

KNIGHT LIGHTS



Principal Coffee

Please join us for coffee, questions and answers with Principal Guiney on **Thursday, Nov. 12** at 8:45 a.m. in the theater lobby.

Thanksgiving Break

Don't forget - there is no school for students from **Monday, Nov. 23 through Friday, Nov. 27**. School will resume on Monday, Nov. 30. Happy Thanksgiving!

Progress Reports

Student progress reports will be available on **Wed., Nov. 11**. They will be distributed to students during advisement.

Go GRADY!

From the Principal



Thank you to all parents who attended Grady's Back to School Night, Junior Night, Senior Parent Night, Homecoming Coronation and other

recent events. We appreciate your support. The school year is truly flying by; I can't believe it is already November.

Looking forward, the Grady High School Foundation is in need of membership and support. If you are interested in assisting with the foundation, please e-mail Mr. John Brandhorst, jbrandhorst@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Meanwhile, many of you have heard the exciting news about a [major donation](#) from a partnership with the Boys' High School Alumni Association. We are thrilled that deserving Grady students will receive college scholarships, and that new funds will support our reading, writing and math instruction. In the months ahead, we will reveal more specifics of our plans. Many thanks to the Boys' High School Alumni Association!

As the semester moves along, we'd like to share with you a variety of support programs and resources for Grady students and families. However, these are only the tip of the iceberg. If you would like more information or have a specific need, please contact your child's counselor.

• **College and Career Connections (CCC)** is located in Room C226. In 2014-2015, more than 100 college recruiters visited the CCC to meet with Grady students. Encourage your child to visit the CCC to work on college applications, meet recruiters and get help with searching for financial aid.

• Grady's **Writing Center** is located in the media center and is open Monday through Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30. Students can work on writing skills and get help on written assignments, including preparation for the new *Milestones* assessment constructed response and extended response questions.

• The **Parent Resource Center** is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Our center provides informational sessions and workshops for parents to help their child succeed. Please look for



PTSA News

Thank you to all who helped and participated in October activities of the PTSA (Parent-Teacher-Student Association). Here is a snapshot of what we have accomplished so far this year:

- Processed 300 PTSA memberships
- Hosted three PTSA parking lot fundraisers
- Received a Virginia-Highland/ Morningside Parents Association sponsorship
- Participated in the National PTA School of Excellence challenge
- Disbursed Technology Student Association Club funds
- Sponsored a counselors' roundtable for parents
- Hosted the first principal coffee of the year

We also anticipate receiving a Georgia PTA Early Bird Award for enrolling 200 members by September. None of this could have happened without your support. Whether you are a volunteer or an attendant, your contribution is valuable to Grady students. Moving forward, we intend to focus on bringing value to our PTSA meetings. In November we will conduct a survey of all Grady stakeholders in hopes of learning how to better serve you.

We thank you in advance for taking the time to share your thoughts, and we hope to see you at our next PTSA general meeting, December 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Grady High School PTSA Executive Board
 gradyknightpts@gmail.com

announcements on Grady's website, the *GradyGram*, and GHS PTSA Facebook Page for upcoming events.

• If your child is interested in receiving college credit while still enrolled in high school, [dual enrollment](#) may be an option. For details, contact Mr. Lamar Young at lyoung@atlanta.k12.ga.us or 404-802-3019.

• If your child is struggling academically, encourage him or her to attend tutorial.

Additionally, please encourage your child to get involved. Our extracurriculars include [athletics](#), fine arts, school publications and many other clubs. At Grady High School, there is truly something for everyone.

To schedule a conference with your child's teachers, please contact the counselors. (Counselor contact information can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.)

Additionally, Grady's Assistant Principals are available when you have a concern or a suggestion for school improvement. If you need additional assistance, contact me at tguiney@atlanta.k12.ga.us or by phone at 404-802-3001. I look forward to partnering with you this year and beyond.

Sincerely,
 Timothy J. Guiney,, Principal



Parent Center News

Grady High School is committed to quality education for all students. We recognize that parent engagement is essential to meet the goals for our students. To that end, Grady's Parent Center (Room C116) provides space for activities and classes recommended by the school psychologist, social workers and principal, or requested by parents and guardians. Please stop in anytime Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., or call 404-802-3017.

Ms. Marable, Grady's parent liaison, regularly hosts informational sessions for parents and guardians designed to help meet the needs of Grady students. The next Chat-n-Chew session, "Stress Management and Self Care," will take place November 18 at 11:00 a.m. in the Parent Center. All are welcome.

In celebration of Parent Engagement Month this November, the Parent Center challenges you to "engage" by participating in a [Parent Video Contest](#) (click on link for submission details). Videos are due November 16. May the best video win!

In addition, the center is collaborating with the PTSA to hold a Parent-Teacher Appreciation Luncheon during November. Check the *GradyGram* for luncheon date and location.

Counselors' Corner

Attendance

As a reminder, according to APS excused and unexcused student attendance policy, student absenteeism is not to exceed 6 days per year. This is a state level change to the attendance policy, so please keep track of days missed. Feel free to contact your child's counselor for more information.

