Possession or use of a weapon or dangerous instrument. A student is subject to immediate suspension and mandatory referral to a disciplinary tribunal if a student is alleged to have possessed, used, handled or transmitted any object that reasonably can be considered a weapon or any other tool or instrument capable of inflicting bodily injury as a weapon. Students who possess firearms on campus will be subject to a minimum of a one calendar year expulsion and will be referred to law enforcement officials.

Additionally, students will be scanned by electronic wands upon entering the prom. We are also not permitting students to bring overnight bags to the prom. There is no place for these items to be stored while students attend this event.

Parents, you are urged to reinforce the school's position on these matters and talk with your student about behaving responsibly. In addition, we ask that you talk with your children about obeying all traffic laws when driving to and from the prom. **No speeding!** If students hear the same expectations about the prom from the school's administration while they are at school and from their families at home, we will send a strong message to our students regarding safety.

On another note, any student who has any disciplinary actions pending will not be allowed to attend the prom. If applicable, be sure that your child has served any assigned after school detentions and cleared any mandatory conferences, in-school suspensions (ISS), and suspensions **prior to April 22, 2016.**

Students are encouraged to wear proper attire for this event. Any student who is dressed inappropriately for this occasion will not be admitted to the prom. Jeans, sneakers, and flip-flops are inappropriate.

Finally, parents, please remember that once the prom is over, the staff's responsibility ends. After-prom parties are not sanctioned, endorsed or monitored by Grady High School personnel. If you grant permission for your children to attend any after-prom activities, that will be your choice and your responsibility.

We want the prom to be a safe and enjoyable occasion for our students, and we expect your support in setting appropriate limits and expectations for your children.

Sincerely,



Timothy J. Guiney, Principal





CINS Showcases Grant Recipients

Every year, the Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) holds informational community meetings and also runs a teacher grant program. Join us to celebrate our 2016 Excellence in Education grant program at the annual Grants Showcase to be held Wednesday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. at Hope-Hill Elementary. We will mark another successful year of funding ALL of the proposals submitted. Your donations and memberships make this program successful. Come see the results of your generosity.

We thank you for another successful school year. CINS could not do the work we do without the dedication of volunteers and supporters throughout the Grady cluster community. If you are interested in serving on the CINS board, visit www.cinsatlanta.org for more information - we are always seeking dedicated, cluster-focused individuals to support CINS' mission.

In these last weeks of school, watch for updates on the CINS Facebook page about the SPLOST vote and other important issues facing the Grady cluster and schools across the city.

CINS is a non-profit organization that supports and advocates for education in the entire Grady cluster. Founded in 1978, CINS represents eight schools: four elementary schools (Mary-Lin, Hope-Hill, Morningside, Springdale Park), Centennial Academy (K-8), The Kindezi Charter School, Inman Middle School and Grady High School. These schools are all part of the Atlanta Public Schools (APS) system.

A message from District 3 School Board Rep., Matt Westmoreland

In early March, parents and staff across APS took part in the inaugural election for the Local School Governance Teams - or GO Teams - at all our schools. Congratulations to Grady parents Sharon Bray, Regina Brewer and Janet Kinard, and to teachers John Brandhorst, Mario Herrera and Marlon Pilson on their election!

These elections are part of the school system's transition to becoming a "charter system" on July 1. Under this new operating model, APS will gain freedom and flexibility from many state education laws and regulations in exchange for increased accountability for student achievement. A key element of this transition is moving meaningful decision-making authority closer to our kids. Thus, our principals and new GO Teams are empowered with more autonomy and discretion over what's happening at each individual school.

Over the last several months, my colleagues and I have also been working with Superintendent Carstarphen and her team to develop a turnaround strategy to increase student achievement in the system's lowest-performing schools.

Our strategy targets the 26 schools that the state has identified as eligible for a proposed state-run Opportunity School District, should voters approve it this November. Our plan focuses on several key areas including: high-impact tutoring, additional math and reading specialists, increased wrap-around services and support, extended learning time, recruitment of respected turnaround school leaders, targeted professional learning for teachers, and an accelerated roll-out of social emotional learning in schools. We will also be partnering with three non-profit organizations, two of whom will help operate five of our traditional schools in the Carver Cluster and one of whom will provide professional development to current principals and staffs at 10 other schools.



Georgia PTA Capitol Watch

Campus Carry legislation (House Bill 859) was approved by the Georgia House of Representatives and Senate and now sits on Governor Deal's desk. This legislation would allow anyone 21 or older with a weapons license to carry a gun anywhere on a Georgia public college or university campus (except inside dormitories, fraternities and sorority houses and at athletic events). The latest polling in the state shows that 78 percent of Georgians oppose this idea. Governor Deal has until May 3, 2016 to decide whether to sign the bill into law or veto it. If he does nothing by that date, it automatically becomes law. To add your voice on this issue, call Governor Deal's office, (404) 656-1776.



