



News Release

For Immediate Release
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News to Know for the Week of October 7-11

Special Observances for October

National Principals Month, an opportunity to recognize and celebrate principals for their hard work and dedication, is celebrated in October.

Monday, Oct. 14 is Columbus Day. Schools and district offices are closed.

Save the Date

FCS Office of Student Discipline Prevention and Intervention hosts a free parent, student and community event featuring **Ray Lozano, National Expert on Drug and Vaping Prevention**. The event is October 7 at 6:30 p.m. at **Milton High School** and October 8 at 6:30 p.m. at **Langston Hughes High School**.

Georgia Pre-K Week is October 7 – 11. To celebrate, **Dunwoody Springs Elementary School** will host U.S. Congresswoman Lucy McBath, who will read to Pre-K students on Thursday, Oct. 10 at 1 p.m. This year's book is Anna Dewdney's "Llama Llama Red Pajama." Voices for Georgia's Children and partner organizations launched Georgia Pre-K Week in 2010. The initiative's main objective is to emphasize the importance of quality early childhood education by providing opportunities for leaders to engage with Pre-K classrooms in their local communities.

Milton High School will host a Basketball Media Day featuring head coaches and two FCS high school players on Friday, Oct. 11 at 9 a.m. The boy's session will be held first followed by the girl's session at 11 a.m., and both will be held in the media center. Registration is available at <https://bit.ly/2o1rI5L>. Signup closes on Wednesday, Oct. 9.

Every head coach will bring two players to feature. Coaches will be seated by geographic area (Alpharetta, Cambridge, Milton, and Roswell), (Centennial, Chattahoochee, Johns Creek, and Northview), (North Springs, Riverwood, Tri-

Cities, and Hapeville Charter) and (Banneker, Creekside, Langston Hughes, and Westlake). Coaches will briefly speak about their team and players as well as the upcoming season. Following the updates, there will be time for players and coaches to meet with local media in breakout sessions located in other rooms within the media center.

Fulton County Schools will hold a **Kickball Tournament** October 12 at Riverwood High School to benefit victims of Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. The Opening Ceremony is at 8:45 a.m. with the games beginning at 9 a.m. Participating departments include Safety & Security, School Nutrition, Transportation, Warehouse, Contracting, I.T., H.R. and Maintenance. For more information contact Event Chair Styland Scott at scotts5@fultonschools.org.

Fulton County Schools Cafes will celebrate National School Lunch Week from October 15 - 18 in recognition of the National School Lunch Program. The national theme, "School Lunch: What's on Your Playlist?" spotlights how today's school cafeterias are serving up healthy menu items that kids want to eat, with increased choice and customization. Throughout the week, FCS cafés will have special guest servers, coloring contests, giveaways, free samples on "Try It Tuesday," and a chance to win the Grand Prize at the end of the week. "Our healthy and well-balanced school lunches offer students fruits and vegetables, whole grains and milk, and meet federal nutrition standards limiting fat, calories and sodium," said Alyssia Wright, Executive Director of Fulton's School Nutrition Program.

Each year, nearly 7.6 million school lunches are prepared for more than 91,000 Fulton County students. The federally funded national program has been serving the nation's children for more than 70 years, since President Harry Truman signed the National School Lunch Act of 1946.

Parents can view FCS' menus on the [School Nutrition page](#) of the district website which also includes nutritional content.

The "School Lunch Playlist" campaign is made possible by the nonprofit School Nutrition Association. Follow the fun using the hashtags #NSLW19, #SchoolLunchPlaylist and #SchoolLunch.

Ridgeview Charter School is recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month in several ways, most notably by incorporating Latin music into their music concert programs. Preceding the Wednesday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m. band concert, they will host an Hispanic Heritage Dinner from 5 – 6 p.m. The orchestra and chorus concert will be presented Thursday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. The chamber orchestra, a smaller, advanced ensemble, will perform a Latino piece at the school's closing celebration, Hispanic Heritage Assembly, on Friday, Oct. 18 at 2 p.m.