Juniors

Second Semester Junior Checklist

1. Test Preparation – Juniors should sharpen their focus to carefully study for any ACT/SAT subject test to enhance college applications. The [Peachtree Library](#) offers free test prep sessions on selected Saturdays. Check their calendar for information on scheduling and registration.
2. College and Career Connections – Volunteers are prepared to assist with college search, testing preparation and scholarship opportunities. It is strongly advised that Juniors become more familiar with these resources. *Room C226, Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.*
3. Internships – Juniors ought to consider internships for the summer. Search and interest should begin early.
4. Join Remind – Stay connected with Ms. Hines, 11th Grade Counselor via text @grady2017 to 81010. Parents are also encouraged to join Remind.
5. Financial Aid Night – This informative meeting will be held on December 2, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Grady cafeteria. To research financial aid opportunities, visit GeorgiaCollege411.org, FAFSA.gov and www.StudentAid.gov.

SGA News

Student Government Association Class of 2016

Congratulations to the newly elected SGA Officers and all SGA Candidates! The Executive Team is comprised of: **Maya Beatty**, *President*; **Erin Alford**, *Vice President*; **T'Mia Gentry**, *Secretary*; **Jadah Greenidge**, *Treasurer*; **Paige Patterson**, *Parliamentarian*.

"My goal as President is to serve as the voice of our student body. I want to unite Grady and enhance the culture that comes from all the diverse backgrounds Grady students embody. As a senior class we really want to make our year memorable and school spirit is our biggest thing!" states an enthusiastic President-Elect Maya Beatty.

Ms. Ramey, faculty sponsor, can be contacted at bsramey@atlanta.k12.ga.us for all volunteer opportunities with SGA, Ladies of Grady and P.I.K. Me.



Seniors

Parchment

GHS has implemented [Parchment](#) for all student transcript requests. This program allows students to request transcripts electronically and have them sent to the prospective college of interest. Please create an account online on the Grady High School website. For questions or more information, contact Mr. Young at ljyoung@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Homecoming Football Game

GHS has a great athletic department headed by Coach Johnson-Jelks, Athletic Director. Homecoming week proved to be very exciting for our student football players. During advisement, the team received a surprise visit from former Pro Bowl Linebacker Jessie Tuggle. Tuggle, also known as the Hammer, was a 14-year linebacker (1987-2000) for the Atlanta Falcons.

Coach Jelks was able to arrange the visit through PTSA efforts stating, *"This would be an awesome opportunity for our young men!"*

Tuggle shared his NFL experience and motivated the players for their upcoming homecoming game. He also encouraged the students by saying, *'with or without football, do the right thing in becoming model students and productive citizens in society'*. The team later presented the former Atlanta Falcon with a GHS t-shirt!



Teacher of the Year!

Congratulations to our very own GHS Latin Teacher, **Mr. Scott Allen** who has been honored as the APS High School Teacher of the Year! Mr. Allen teaches grades 9 - 12 and admits *"Teaching is in my blood."* The banquet for all system-wide recognition is scheduled for Friday, November 6, 2015. On behalf of parents, teachers, and students, **CONGRATULATIONS** Mr. Allen! Read more in the [AJC](#) coverage.



November Dates to Remember

11/2, Mon.	Gifted Testing Begins - Ends 11/20/15
11/2, Mon.	Atlanta Virtual Academy Registration Begins - Ends 1/22/16
11/4, Wed. 9:40 a.m.	Herff-Jones Senior Presentation - Murray Auditorium
11/4, Wed. 4:00 p.m.	<i>Justice While Black</i> Author Discussion - Media Center
11/5, Thu. 7:00 p.m.	<i>W;t</i> Fall Play - Black Box Theatre
11/5, Thu. 7:30 p.m.	Varsity Senior Night Football Game vs Stone Mountain - H
11/6, Fri. 7:00 p.m.	<i>W;t</i> Fall Play - Black Box Theatre
11/9, Mon.	School Psychologists Awareness Week - Ends 11/13/15
11/11, Wed.	Progress Reports Available
11/11, Wed. 9:40 a.m.	Gates Millennium Scholarship Presentation - Auditorium
11/11, Wed. 9:40 a.m.	AP/Dual Enrollment Advisement
11/11, Wed. 7:00 p.m.	Council of Intown Neighborhood Schools CINS - Auditorium
11/12, Thu. 8:45 a.m.	Principal Coffee - Murray Auditorium Lobby
11/12, Thu. 3:30 p.m.	Transportation YOU Meeting - Cafeteria
11/12, Thu. 6:30 p.m.	Robotics DFG Teacher Training - Cafeteria-Interactive Lab
11/12, Thu. 7:00 p.m.	Ultimate Layout Club Meeting - Murray Auditorium Lobby
11/14, Sat. 9:00 a.m.	GABWA Youth Summit - Murray Auditorium Lobby
11/14, Sat. 10:00 a.m.	Kix Sneaker Convention - Gym
11/14, Sat. 1:00 p.m.	LEGO Robotics Scrimmage - Murray Auditorium
11/16, Mon. 3:30 p.m.	Drama Club Meeting - Black Box Theatre
11/16, Mon. 4:00 p.m.	Local School Council Meeting - CCC
11/18, Wed. 8:30 a.m.	Underclassmen Picture Day Make Up - Murray Auditorium
11/19, Thu. 6:00 p.m.	Financial Aid Night - Cafeteria
11/19, Thu. 7:00 p.m.	Coffeehouse - Murray Auditorium
11/20, Fri. 9:00 a.m.	HOSA Blood Drive - Murray Auditorium Lobby
11/21, Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Taste of Grady - Gym and Courtyard
11/23, Mon.	Thanksgiving Break Begins - Ends 11/27/15
11/23, Mon. 7:00 p.m.	Council of Intown Neighborhood Schools Meeting - Cafeteria
11/30, Mon.	Iowa Test of Basic Skills for Gifted Placement - Ends 12/11/15

