

GIFTED GAZETTE

Ben Hill County Schools

A Note from the Gifted Coordinator

The first virtual BHCS Gifted PLC meeting was held on November 1 with a discussion centered around identification and assessment of gifted students. Thank you to all those who participated. The next virtual meeting is scheduled for December 6. I hope to see you there. See other meeting dates below.

Susan Henry
 Gifted Coordinator
 Ben Hill County Schools
 susan.henry@benhillschools.org
 229-409-5500 Ext. 5811

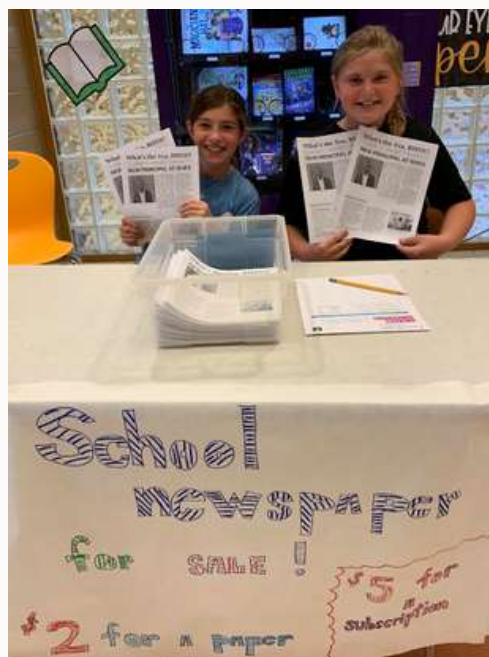


BHCS Headlines



Gifted and talented education is important for students and for the local and global community.

Students who are challenged to maximize their potential build habits of success that lead to confidence and independence. This in turn prepares them to contribute positively to their local communities and to the larger global community.



Read All About It!

Ben Hill Elementary School students in Mrs. Susan Spivey's 5th grade class have published a school newspaper. The newspaper includes news about admin, teachers, and happenings around the school. There will be a total of three editions during the school year. A newspaper is \$2 or \$5 for a subscription.

JOIN VIRTUAL GIFTED PLC

Meeting Dates

November 1
December 6
January 10
February 7
March 14
April 11

Discussion Topics

Identification
Assessment
Setting Goals
Creativity
Instructional Strategies
Talent Development
Social & Emotional Needs
& More



Link to join meetings
will be emailed monthly

FEATURED GIFTED TEACHER

Stephanie Howell

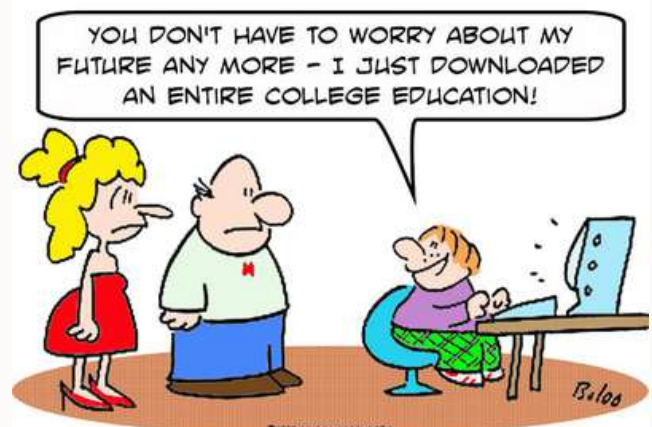


Stephanie Howell began her teaching career in 1995 after earning her Bachelors Degree in Middle Grades Education from VSU in 1994. She taught at the YDC in Dodge County from 1998-2000 and then moved to Irwin County Schools from 2000-2006. She began teaching in the Ben Hill County School System in 2006 where she currently teaches 7th grade accelerated math, 8th grade accelerated math and 8th grade honors math. Stephanie received her Gifted Endorsement in 2009. She also received her Masters Degree in Middle Grades Math from GSW in 2017 and her Specialist Degree in Middle Grades Education from GSW in 2018.



HHMI BioInteractive brings the power of real science stories into tens of thousands of high school and undergraduate life science classrooms. From data-rich activities and case studies to high-quality videos and interactive media, the resources are designed to connect students to the world around them.

