



# MARCH

## SUPPORT SERVICES UPDATE

### Gadsden Technical College

Director Willie Jackson

**Milestone Accomplishments:** Council on Occupational Education (COE) Accreditation Reaffirmation through 2030, Award letter funding the GATE Program (students who receive GED attend technical or community college tuition free), a favorable Risk Analysis Report from DOE's On-site Review of Perkins and Adult Education funds, and Financial Aid (Pell and Veteran Affairs) annual reapproval

**Ongoing Projects:** Student Common/Event Center Renovation by Carpentry Program, Marquee Repair, Post-secondary FOCUS Rollout (April 2025), associate in science degree application, equipment acquisition for the new Applied Engineering Program at GCHS, and Nursing Clinicals

**Day to Day Activities:** Building Instructors and Staff Capacity for an Institution of Learning, Curriculum and Instruction monitoring (Syllabus Alignment with Curriculum Frameworks), and 13 Grants management (all award letters received)

**Anticipated Projects:** Open Enrollment (April-June), Grants application cycle (March-April), GATE Program equipment acquisition (April), Veteran Recognition Day (June 14<sup>th</sup>), Summer Youth Dual Enrollment Program (June 2025), AS Degree approval and implementation (Aug 2025), Student Common/Event Center opens (Aug 2025), Building Construction Management Technology Program "Tiny House" Partnership with Jones Construction (Aug 2025)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 4, 2025

2:30 P.M.

New K8 School Food Service  
Design Meeting

April 10, 2025

9:00 A.M.

Education Foundations  
Peer-to-Peer Sharing

6:00 P.M.

FACE HMS Parent and  
Community Meeting

April 25, 2025

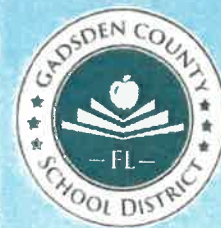
6:00 P.M.

Relay for Life

*Success is achieved through  
effort, determination and  
perseverance.*

*Perseverance is the hard work you  
do after you get tired of doing the  
hard work you already did.*

GADSDEN COUNTY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



## **Transportation Department**

### **Director Matthew Bryant**

The Gadsden County School District's Transportation Department will be doing a no-cost 90-day Motive Trial to begin after April 1st. The trial will include 4 buses and 3 white fleet vehicles. This system will instantly detect risky behaviors, such as cell phone use and close following. It will deliver immediate feedback through audio and visual alerts. The system will only send true safety events for manager review.

#### **Ensure drivers:**

- Avoid being penalized for mistakes they didn't make.
- Focus on true safety concerns deserving your attention.
- Detect more risks through ongoing AI enhancements.

Motive touts the following Return on Investment (ROI)  
Safety: 57% Fewer accidents within four months  
Productivity: 34% Less time spent on manual processes  
Cost Savings: \$3.4 million annual accident, insurance and fuel costs saved in a fleet of 1000 vehicles (The district has approximately 100 buses and white fleet vehicles; therefore, this translates to approximately \$300,000 saving for the district.)

## **Driver Training for All Exceptional Student Education Drivers/Bus Attendants**

### **Wheelchair Securement and Safety**

This course will cover the differences among various types of wheelchairs and the correct ways to secure them to your vehicle and the importance of using the four-point tie-down securement system to ensure the safety of wheelchair users during transportation. After completing this course participants will have a comprehensive understanding of wheelchair securement and safety on school buses and be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide safe and accessible transportation for all passengers.

### **Evacuation Planning for Students with Special Needs**

This course will give the basic knowledge needed to create a unique plan for the bus and the children being transported. Student Restraint Safety Systems  
The goal of this course is to provide school bus drivers with basic techniques for safe securement during transportation of students with special needs.

### **TRANSFINDERS Routing Software Update**

Meeting scheduled for March 24, 2025, with the Project Manager and the district team to discuss next steps.

## **MIS Department**

Coordinator Darlean Youmans

### **Talented Twenty Program**

The Talented Twenty program supports efforts to better prepare students for life and work in the 21st century. The purpose of the Talented Twenty program is to guarantee admission to one of the 12 state universities for students who succeed in their respective K-12 public schools and to encourage students to strive for better grades and pursue rigorous academic courses. The program resources below provide information regarding the guidelines to determine students in the top 20 percent of their graduating class and the specifications they must meet to be eligible for the Talented Twenty program. A district has the responsibility of identifying the top 20 percent from each eligible high school's graduating class and must submit data for those meeting the required specifications.

To qualify for the Talented Twenty program, a student must:

- Be enrolled in a Florida public high school and graduate with a standard diploma.
- Be ranked in the top 20% of the class after the posting of seventh semester grades.
- Submit SAT scores from the College Board, or ACT scores from ACT, Inc., or CLT (Classic Learning Test) scores from Classic Learning Initiatives, LLC prior to enrollment to a university in the State University System (SUS).
- Meet the minimum SUS admissions eligibility requirements outlined in the [Board of Governors Regulation 6.002 \(PDF\)](#).