Grady Seniors get your Cap & Gown!

Grady Seniors - please go to the Grady website and select "Senior Class 2016 Information" under the QuickLinks section on the left. Please provide the requested information, some of which will be used to order your cap and gown.

Senior Fees

Senior fees may be paid online through the "Senior Fees" link on the Grady website. Fees are as follows:
 \$190 if paid by Feb. 29
 \$200 after Mar. 1
 Save some money by paying early!



PTSA Executive Committee**President:** Debra Coleman, debracolemanPTSA@gmail.com**Secretary:** Liz Opsahl, esopsahl@msn.com**Treasurer:** Florina Veira-Corbett, fivc@msn.com**Parliamentarian:** John Earles, john.a.earles@gmail.com**VP Communications:** Liz Keith, keithliz2022@gmail.com**VP, Family Engagement:** Becky Fite, beckyfite@gmail.com**VP, Fundraising & Special Events:** Erlese Caruth, ecaruth@comcast.net**VP, Operations & School Support:** Hope Stevenson, hopelynn.stevenson@gmail.com**Grady PTSA Communications Team*****Knight Lights*** Monthly Newsletter**Submissions:** gradyknightlights@gmail.com (monthly deadline 2nd Monday)**KL Editors:** Lisa Pittman, planfp@bellsouth.net, Sarah Zaslaw, s.zaslaw@comcast.net, and Melissa Pressman, melissadpressman@yahoo.com**KL Layout and Design:** Laura Kish, laurakish5@gmail.com**KL Printing:** Bonnie Jokl, bonniejokl@gmail.com**KL Distribution:** Karen Carroll, knbcarroll@bellsouth.net***GradyGram*** Weekly Newsletter**Submissions:** gradygram@hotmail.com (weekly deadline 5:00 p.m. Thursdays)**Editors:** Mary Jo Bryan, gradygram@hotmail.com,

Vickie Hunter: marshvickhunter@comcast.net

Layout and Design: Gena Skelton, grhskelton@gmail.com**Website:** Brian Montero, bmontero@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Facebook, Instagram, Website Social Media Platforms:**

gradyptsacomunications@gmail.com (photos must be jpg/png format)

Administrative Contacts**Principal:** Mr. Timothy Guiney, tguiney@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Assistant Principal:** Dr. David Propst, dpropst@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Registrar:** Ms. Chinaester Holland, cpholland@atlanta.k12.ga.us**9th Grade Assistant Principal:** Carrie MacBrien, cmacbrien@atlanta.k12.ga.us**10th Grade Assistant Principal:** Rodney Howard, rdhoward@atlanta.k12.ga.us**11th Grade Assistant Principal:** Raymond Dawson, rdawsons@atlanta.k12.ga.us**12th Grade Assistant Principal:** Willie Vincent, vmvincent@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Main Office:** 404-802-3001**Office fax:** 404-802-3009**Website:** http://srt5.atlantapublicschools.us/grady**GHS Counseling and Guidance Team****9th Grade:** Dr. Shaketha Blankenship, sblankenship@atlanta.k12.ga.us, 404-802-3052**10th Grade:** Shelia Oliver, soliver@atlanta.k12.ga.us, 404-802-3020**11th Grade:** Nicole Hines, nhines@atlanta.k12.ga.us, 404-802-3018**12th Grade:** Lamar Young, ljyoung@atlanta.k12.ga.us, 404-802-3019**Graduation Coach:** Charmaine Gray, cgray@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Faculty Contacts****CTAE (Career, Technical and Agricultural Education):** Mr. Marlon Pilson, mpilson@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Fine Arts:** Mr. John Brandhorst, jbrandhorst@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Foreign Language:** Mr. Scott Allen, scallen@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Health/PE:** Coach Myss Jelks, mtjelks@atlanta.k12.ga.us**JROTC:** Lt. Colonel Charles Johnson, cejohnson@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Language Arts/English:** Mr. Lawrence McCurdy, lmccurdy@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Mathematics:** Mr. John Rives, jrives@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Science:** Dr. Jormell Cofield, jbcofield@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Social Science:** Mr. Lee Pope, rpope@atlanta.k12.ga.us**Stay In Touch****Grady PTSA Facebook Page**

"Like" Grady High School 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>.

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 news to gradygram@hotmail.com by Thurs. at 5:00 p.m. for the next edition.

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