As part of their Parent University, **Johns Creek High School** PTSA has planned October events that address students' mental and emotional wellness: a presentation on Wednesday, Oct. 16 by Dr. Jeanine Jannot, author of "The

Disintegrating Student.” Later that month, the PTSA will begin a three-part conversation on the documentary “Race to Nowhere” dealing with systemic pressures and how to tackle them. These events will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 23; Thursday, Nov. 21; and Friday, Dec. 6.

The Aerotropolis Atlanta Education Collective will hold a Career Expo October 18 from 10 a.m. -1:30 p.m. at the Georgia International Convention Center. Students from Banneker, Creekside, Langston Hughes, and Westlake High Schools will join Clayton County students for this event. Students in the 11th and 12th grades will utilize their completed YouScience Reports to pre-determine their career pathway exposure. Over 20 businesses will provide an overview and interactive exhibits of these career pathways: Aerospace, Logistics, Food-Agri, Business, Multimedia Production, and Bio-Life Science. For more information contact info@aeroatl.org or call 404-349-2211. Businesses can register online at www.aeroatl.org.

Oakley Elementary will hold its inaugural PTA Color Run October 19 at the school. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the race kicks off at 8 a.m.

Bus Safety Week is October 21-25. The theme for 2019 is “My School Bus, The Safest Form of Student Transportation.” It is a time for schools to highlight safety in transportation and celebrate bus drivers. National School Bus Driver Appreciation Day is Monday, October 22. Students and parents across Fulton will honor drivers with handmade cards, signs, and special treats. There will be more information soon. Preceding the weeklong celebration, Fulton County Schools will host its annual Bus Road-e-o on Saturday, October 20. The event aims to continue the professional development of Fulton’s bus drivers by improving and maintaining their driving skills in a fun competition.

Red Ribbon Week, a reminder to stay drug free, is October 23-31. The theme this year is “Send a Message. Stay Drug Free.” Fulton County Schools counselors, psychologists, and social workers are sending a message by providing schools and staff with buttons, pins, and information on making healthy and safe choices.

Students from **Bear Creek, Camp Creek, Elkins Pointe, Holcomb Bridge, Hopewell, Renaissance, Sandy Springs, Taylor Road and Woodland Middle Schools** will become **REACH Scholars** October 23, 10 a.m. at **REACH Georgia Signing Day**. The event will be held at the North Learning Center. **REACH Georgia** is a needs-based scholarship program that begins in 8th grade. Scholars are paired with a mentor and an academic coach through high school and must maintain good grades, behavior and attendance through middle and high school. Those who successfully complete the program and graduate from high school are awarded a \$10,000 scholarship to be used at any HOPE-eligible institution in Georgia.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Oct. 26 when **FCS affinity partner, Sandy Springs Education Force (SSEF)** will hold the sixth annual Footprints for the Future 5k/10k Road Race. Proceeds from the race and sponsor contributions support SSEF’s targeted literacy programs in **Fulton**

County Schools in Sandy Springs such as “Reading Buddies” and Mini Libraries. Both races are run on a USTAF Certified Race Course and are certified AJC Peachtree Road Race Qualifiers with awards given for all age categories and special Overall and Masters awards. For the second year, the races will begin at the City Springs Green and the race routes through the heart of Sandy Springs. Registration includes a t-shirt and a SWAG bag of giveaways from sponsors and community supporters. Awards will be presented in multiple categories including a trophy for the school with the highest representation of attendees. Sign up today at: <https://bit.ly/2lHZdsr>. Post-race entertainment includes a DJ, sponsor booths, demonstrations, snacks and a 1k fun run for young children and families. Attendees are encouraged to wear costumes in advance of Halloween. As a special bonus, the Sandy Springs-Perimeter Chamber’s Health and Well-Being Council will present their free Fall Fun Health Fest on the Green.

October 31 is a costume day for many schools in Central Learning Community elementary schools but with a literary twist. **Heards Ferry, Woodland, Ison Springs and High Point** celebrate Storybook Character Day by dressing as their favorite book character. **Spalding Drive** holds a Storybook Character Parade.