### **Gadsden County School District Top 20**

#### **Gadsden County**

##### **High School**

AKINS, RYHANNA  
ALBERTO, LESLEY  
BARNARD, SHY'JALIK  
BARRERA-RESENDIZ, JARED  
BROWN, AMIRE  
BROWN, CEDRIYONNA  
CARTAGENA, IRVIN  
CASTANEDA, YASLIN  
CHACON, ODALIS  
CLEMONS, AMOI  
CUELLAR, VICTOR  
DODD, SHAMARA  
EALY, ERIONNA  
FAVORS, JA'NIYA  
GADSON, KAVIA  
GAINOUS, JASHAREIA  
GEATHERS, FANTASIA  
GLENN, ZYLA  
HAMILTON, TIARA  
HARRIS, JA'MAYAH  
HERNANDEZ, MIGUEL  
JOHNSON, JORDAN  
KELLY, IMANI  
KEY, ANIYAH  
LANDAVERDE-LEMUS, ADRIANA  
LEE, KIMORA  
LODMAN, NA'CHASITY  
MARTINEZ, ASHLEY

MARTINEZ-AGUILAR, SHERLYN  
MCCLOUD, JA'KAYLA  
MENJIVAR, ASLY  
MITCHELL, JORDAN  
OLIVER, JA'VEON  
PARIS, TRANIYA  
PENA, FADIA  
PINEDA, ASHLEY  
RILEY, SHA'ZION  
SAILOR, DERIYA  
SANTANA FERNANDEZ, EMANUEL  
SHANNON, AMARIO  
SHAW, ZMARRION  
SMITH, JOSHUA  
WILLIAMS, DEVIN  
ZUNIGA, ADRIANNA  
FORD, TREYVON  
ALAS, YARELI

##### **Crossroad Academy**

CHALCHI, JESUS  
DAVIS, DYLAN  
GODWIN, JEANETTE  
HALE, COREY  
LAWSON, ARTHUR  
MORALES LOPEZ, KAYRA  
PEREZ, BRYAN  
TOBIAS, JENNIFER



**Family & Community Engagement Office**  
Coordinator Gary Russ-Sills, MSW

***Volunteer Services & Families in Transition Services***

- In collaboration with the Title I office, the department will be hosting our next Parent & Community Meeting on **Thursday, April 10, 2025**, at Havana Magnet School. There will be resources available from various departments, as well as multiple community partners & vendors to ensure our students and families are aware of the community services being readily available.
- Our Parent Liaisons' & Volunteer Coordinators' meeting was held on Monday, **March 17, 2025**. This afforded the department an opportunity to offer support to our schools' representatives, as well as brief them on the initiatives that are being implemented such as the Resiliency Coach training. We have **(2)** trusted individuals who have completed online training and are looking for at least **(5)** more to complete over the next month.
- The department is currently awaiting approval for a **\$20,000 uniform order** to ensure that we are adequately stocked to support our students and families. The department has been actively supporting the schools with the McKinney-Vento required presentation and ensuring staff are aware of the requirements needed to adequately support our students and families.

***Truancy & Attendance Compliance Services***

- Over the past month, there have been **(2)** attendance intervention meetings held throughout the district to support our students with attending school regularly, as well as assisting families with ensuring students have the resources to be successful.
- As we move into the last quarter of the school year, we will be collecting data to survey the interventions implemented throughout the year so that we have a path forward to support students, families and schools with attendance issues. This will include end-of-the-year notices, student attendance contracts, as well as enhanced relationship with local agencies to help prepare detailed reports that show the need for continued resources and interventions.

***Home Education & Virtual Instruction Office***

- We are continuing to enroll home education database, to include K12 and PAEC FLVS Franchise, whereas since 2/24/2025 there have been **(7)** letters of intent, **(2)** notice of terminations and **(4)** new enrollments in the PAEC FLVS Franchise.
- We are constantly providing insight and information to parents and schools on the process of home education & virtual instruction programs.

***Action Steps:***

- Working to develop climate surveys for students, parents, school/district staff, as well as community members to gather pertinent information to improve the services offered by the district to begin facilitating in **May 2025**.
- Plans for the end of the year recognition event is underway to ensure that we recognize those teachers and support staff who have exemplified outstanding achievement over the past year to be held in **May 2025**.
- Working with United Way of the Big Bend to kick-off our donation campaign, with the campaign period to be determined and implemented no later than the end of **April 2025**.



# 40 Years of Impact.



## 2025 Relay For Life Gadsden County



**Join Gadsden County School District as  
we help Celebrating 40 Years of Impact!**

We seek your support by kindly providing a monetary donation and/or donation of goods. Funds raised will benefit the American Cancer Society's initiatives centered around cancer research, education, advocacy, and patient services in Gadsden County!

- Food Vendors
- Fun & Fellowship
- Entertainment for ALL Ages

**Friday**  
*April 25, 2025*  
*6pm - Midnight*  
**MLK Track Field**  
**702 Martin Luther King Blvd.**  
**Quincy, FL**

*Need More Info?*

Gail Rittman-Jackson  
(850) 509-3174

Fran Daniels  
(850) 339-9623

SEE YOU THERE!









Gadsden County  
School District's

# Staff Field Day

Horseshoe &  
Cornhole

Saturday  
May 10  
2025

Tug-A-War

Relay Races

Kickball

Spades

📍 Carter Parramore Academy Athletic Field

Food Vendors  
will be on site!

9a - 3p