biointeractive.org

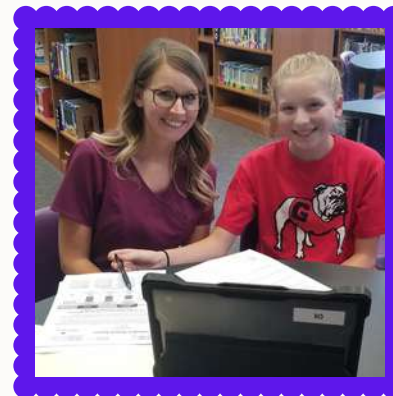
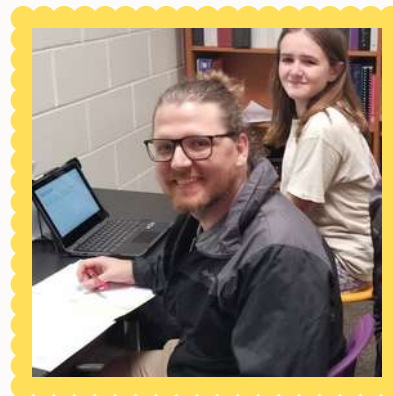
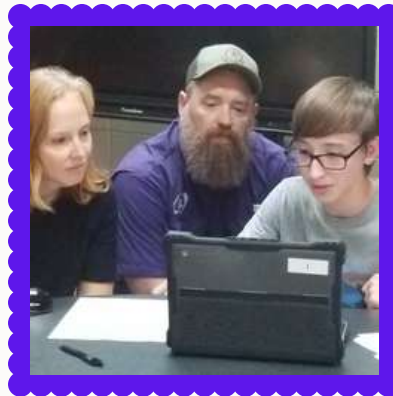


More BHCS Headlines



Student-Led Conferences at BHMS

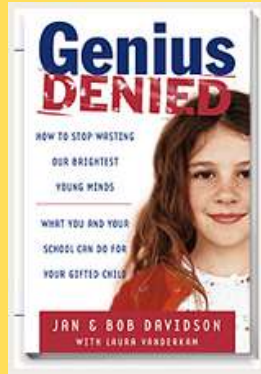
Gifted students at BHMS participated in student-led parent conferences as a part of the gifted annual review process. Students welcomed parents and shared information about their academic goals, the importance of growth in those areas and how the goals will be reached. The students were also able to share achievements thus far, interests, clubs in which they participate, and other concerns. Special thanks to Sandy Anderson, Kim Bryant, and Stephanie Howell for making this happen.



Student-Led Conferences at BHMS continued...



"In *Genius Denied*, the Davidsons describe the "quiet crisis" in education: gifted students spending their days in classrooms learning little beyond how to cope with boredom as they "relearn" material they've already mastered years before. This lack of challenge leads to frustration, underachievement, and even failure."



[Purchase Genius Denied at Amazon.com](#)

Twice-Exceptional Kids: Both Gifted and Challenged

by Beth Arky

Some children are highly gifted in areas such as math, writing, or music. Then there are those with challenges that affect learning: They could have ADHD, dyslexia or dyscalculia, or perhaps they're autistic or have sensory processing issues. But there are kids who fit both categories.



[Read full article.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

There are as many as 8 different widely accepted definitions or theories of giftedness, dating back to the early 1900s. These range from theories based solely on IQ, to more expansive ideas about the consideration of potential, creativity, achievement, talent, and brain function. Popular researchers include Renzulli, Gagne, Gardner, and Sternberg, among others!

Adapted from: *How the Gifted Brain Learns*, by David a. Sousa



- Free Brain Games
- Gifted Curriculum
- Creativity Test
- Critical Thinking
- Identification
- More

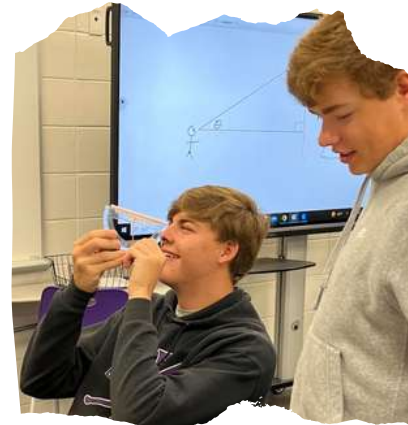
Exquisite Minds believes in the importance of cultivating creativity in bright and gifted children. Exquisite Minds believes creativity can solve almost any problem; rather than why something can't be done, it's how it can be done. Exquisite Minds offers support to parents and educators who want to challenge children to find new and constructive ways to look at the world. Check it out here...

exquisite-minds.com

More BHCS Headlines



FHSCCA Students Create Inclinometers



FHSCCA students in Mr. Jarrett Yarbrough's Honors Geometry class participated in a two-part lab in which they used a DIY inclinometer as a tool to solve application problems involving special right triangles of elevation. The students estimated the height of objects found around the classroom using the inclinometers and trigonometry. During the second part of the lab, students used the inclinometer to determine the height of the flag pole. Note: An inclinometer (or clinometer), is an instrument used for measuring the angles of slope/tilt and elevation/depression of an object with respect to gravity.



