News to Know for Week of May 20-24

This tip sheet is prepared weekly to help members of the news media plan coverage for the week.

Special Observances for May

Fulton County Schools are holding final exams Monday, May 20 through Thursday, May 23, which is the last day of school.

Open Enrollment has closed. Parents will be notified of their child’s transfer status by June 30.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and FCS employees are participating in various ways. Why care? Because one in five people will be affected by mental illness in their lifetime. Mental health is essential to everyone’s overall health and well-being, and mental illnesses are common and treatable. Link here to see the various learning supports offered by the school system that assist with students’ social and emotional development in order to graduate ready to pursue and succeed on their chosen path.

Save the Date

Spalding Drive Elementary School (SDES) will hold an assembly featuring Michael Green of The Science Machine on Tuesday, May 21 at 8:30 a.m. and again at 9:30 a.m. SDES won a $1,000 award at the STEAM Showcase in March for best attendance and will use this unique and interactive science and technology presentation to support their STEM initiatives. Mr. Green performs electrifying demonstrations for Pre-Kindergarten through fifth grade students throughout Georgia.

School officials will provide a construction update for the new South STEM School Campus on Tuesday, May 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Campbell Elementary School; 91 Elder Street, Fairburn. Parents, community members, neighbors, elected officials and interested citizens are invited to join Fulton County Schools representatives to see the project design of the upcoming South STEM Campus and to hear about construction activities in the vicinity.

Evoline C. West Elementary School will be honored Tuesday, May 28 at the South Fulton City Council meeting. Two students will receive gift cards for participation in the city’s mascot contest.
An FCS Custodial Hiring Event will be held May 30 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at North Springs Charter High School, 7447 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs. FCS offers great pay, benefits, retirement and a sign-on bonus for new hires. Registration for the event is required. Find information online via the homepage banner link.

An FCS Transportation Hiring Event for bus drivers, driver assistants and mechanics, will be held Friday, May 31 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at North Springs Charter High School, 7447 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs. Registration for the event is required. Find information online via the homepage banner link.

**Cool Kids/Schools Doing Cool Things**

**North Springs** and **Tri-Cities High Schools** held their Senior Walks through their feeder pattern schools last week, and **Riverwood International Charter School** seniors will do their walk at the feeder schools Tuesday, May 21.

Congratulations to 24 students from **North Springs Charter High School** who attained national recognition for excellent performance on the 2019 National Spanish Examinations, up from 17 in 2018. Students earned a total of four gold, one silver and three bronze medals along with 16 honorable mentions. Four students placed in the top five on the state level: DeAndre Johnson (1), Osvaldo Salomon-Vazquez (2) and Andrea Cordero (3) each in level 4. Maddie Lampert placed fifth in level 3.

- **Gold:** Andrea Cordero, DeAndre Johnson, Maddie Lampert and Osvaldo Salomon-Vazquez
- **Silver:** Rukhshona Ibragimova
- **Bronze:** William Madison, Dani Nicholas and Luis Perdomo
- **Honorable Mentions:** Nate Artzi, Jemiah Brantley, Ford Carter, Daniel Castro, Ryan Cohen, Katherine Davis, Brenda Gutierrez, Jillian Guye, Ignacio Hernandez, Eva Howard, Mariah Johnson, Kaitlyn McCubbins, Jacob Mirsky, Patricia Pacheco, Litzy Roman and Jordan Singer

At **Alpharetta Elementary School (AES)**, fourth and fifth grade students had the opportunity this year to work with AES business partner Cooper Carey to participate in a Connective Design Club. Students studied their school building to determine areas which posed problems for the students. Over the second semester, they met with engineers, architects, and stakeholders to develop solutions to several areas in the school. On May 13th, they presented their final solutions.

**Milton High School** is celebrating several wins this season: the girls Lacrosse team won their 13th State GHSA Championship in 15 years. The final game was held Saturday, May 18 at Kennesaw State University where the team defeated Mill Creek High School, 20-7. The final season record was 22-1, the most wins in program history.

