

# North Metro GNETS Newsletter



February 2020

## Director's Corner

Monthly North Metro GNETS Eggs and Issues Updates

Team North Metro GNETS,

Georgia's 2020 Legislative Session is in full force and proposed bills are flying from the House to the Senate on almost a daily basis. House Bill 783 is particularly noteworthy for me to bring to your attention because the proposed bill hopes to increase the dropout age in Georgia from sixteen to seventeen in hopes of keeping students in school longer, so more students can graduate with a general education diploma, while we also protect students from the perils of sex trafficking. Sex trafficking as defined by the Georgia Department of Education "occurs when people are forced or coerced into commercial sex trade against their will". Sex traffickers typically target persons who are vulnerable, who have experienced some form of trauma or neglect, and/or who are more susceptible to some form of control or manipulation. If HB 783 is passed, hopes are that students will have more protections in place to prevent them from falling prey to these types of situations. I encourage you to be more vigilant and watch out for our students. If you see something that looks suspicious, say something. It is extremely important that we do all that we can to do to educate and protect our students from the pitfalls of society.



<https://www.gadoe.org/schoolsafetyclimate/Pages/Human-Trafficking.aspx>

*Cassandra Allen Holi-field, PhD, RBT*



### February 2020:

- Mindset Training February 11-12, 2020 at Oakland Meadows Elementary (Gwinnett County Schools)
- Complete all student packets due this month
- Metro RESA Statewide Job Fair Saturday, February 29, 2020; Georgia International Convention Center; 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- GNETS Strategic Plan Rating Rubric (Updated January 2020)

### Upcoming Due Dates:

- Mindset Training March 10 -11, 2020 at Eagle Woods Academy GNETS (DeKalb County Schools)



## HLP16 Use Explicit Instruction

Teachers make content, skills, and concepts explicit by showing and telling students what to do or think while solving problems, enacting strategies, completing tasks, and classifying concepts. Teachers use explicit instruction when students are learning new material and complex concepts and skills. They strategically choose examples and non-examples and language to facilitate student understanding, anticipate common misconceptions, highlight essential content, and remove distracting information. They model and scaffold steps or processes needed to understand content and concepts, apply skills, and complete tasks successfully and independently.

### Curriculum, Instruction, and Compliance Tip:

Continue encouraging students to meet their 45 minutes in Reading and 45 minutes in Math for i-Ready each week. Also, continue to support students during lessons so that their time spent on i-Ready is meaningful and they are passing their lessons. Site Coordinators and Lead Teachers be sure to complete your Diagnostic Data Chats with each teacher! 😊. Reminder for the lead teachers to model at least one lesson with each teacher each month. Also, Site Coordinators & Lead Teachers, remember to be completing Student Packets as IEP meetings occur for your students. Data Binder Checks for Quarter 3 are to be completed BY March 31st. Please complete any follow-up checks as needed.

# Behavior Specialist

## Tips of the Month:

- Next mindset Trainings are
  - February 11<sup>th</sup> & February 12<sup>th</sup> at Oakland Meadows
  - March 10<sup>th</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup> at Eagle Woods Academy (this is a recent change)
- Next RBT courses is on Ethics and overall review of the course 2/27/2020
- Begin scoring FBA/BIPs and complete BIP fidelity Walkthroughs for students who have IEPs in March and April
- Interested in becoming a BCBA? Look no further! Here are a few great options including some online options to earn your BCBA!
  - Arizona State University – Applied Behavior Analysis (online)
  - Florida Institute of Technology – Applied Behavior Analysis (online)
  - Georgia State University – Applied Behavior Analysis (face to face)
  - University of Georgia – Applied Behavior Analysis (face to face)
  - Capella University – Applied Behavior Analysis (online)
  - Mary Baldwin University - Applied Behavior analysis (online)

# Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports



We are halfway through the school year! And you continue to excel with progress building **Responsible, Respectful Role Models!!** Continue to keep up the good work!

- All North Metro programs, please complete the second required Tier 1 TFI by March 15, 2020. Distinguished Level programs should complete the Tier 1 & Tier 2 TFI's by March 15, 2020.

## Special Announcements & KUDOS!

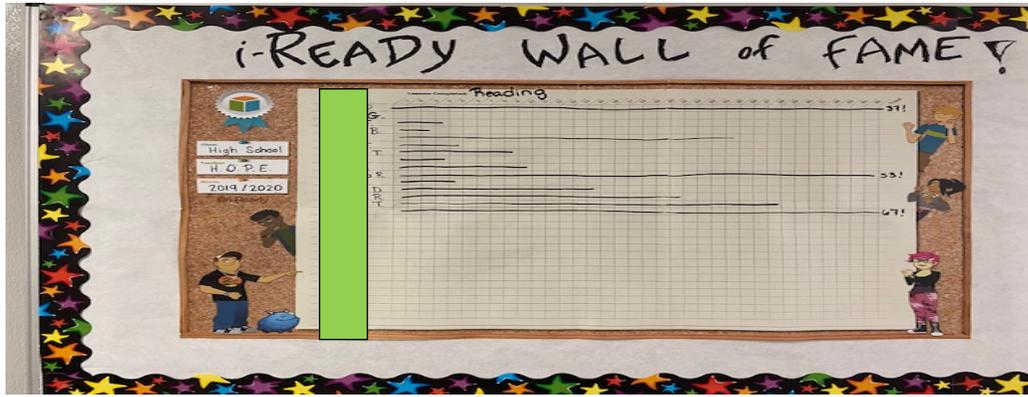
**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OUSTANDING NORTH METRO GNETS EDUCATORS....**