Book List for Gifted Elementary Students

Overcoming Stress & Anxiety

The Worrywarts by Pamela Duncan Edwards
Wemberly Worried by Kevin Henkes
Ruby Finds a Worry by Tom Percival
Wilma Jean the Worry Machine by Julia Cook

Dealing with Perfectionism

Being Bella by Cheryl Zuzo
Nobody's Perfect by Ellen Flanagan Burns
Ish by Peter H. Reynolds
Beautiful Oops! by Barney Saltzberg



TIP

for Gifted



Address the counseling needs of gifted learners. Some gifted students have issues regarding anger, boredom, bullying, delinquency, isolation, depression, peer relations, perfectionism, stress, frustration, and underachievement. About 20-25% of gifted students have emotional difficulties.

CHECK IT OUT! ✓

Big Ideas for Little Scholars



bigideas4littlescholars.com

BIG IDEAS for LITTLE SCHOLARS was created for teachers and parents of the insatiably curious and intellectually gifted or advanced. you'll find a collection of recommended learning resources designed for use with K-8 gifted and advanced students.

Smart Teenage Brains May Get Some Extra Learning Time

by: Shankar Vedantam

John Hewitt is a neuroscientist who studies the biology of intelligence. He's also a parent. Over the years, Hewitt has periodically drawn upon his scientific knowledge in making patenting decisions.



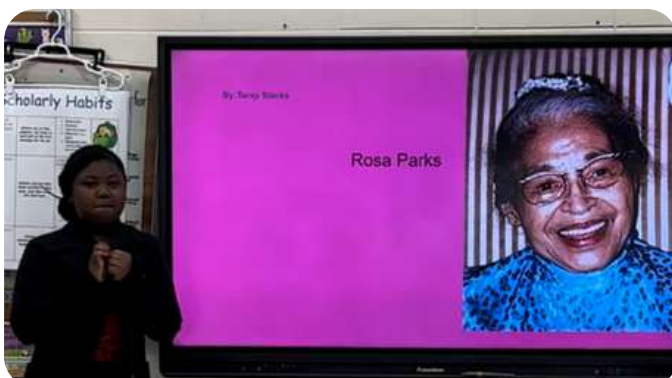
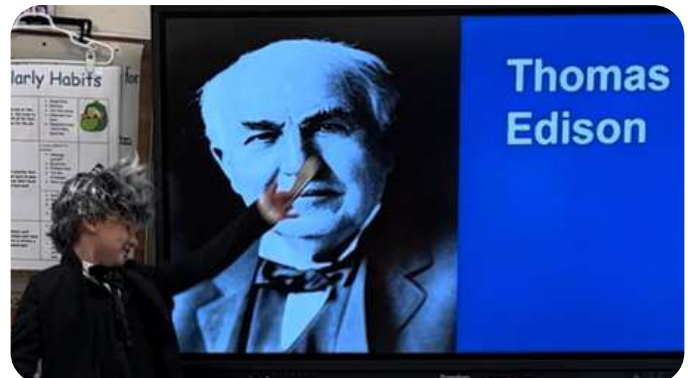
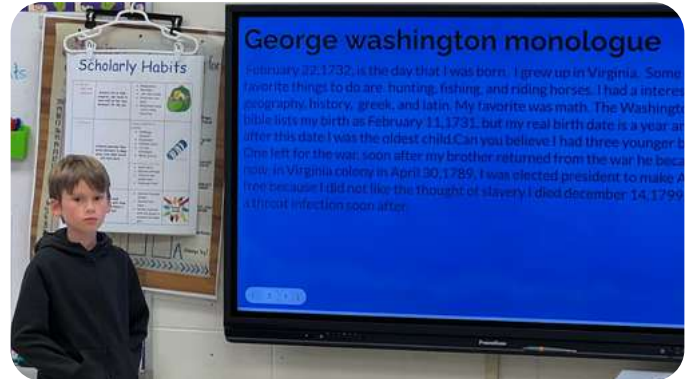
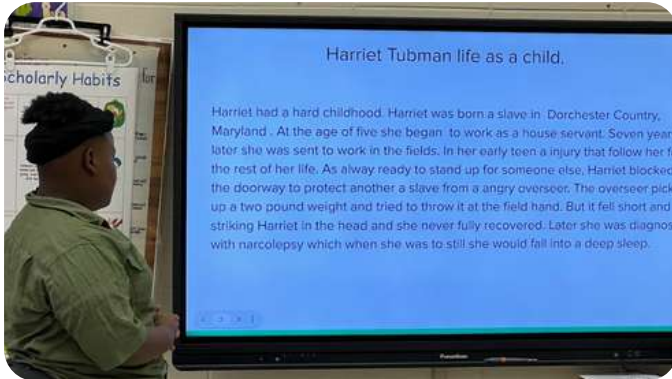
[Read full article.](#)

