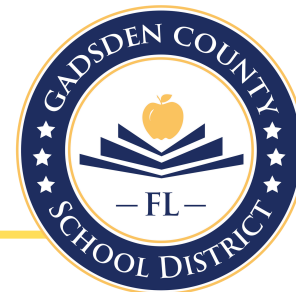


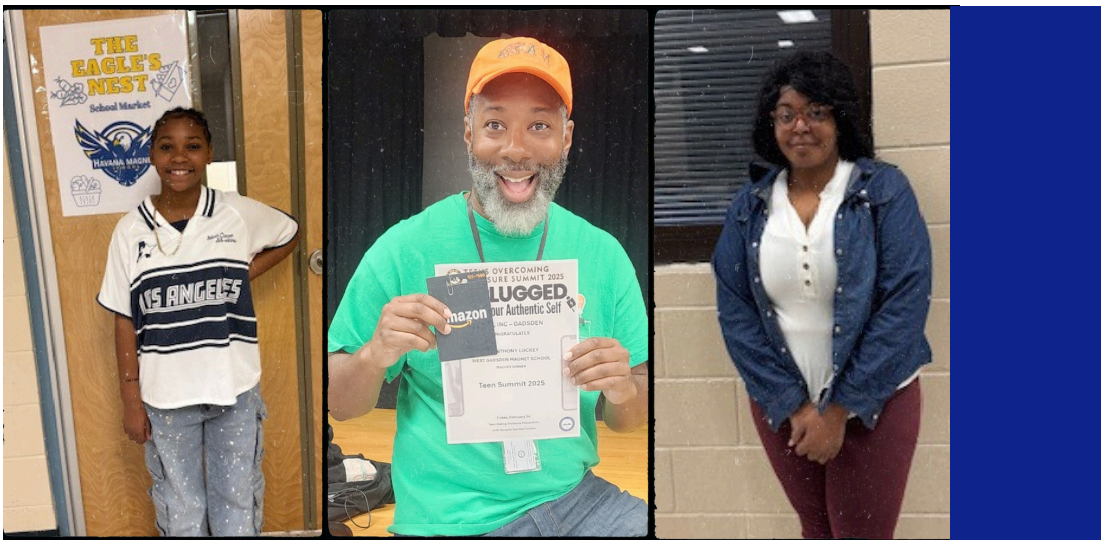
MARCH 2025



ACADEMIC SERVICES

NEWSLETTER

Gadsden Chapter
National Hook-Up of
Black Women, Inc.
Advocates for Women and Their Families



Partnering For Excellence

The National Hook-Up of Black Women, Inc. - Gadsden Chapter partnered with the Gadsden County School District for its annual Teens Overcoming Pressure Summit (TOPS). Over 800 scholars participated in sessions focused on teen dating violence awareness and child/human trafficking prevention. Pictured above are three of the four winners of the gift cards provided by the organization. Our partners are committed to our youth TODAY for a stronger Gadsden TOMORROW.

#PartnershipsMatter

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

March 25-27: Head Start/PreK Annual Registration (9:00 - 2:00) Joe Ferolito Recreation Center

April 10: Title I Meeting (6:00-7:30) HMS

Updates from OPLS

After the success of last month's 1-on-1 meetings with school principals, the Office of Professional Learning Services decided to take the same approach with our educators. The OPLS team will visit each of the school sites and meet with teachers during their planning period to get feedback about the professional learning sessions that will be most beneficial to our educators and ultimately student achievement! In addition, we continue our virtual meetings with educator's whose temporary or professional certificates expire on June 30, 2025. Finally, the OPLS team meets weekly to plan for this year's summer educational summit, "Keeping It Fresh '25", to ensure it is filled with professional learning sessions that will benefit the district and school leaders, as well as the new and veteran educators.

Elijah Key, Superintendent
Tammy McGriff, Asst. Superintendent,
Academic Services

Updates from Elementary Education

The Elementary Education office has continued to work closely with our BSI elementary school leaders and instructional teams to review mid-year student performance data, ensuring that our intervention strategies and instructional practices are meeting the diverse needs of our students. By analyzing key data points from benchmark assessments, classroom performance trends, and student growth measures, we have collaborated with the principals and leadership teams to adjust instructional pacing, identify areas requiring targeted support, and implement data-driven interventions.

