

News Release

For Immediate Release
March 25, 2019

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News to Know for Week of March 25-29

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

NOTE: All Fulton County schools and administrative offices will be closed April 1-5 for Spring Break. Classes resume for students on Monday, April 8.

Special Observances for March

As a final activity for Exceptional Children's Week, which occurred the first week of March, **Fulton County Schools** will host the district-wide "Yes I Can!" awards ceremony **tonight, March 25 at 7 p.m.** in the **Riverwood International Charter School** auditorium. The event is sponsored by the **Fulton Education Foundation**. Schools throughout the district have held "Yes I Can!" awards ceremonies this month to celebrate the talents of their exceptional scholars and to highlight other instructional activities. Prior to the event at 6 p.m., families can visit a resource fair to explore options for recreation, transition, post-secondary opportunities, parent and family support and employment.

Save the Date

Westlake High School is hosting an educational meeting on March 27 about the dangers of edibles, which are foods or snacks containing drugs. Titled "The Dont's and Dont's of Marijuana Edibles," the event begins at 6:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium and includes a panel discussion featuring experts speaking about the signs, symptoms and dangers of marijuana-laced edibles.

Cool Schools Doing Cool Things

The **Roswell North Elementary Foundation** raised a record \$60,307 in its 2018-2019 Annual Funding Campaign. The funds will launch a new business sponsorship program that supports a Licata Science Lab.

Formed in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the purpose of the school's foundation is to enrich and support the academic experience of **Roswell North Elementary School** students. The sponsorship provides businesses an opportunity to invest in their local community by helping fund educational programs. Since its

inception, the foundation has raised nearly \$500,000, and funds raised during the 2018-2019 school year will support the following projects:

- Licata Science Lab, new Life Science Extension and Learning Garden lab teacher salary and supplies
- Monarchs Across George Program with training and supplies
- Technology for classroom and teacher training
- Scholarships for fifth grade field trip to Jekyll Island
- Legacy Project: a multi-year plan in progress for a new, covered outdoor classroom

Awards and Honors

Dana Munson, an art teacher at **Riverwood International Charter School**, recently won the Outstanding National Art Honor Society Sponsor Award bestowed by the National Arts Education Association. The award recognizes the dedication of an association member who sponsors an outstanding National Arts Honor Society Chapter and has exhibited excellence in professional accomplishment and service.

Also the school's Visual and Performing Arts Department chair, Munson has been the former 2013 and 2011 Southeastern Art Educator of the Year. She has worked at Riverwood for 10 years and was nominated for the award by FCS Coordinator of Fine Arts **Elizabeth Eppes**. In mid-March she was presented with this prestigious national honor during the organization's 2019 convention in Boston.

In Case You Missed It

Students from **Banneker, Creekside, Langston Hughes, Tri-Cities** and **Westlake high schools** took part in a "takeover" of the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce on March 20. The student leaders spoke about child well-being as a priority and talked with business, community and government leaders about how to ignite change. The discussion was centered around four points of peace – education, wellness, mentorship and how to combat poverty.

The **Sandy Springs Education Force (SSEF)** held its ninth annual STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Showcase on March 13 at **North Springs Charter High School**. More than 1,750 students attended the daytime event and over 900 people visited the evening event open to the public. The popular showcase is part of SSEF's multi-faceted outreach program designed to educate, inspire and prepare students who attend the public schools in Sandy Springs.

This year's event included annual favorites such as the da Vinci surgical robotic system from Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital and new exhibits from Georgia Tech Research Institute's LaserFEST, which invited attendees to create their own laser shows. Additional fun was had by students trying their hands at coding, 3D laser scanning and aerial drone imaging as well as trying to crack Watson's password code, engaging in virtual reality activities and discovering how to prevent cyber crimes. They also viewed the technology behind Mercedes-Benz USA's speed radar, instrument cluster and active lane assist safety features. For the more artsy side of STEAM enthusiasts, Medieval Times was on hand to teach participants about the technology behind their on-stage shows and the Center for Puppetry Arts showcased the science inherent in puppetry.

All 11 public schools in Sandy Springs showcased their work resulting from the STEAM Legacy Grants that SSEF provided to support after-school clubs and programs this school year. **Spalding Drive Elementary School** won the \$1,000 attendance prize with the largest number of people signed up for the event.

On March 15, students at **Ridgeview Charter School** hosted the second annual Japanese Tea Ceremony where Master Aoyanagi, a Urasenke arts master, worked with apprentices from Georgia Tech and the Atlanta Konnichwa Club to demonstrate a Japanese Tea Ceremony. Students had the honor of learning from experts about the traditional art that uses the five senses to relax, drink tea and enjoy friendship, while serving tea to their distinguished guests Consul General Takashi Shinozuka and Deputy Counsel General Yutaka Nakamura. The event was arranged through the school's Japanese teacher, Sensei **Tomomi Davis**.

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-TV

[Fulton County Schools Science Fair Recap](#)

[Fulton Now! student-hosted news show – Episode 17](#)

[Inside Look: Langston Hughes High School](#)

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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.