- **Boys track distance award winners** include:
  - Boys Distance MVP-Gary Halverson;
  - Boys Distance Most Improved-Joe Pick;
  - Boys Distance Rookie-Spencer Watry.

- **Girls track distance award winners** this season include:
  - TEAM MVP-Nyah Hernandez;
  - Girls Distance MVP- Taylor Cushman;
  - Girls Distance Most Improved-Audrey Nichols;
  - and Girls Distance Rookie-Jessica Albregts.

**Vickery Mill Elementary School** has a new principal: Ms. Susan Walker. She has met with staff and parent volunteers and will be meeting families throughout the summer.

**Roswell High School**’s Mallie McKenzie was named the Girls GSHA Region Soccer Player of the Year.

**Mimosa Elementary School** held its first Fine Arts Night, where students and parents were able to view standards for Art and Music and had fun doing activities connected to the art and music standards. Highlights of
the evening included having former students join the musical numbers on stage and also an “Instrument Petting Zoo” for the families to enjoy.

**Purposity: An app for good**

Download Purposity today to help us meet the specific individual needs of our students quickly! Once you create an account, select Fulton County Schools and you’ll get one notification a week. Click the link, read the story and decide if you’d like to help, right from your phone in a few clicks. Prices of requested items are clearly displayed, and the exact item needed is shipped to the partner nonprofit. Many students in FCS have been assisted with significant needs. Download it today and start helping our community at [https://www.purposity.com/](https://www.purposity.com/)

**Awards and Honors**

**Amana Academy** Principal Charisse Campbell was named the 2019 winner of the Teach on Project, formerly Atlanta Families’ Awards for Excellence in Education. She was presented with a $7,500 check by the Teach on Project. The total is divided into three parts: $1,500 goes toward a professional development of their choosing, $2,500 as a personal stipend and $2,500 to implement an innovative project. All awarded projects must be strategically designed to have a positive impact on students achievement, self-esteem and collaboration.

**Conley Hills Elementary School** was recently named a 2019 National Beta School of Merit by the National Beta Club program. This prestigious honor provides students experiences in leadership development and service involvement to help strengthen and build their futures.

**Sandtown Middle School** students won first place in Technical Skills in the Flight Challenge category in the G3 Drones for Good STEM competition. The following students won first place in state competition: Ahmad Akinloyee; Mikel Breathett; Christian Elahee; Jayden Foster and Solace Davis. Engineering Teacher and TSA Robotics Coach Marcia Green served as the supervisor for the projects.

**Tri-Cities High School** participated in the Georgia Career Technical Instruction (CTI) Community Civic Awareness Project. Matthew Johnson served as spokesperson for the CTI Club’s end-of-year Impact Project. The project won first place at the state conference.

**The 2019 NFL Draft** saw one Fulton County Schools graduate, D’Andre Walker of **Langston Hughes High School**, drafted to the Tennessee Titans. Other FCS alumni competing to get on NFL rosters include **Creekside High** alumni Dexter Knox, Joshua Moon and Jayson Stanley as well as **Langston Hughes’** Jefferey Allison, and **Roswell High School’s** Tre Lamar.

**In Case You Missed It**

More than 750 community members attended information meetings last week to learn more about Fulton County Schools’ new **Innovation Academy** scheduled to open Fall, 2020. Future Principal Tim Duncan (currently the principal at Chattahoochee High School) and Assistant Superintendent for Innovative Programs, Dr. Doannie Tran presented an overview of the collaborative STEM environment. They described how students will experience a world-class design-thinking program and a rigorous curriculum that results in projects, portfolios, certifications and mentorships.
Alpharetta High School (AHS) was featured May 10 on the local CBS channel as part of their “In Your Town” series, this time focusing on Alpharetta. AHS shared multiple positive stories about the academics, athletics, and performing arts including chorus, orchestra and music technology. Links to specific spots can be found on the CBS46 website.

On the Website: www.fultonschools.org
Graduation dates announced for Class of 2019
Spring Kindergarten & Pre-K Registration Dates Set
2019-20 and 2020-21 school calendars approved

On The Tube: FCS-T
Inside Look: Langston Hughes High School
Fulton Now! Episode 20

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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 95,000 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.