Additionally, we have been assisting our schools with their "Beyond the School Day" (after school programs). Through collaboration with school administrators and instructional coaches, the Academic Services department is ensuring that our summer programs are structured, well-resourced, and designed to bridge learning gaps so that students enter the next school year with confidence and readiness.

Updates from Assessment & Accountability

FOURTH QUARTER!!!

Several schools are busy administering the Florida Alternate Assessment to many of our students with disabilities.

Our students in grades 4-10 are preparing to take the B.E.S.T. Writing assessment during the week of March 31st-April 4th.

In addition, schools are verifying their data in Focus to make sure that the correct students will be counted for school grades.

Accolades

Principal Camry S. Floyd, Shanks Middle School, was recognized by Tallahassee State College for Women's History Month.

Updates from Secondary Education

In March, the office engaged in several key activities to support schools and district initiatives. On March 5, staff participated in the BSI Monthly District Meeting and the Varsity Tutors Cohort 1 Data Wrap-up Call.

The Principals' Leadership Team Meeting took place on March 6, fostering leadership development.

Throughout the week of March 3-7, on-site support was provided at Gadsden County High. Additional support efforts continued with a BSI Support Visit to James A. Shanks Middle on March 18, coinciding with the AVID District Directors Collaboration Call.

On March 20, on-site support was extended to Carter-Parramore Academy, reinforcing the office's commitment to school improvement and collaboration.



#Graduation

Updates from Federal Programs

It's that time of year again. Federal Programs is preparing to gather information for our Title I private schools' students for the 2025-2026 school year. We are working on Title I, Title V, and Title IX to ensure that we are on schedule with drawdowns, roll-forward, and expenditures. To support instruction, we are working with principals on needs assessments for 2025-2026., creating spreadsheets on each schools' anticipated forward. Title I is working on our Title I parent meeting on April 10, 2025 in Havana from 6:00 to 7:30.

Updates from Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

We are thrilled to share some exciting updates from our department! On March 1st, our team proudly participated in the Special Olympics Area Games at Lawton Chiles High School. It was an inspiring day filled with incredible performances, and we couldn't be more proud of our athletes.

But the good news doesn't stop there! We are excited to announce that we also will attend the State Summer Special Olympics Games in Orlando, Florida on May 16-17, 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity for our athletes to showcase their talents on a larger stage, and we are eager to see them shine.

Additionally, we are looking forward to a local community Special Olympics celebration, with a tentative date of May 21, 2025. This event will bring us all together to cheer on our athletes and celebrate their achievements. Currently, our teams include Track & Field, Cheerleading, and Basketball, and we are confident that our athletes will continue to bring home the wins. We are committed to supporting them every step of the way, and we can't wait to see all the amazing accomplishments they will achieve in the coming months. Let's go team!



"We run to help build a world where people with intellectual disabilities are included and accepted. We run to ensure that they are treated with dignity and respect. We run to empower Special Olympics Florida Athletes - helping them transform themselves, their communities and the world."

**Helping students
turn their "can'ts"
into "cans" and
their dreams into
plans!**

Updates on School Improvement Efforts

This month, District Instructional Coaches are continuing their efforts to support teachers in the delivery of high-quality, standards-based instruction. The primary focus remains on strengthening Tier 1 instruction, with both school-based and district coaches providing hands-on support. In addition, there is an increased emphasis on small group and targeted individualized instruction, with instructional specialists working directly with students. These initiatives are designed to refine teaching strategies, address areas for improvement, and ensure alignment with student needs. Through enhanced collaboration between school-based and district coaches, the district aims to provide greater support, ultimately fostering student growth and academic success.

To further advance student outcomes, the district has partnered with the Gadsden County Chapter of the FAMU National Alumni Association to increase literacy initiatives. Collaborations with local organizations such as the Chattahoochee Rotary Club and the Gadsden County Chapter of FAMU National Alumni Association help to provide valuable resources and support. These partnerships are essential in creating a more comprehensive approach to literacy development, engaging students, staff, and the broader community in fostering a literacy-focused environment.

FAMU National Alumni Association – Gadsden Chapter Helps Us Promote Literacy



DISTRICT GOALS

ACADEMICS

- Increase the % of students who are kindergarten ready; proficient in core areas & graduation ready

BEHAVIOR

- Reduce % of OSS incidents; student absences; teacher absences

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Increase # of community partnerships; # of parents engaged in school community