



News Release

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News to Know for Week of September 9-13

Special Observances for September

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. The counseling, psychological and, social work services department distributed information kits to schools and departments so that everyone is prepared to wear their yellow ribbons and observe this important annual campaign all month long. September 10 is wear yellow day.

Save the Date

Milton City Hall will host “A Community Conversation” on Suicide Prevention in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 10 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. A distinguished panel, including FCS Executive Director of Counseling, Psychological, and Social Work Services **Chelsea Montgomery**, will provide expertise for this candid discussion and professional insight. Milton is working to reduce the stigma and shame of mental healthcare while increasing the awareness and use of skills to prevent suicide. To watch the live stream or view recording later, visit cityofmiltonga.us for details.

Partners in Education (P.I.E.) Expo is September 12 at 9:00 a.m. at Atlanta Technical College. All FCS Schools in South Fulton County will be represented, as well as the College and Career Academy. This meeting is a partnership with the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce and an initiative of the Chamber’s Education Committee. The mission is to promote resources that support economic development and opportunities to forge strategic business-school partnerships.

Twelve FCS schools are taking part in International Dot Day, a day to encourage people around the world to celebrate creativity, courage, and collaboration. Fulton schools are reading The Dot by Peter Reynolds, a story

about a caring teacher who dares a doubting student to trust in her abilities to be brave and make her mark. The global celebration is Sunday, September 15 but schools are celebrating in unique ways during September. **Langston Hughes High** and **Love T. Nolan Elementary** will celebrate with creative projects, sharing photos, art, and videos that inspire. Langston Hughes Director of Fine Arts, Mary Breazeale, and Love T. Nolan Art Teacher Lisa Ward are helping students with their creations. **Lake Windward Elementary** School made dots out of paper and plastic cups that were melted down to flat circles that were used to decorate the media center windows. Other participating schools include **Sweet Apple Elementary School, Roswell North Elementary School, Lake Forest Elementary School, Manning Oaks Elementary School, Hembree Springs Elementary School, Crabapple Crossing Elementary School, Birmingham Falls Elementary School, River Eves Elementary School, Sandy Springs Charter Middle School, and North Springs Charter High School.**

The second annual **School Governance Conference**, presented by the Governance and Flexibility department, will be held Saturday, September 21 from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Riverwood International Charter School. The conference is designed to equip, inspire, and empower council members to lead differently in local school decision-making. Packed with up-to-date information and break-out sessions, the workshops will provide extra support to members to monitor their strategic plans, encouragement to share their stories with community stakeholders and assistance with leveraging resources to support their school initiatives. Breakfast will be served between 8 – 9 a.m. Media is invited.

Fifteen FCS marching bands from across the district will be showcasing their talents in the annual Fulton County Marching Band Exhibition on Saturday, September 21 beginning at 5:45 p.m. at Cambridge High School stadium. Participating high schools include **Centennial, Langston Hughes, Riverwood, North Springs, Johns Creek, Benjamin Banneker, Westlake, Roswell, Creekside, Northview, Chattahoochee, Cambridge, Tri-Cities, Alpharetta, and Milton.** Though the event is entertainment only and not competitive, a panel of content expert evaluators will be on hand to provide educational feedback for directors and students. Tickets are \$5, and children under five years old are free. Concessions will be on sale at the stadium. Live-streaming via banddirector.com will be available.

Heards Ferry Elementary School will hold a STEM Day on Friday, September 20 in which a special STEM Scientist, Ronnie Thomas of Fun Weird Science, will share interactive, age-specific presentations with all grade-levels. Students will do STEM activities such as creating a model to test a house structure's integrity to withstand winds from a simulated tornado, designing water bottle rockets for a timed flight, and more.

Awards and Honors

Liberty Point Elementary will receive a \$10,000 grant from the Atlanta Falcons and Fuel Up to Play 60. The celebration will take place at the school September 10. Hometown grants are part of a larger initiative between the NFL and Fuel Up to Play 60 to supply a \$10,000 grant to a deserving school or school district in each of the NFL's 32 markets in hopes of making a difference in the overall health and wellness of students across the country.

Webb Bridge Middle School seventh-grader, Ronak Vyas, placed first at the 2019 Future Business Leaders of America National Leadership summer Conference in San Antonio, TX. He competed in the Intro to Computer Science and Coding category by finishing a rigorous 30-minute test using SQL and HTML languages, in just 20 minutes.

Jana Paulk, Physical Education teacher at Findley Oaks Elementary was named the 2019 Elementary Teacher of the Year by the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. She will be presented with the award at the October state convention in Athens, GA.

Fifteen Schools in Fulton County were named on the 2019 Governor's Shape Honor Roll. This designation recognizes the schools for their dedication to creating a healthy school environment and a culture of wellness for staff, students and community. On the platinum level are **Hembree Springs Elementary School, High Point Elementary School, Lake Windward Elementary School, Northwood Elementary School, River Eves Elementary School, and State Bridge Crossing Elementary School**. Gold level honorees include **Birmingham Falls Elementary School, Findley Oaks Elementary School, Stonewall Tell Elementary School, and Holcomb Bridge Middle School**. Silver level designees include **Evoline C. West Elementary School, Hillside Elementary School, Wilson Creek Elementary School, Hopewell Middle School, and River Trail Middle School**. And on the bronze level is **Abbotts Hill Elementary School**.

The **Professional Development** department has announced that 43 FCS staff members will receive the 2019 Certificate of Completion for the Office Management Certification and Financial Management Certification programs. These employees work in both school and central office settings, have completed the 24-month program.

Cool Kids (and Schools) Doing Cool Things

Independence High School and McClarin Success Academy are excited about implementing the "Blended Learning" model. It is a combination of teaching in two different models, face to face and online instruction. The Blended Learning structure allows administrators and teachers the flexibility to address individual student needs by focusing on individual students rather than cohorts of students.

Sandy Springs Charter Middle School has People and Culture in mind with a newly-created Bingo board designed to provide staff with opportunities for self-care and emotional support for their school community, all of which help contribute to a positive working and learning environment. Teachers can put squares on their BINGO card when they've completed acts of service or encouragement such as making positive parent phone calls, doing something nice for someone else or even donating to the Community Action Center in Sandy Springs. Placing squares on the board earns a raffle ticket for a raffle later this month.

In Case You Missed It

Cliftondale Elementary held a Grandparents Day Celebration on September 5. Guests enjoyed food, student performance, and classroom visits.

Renaissance Elementary held an All-Pro Dad – Bring Your Dad to School Day August 27. Dads were able to spend time with students in their classrooms and see first-hand the instructional practices taking place.

Heards Ferry Elementary School kindergarten students got to experience a special visit from WSB-TV Chief Meteorologist Glenn Burns on Friday, September 6. He shared scientific information like the four types of critical weather including hurricanes like Hurricane Dorian. He also covered how to stay safe in different types of inclement weather, how satellite radar works, how to gauge how close thunder will occur after lightning strikes, and green screen maps.

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About the Fulton County School System. The Fulton County School System is the fourth largest school system in Georgia. More than 93,500 students attend 106 schools in the cities of Alpharetta, Chattahoochee Hills, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Johns Creek, Milton, Mountain Park, Palmetto, Roswell, Sandy Springs, South Fulton and Union City.