CCC

Career & Skills Expo

Grady's first Career and Skills Expo was a great success! On March 9, the CCC hosted a panel and career fair to let students know that a four-year college is not the only path to success. Our panel was headed by Juli Gilyard of Atlanta Tech. She gave an overview of careers available with technical school or other specialized training. Students then heard from representatives of a number of industries, including construction, hospitality, healthcare, supply chain management and aviation.

The panel discussion was followed by a career fair in the theater lobby where representatives from even more industries were on hand to talk to students about opportunities in their field and how to get training. From cosmetology to radiology, from trimming trees to baking cupcakes (and much more), students made contacts and got some great information about real life opportunities.

April Dates to Remember

April		School Library and National Poetry Month
4/11, Mon	5:00 p.m.	Varsity Baseball vs Redan (A)
4/11, Mon	6:30 p.m.	Robotics Booster Club Meeting (Cafeteria)
4/12, Tue		National Library Workers Day
4/12, Tue	5:30 p.m.	Girls Varsity Soccer vs North Atlanta (H)
4/12, Tue	7:30 p.m.	Boys Varsity Soccer vs North Atlanta (H)
4/13, Wed	5:30 p.m.	Varsity Baseball vs Redan (H)
4/13, Wed	6:00 p.m.	Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs Stratford Academy (H)
4/14, Thu	6:30 p.m.	Title 1 Presents: Preparing Parents for the College Application (CCC)
4/14, Thu	7:00 p.m.	<i>"I and You"</i> Production (BBT)
4/15, Fri	5:30 p.m.	Varsity Baseball vs St. Pius (H)
4/15, Fri	6:00 p.m.	Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs Woodward (H)
4/15, Fri	7:00 p.m.	<i>"I and You"</i> Production (BBT)
4/18, Mon	4:00 p.m.	Local School Council (CCC)
4/18, Mon	5:00 p.m.	Varsity Baseball vs St. Pius (A)
4/18, Mon	7:00 p.m.	Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs Starrs Mill (A)
4/19, Tue	11:30 a.m.	Swim Atlanta Job Fair (Lunchroom Hallway)
4/19, Tue	5:00 p.m.	Grady Campus Tour
4/19, Tue	5:30 p.m.	Varsity Baseball vs Marist (H)
4/19, Tue	6:00 p.m.	PTSA General Membership Meeting
4/20, Wed	11:00 a.m.	Chat-n-Chew: Stress Management and Self Care (Parent Center)
4/20, Wed	5:00 p.m.	Varsity Baseball vs Stone Mountain (A)
4/21, Thu	5:30 p.m.	Varsity Baseball vs Stone Mountain (H)
4/21, Thu	5:30 p.m.	Girls Varsity Soccer vs Decatur (H)
4/21, Thu	7:30 p.m.	Boys Varsity Soccer vs Decatur (H)
4/22, Fri	5:30 p.m.	Varsity Girls Soccer vs Tucker (H)
4/22, Fri	7:30 p.m.	Varsity Boys Soccer vs Tucker (H)
4/22, Fri	7:00 p.m.	Spring Sing (Theater)
4/23, Sat	8:00 p.m.	Prom
4/25, Mon	7:00 p.m.	CINS Meeting (Cafeteria)
4/26, Tue	7:00 p.m.	Orchestra Spring Concert (Theatre)
4/26, Tue	7:00 p.m.	Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs McIntosh (A)
4/27, Wed		Progress Report Cards Available
4/27, Wed		Jazz on the Bricks (Courtyard)
4/28, Thu	10:00 a.m.	Title 1 Presents: Summer Resources to Help Parents (Parent Center)
4/28, Thu	5:30 p.m.	Title 1 Presents: Summer Resources to Help Parents (Parent Center)
4/28, Thu	6:00 p.m.	AP Art Show at Eyedrum Art & Music Gallery
4/29, Thu	7:00 p.m.	Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs North Atlanta



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PTSA to keep up with
everything going on at
Grady!

Go to the Infinite Campus
Parent Portal for student
schedules, attendance, and
grades.

The Parent Portal web
address is
[https://ic.apsk12.org/
campus/portal/atlanta.jsp](https://ic.apsk12.org/campus/portal/atlanta.jsp).
Site Activation Key: Email
bmontero@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

The *GradyGram* e-newsletter
is sent weekly during the
school year. Sign up on
Grady's website. Send current
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gradygram@hotmail.com by
Thurs. at 5:00 p.m. for the
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