More BHCS Headlines

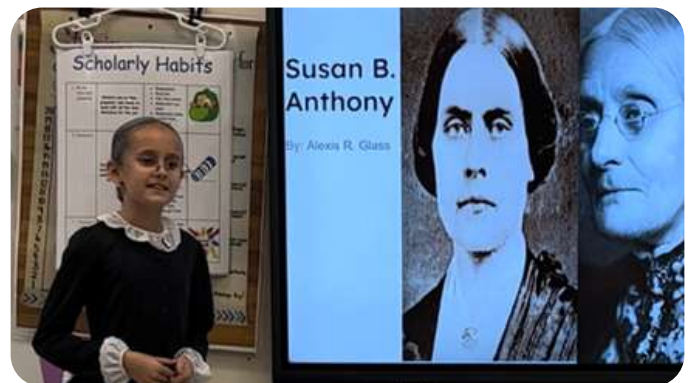
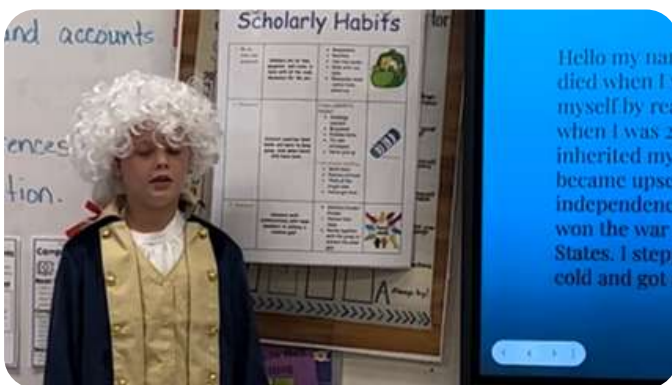
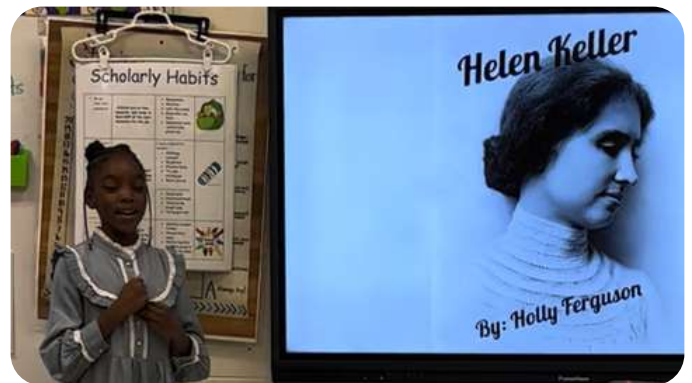
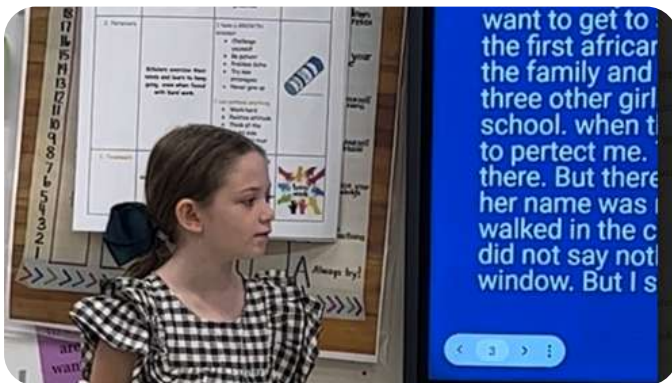


Change Makers

Ben Hill Elementary School students in Mrs. Marcia Whitley's classes presented "Change Maker" projects for their classmates and other visitors. Students began by researching a person in history who made a difference in our country or world. Students created timelines and wrote monologues as part of the project. Many of the students dressed in costume during their presentations.



More BHCS Headlines



Website used for research: ducksters.com

More BHCS Headlines



The Big Apple...NYC

Ben Hill Primary School first and second grade students in Mrs. Kelly Kight's and Mrs. Karen Peck's classes participated in a project-based learning unit centered around New York City. Students read the book *I Survived the Attacks of September 11, 2001* by Lauren Tarshis. They learned facts about New York City and the second graders also researched and learned about the heroes of 9/11. As a part of the unit, students learned about arrays and multiplication as they made drawings of the NYC skyline. They learned how skyscrapers are built and discussed vocabulary such as stability, bedrock, and steel skeleton. The students built models of skyscrapers using boxes and other paper goods. Each skyscraper was constructed with windows (arrays) and other features such as railings, air vents, and clocks.

[Find the I SURVIVED books here. kids.scholastic.com](https://kids.scholastic.com)