The Legacy of Excellence Awards, a recognition luncheon for Fulton County Schools teachers, principals, professionals and partnerships of the year, is Friday, November 1 at 11:30 a.m. at the Georgia World Congress Center. [For more information and to register to attend.](#)

Cliftondale Elementary celebrates ten years of excellence with a Family Gala November 16 at Westlake High School, at 6 p.m. For more information visit www.osp.osmsinc.com/fultonga.

Awards and Honors

Martha Alanis, College Park Elementary, has been named the READ CONMIGO Bilingual Educator of the Year. Alanis was recognized for her efforts to promote children’s literacy and inspire a love of reading in students. READ CONMIGO is a program that provides parents and teachers free tools to foster a love of reading. The award will be presented **October 18 at 8:30 a.m.** at College Park Elementary.

Bear Creek Middle School’s FFA won the community service plaque at the 2019 Georgia FFA North Region Rally. The students collected 150 pounds of food for the homeless.

Cool Kids (and Schools) Doing Cool Things

The School Governance Council of **Woodland Elementary School** hosted a business breakfast for both current and aspiring business partners. At this event, attended by approximately 10 businesses, students served as ambassadors and shared their experiences and achievements. Together, the school and business guests spent time discussing ideas for a mutually

beneficial partnership. Additionally, the guests were given a tour of the school which highlighted the aquaponics lab and newly renovated culinary arts kitchen.

In October, **Vickery Mill Elementary School** started a “Breakfast Club” for students who had moved to the U.S. within the last year and do not English. Recognizing that these students have a unique set of needs, the school aims to provide them with a safe place to transition into the American school culture and specifically at Vickery Mill. Sponsored by our ESOL lead teacher and paraprofessional (both native Spanish speakers), the Breakfast Club will meet twice a week during the school’s free and reduced breakfast meal. Topics for discussion will include norms, customs, and practices common to American-born students but not obvious or clear to non-native students. Vickery Mill’s team hopes to make their new students feel welcome and supported and equip them with tools to ease their transition to life in a new place.

Sandy Springs Charter Middle School PTO Foundation is putting membership dollars to work and raising funds for amazing learning enhancements. Teachers and staff were encouraged to write mini-grant requests for needed classroom or office items as well as connections classes, after-school clubs or interactive learning opportunities. To date, they have been able to purchase 135 headphones for science department classrooms, book sets for novel studies, new furniture for the Counseling Department suite, nearly 50 kinds of student seating, five classroom reading nooks, teaching aids, books, and vocabulary games for ESOL and French departments, registration fees for the Robotics Club competitions and two sets of scientific calculators for the math department.

Students from **Roswell High School** and **Centennial High School** attended and represented Council Members in the City of Roswell’s Council Meeting, Monday, Sept. 30. Roswell students included Ellen Stovall, Chase Quandt, Laurent Silvers, Evan Reese and Sophia Miners. Representing Centennial were Jelaine Downs, Divali Legore, Sean Dragoje and Ethan Asher. They will be honored at Roswell’s Rotary luncheon on Thursday, Oct. 10 from 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. at Roswell Area Park Bill Johnson Community Center.

In Case You Missed It

Brookview Elementary and Principal Jovita Wallace are featured in Get Georgia Reading, Beyond 2020. The article describes the culture change at Brookview. To find out more visit getgeorgiareading.org. Continuing Brookview’s focus on literacy, Actor Lammon Rucker read to students recently as part of the Kenny Leon’s True Colors Theater’s strategic partnership. The focus of the partnership is to bring literacy to life through theater.

Campbell Elementary hosted a Terrific Tuesday Literacy Night October 1 at the Fairburn Library. Families participated in literacy activities led by each grade level, and obtained library cards.

Flu Season Update - Georgia is experiencing the onset of an early flu season with confirmed cases already reported by local health providers. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics have stressed the importance of children receiving flu vaccines and the danger of flu to children. According to the CDC, a flu vaccine offers the best defense against getting flu and spreading it to others. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) states that the flu can cause 10 days of fever and lead to serious complications even for healthy kids. Therefore, we are sharing this information to remind us to take precautions and to work together to help prevent the spread of flu. To ensure the safety and health of students, staff and parents, we encourage you to take proactive measures that can help reduce the spread of flu and other communicable illnesses. For more information, please visit: <https://bit.ly/2lPZauv>.

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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.