Mrs. Dunn is one of the top 3 finalist for teacher of the year at Elkins Pointe MS (Fulton). She teaches our GNETS EBD class. Ms. Goodson is one of the top 3 finalist for professional of the year at Sweet Apple ES (Fulton). She is the GNETS para in Ms. Fasone's class and is doing an amazing job while MS. Fasone is on maternity leave. **Congratulations to both of you! You're already WINNERS in our book!**



**KUDOS TO OUR ACADEMIC WARRIORS AT THE BRIDGE (Gwinnett):  
BRITTANY WILSON, SHALAUNRIA HARRIS, AND OUR STUDENTS  
FOR MEETING THEIR IREADY TIME ON TASK AND PASS RATES!**

**YOU ROCK!!!!**



**KUDOS TO EBONY TAYLOR FOR ROCKING KNIGHT TIME READING AT OAKLAND MEADOWS!**

The students and staff at North Metro GNETS Oakland Meadows are rocking and rolling in reading. They are actively engaged in the Level Literacy Intervention program developed by Fountas and Pinnell (F&P). Every morning for approximately 30 minutes the students are transitioned into their F&P independent level groups. Each group consists of no more than 4 students and two adults. While in their groups, the students receive direct instruction in phonics, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. The students have an opportunity to read both informational and literal text. In September 2019, all of the students completed the F&P benchmark assessment. At the beginning of December 2019, the students were re-assessed with the same F&P benchmark assessment. Data reports revealed an increase in the students' F&P reading levels by two or more levels. Some of our students have increased their reading levels by 4 levels. With the continued success of this program we expect to see students reading levels increasing as high as six-eight levels by the end of the year. **Kudos to Ebony Taylor, academic lead/coach for facilitating this reading initiative. Job Well Done Ebony!**



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

In honor of **Black History Month**, this month's Special Announcement & Kudos section of the newsletter will be dedicated to celebrating and acknowledging a few Black History Facts that we should all recognize, know, and share. KUDOS to all of the great African-American greats before our time, during our present, and to come after each of us has gone on to make our marks on the world.

**Black History Month:** The celebration of Black History Month began as "Negro History Week," which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator and publisher. It became a month-long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

**NAACP:** On February 12, 2019, the NAACP marked its 110th anniversary. Spurred by growing racial violence in the early 20th century, and particularly by 1908 race riots in Springfield, Illinois, a group of African American leaders joined together to form a new permanent civil rights organization, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). February 12, 1909, was chosen because it was the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

**Heavyweight Champ:** Jack Johnson became the first African American man to hold the World Heavyweight Champion boxing title in 1908. He held onto the belt until 1915.

**First Lawyer:** John Mercer Langston was the first black man to become a lawyer when he passed the bar in Ohio in 1854. When he was elected to the post of Town Clerk for Brownhelm, Ohio, in 1855 Langston became one of the first African Americans ever elected to public office in America. John Mercer Langston was also the great-uncle of Langston Hughes, famed poet of the Harlem Renaissance.

**Famous Protestors:** While Rosa Parks is credited with helping to spark the Civil Rights movement when she refused to give up her public bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955—inspiring the Montgomery Bus Boycott—the lesser-known Claudette Colvin was arrested nine months prior for not giving up her bus seat to white passengers.

**Supreme Court Justice:** Thurgood Marshall was the first African American ever appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. He was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson and served on the court from 1967 to 1991.

**Eminent Scientist:** George Washington Carver developed 300 derivative products from peanuts among them cheese, milk, coffee, flour, ink, dyes, plastics, wood stains, soap, linoleum, medicinal oils and cosmetics.

**First Senator:** Hiram Rhodes Revels was the first African American ever elected to the U.S. Senate. He represented the state of Mississippi from February 1870 to March 1871.

**First Woman Representative:** Shirley Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to the House of Representatives. She was elected in 1968 and represented the state of New York. She

broke ground again four years later in 1972 when she was the first major party African American candidate and the first female candidate for president of the United States.

**Self-Made Millionaire:** Madam C.J. Walker was born on a cotton plantation in Louisiana and became wealthy after inventing a line of African American hair care products. She established Madame C.J. Walker Laboratories and was also known for her philanthropy.

**Oscar Winner:** In 1940, Hattie McDaniel was the first African American performer to win an Academy Award—the film industry’s highest honor—for her portrayal of a loyal slave governess in *Gone With the Wind*.

**First Professional Black Baseball Player:** On April 5, 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first African American to play Major League Baseball when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers. He led the league in stolen bases that season and was named Rookie of the Year.

**First Black Billionaire:** Before Oprah Winfrey and Michael Jordan joined the billionaire’s club, Robert Johnson became the first African American billionaire when he sold the cable station he founded, Black Entertainment Television (BET) in 2001.

**First Black President:** In 2008, Barack Obama became the first black president of the United States.

**Population Growth:** The black population of the United States in 1870 was 4.8 million; in 2018, the number of black residents of the United States 43.8 million.

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-facts>

**MINDFULNESS MEDITATION OF THE MONTH....**

when little people  
are overwhelmed by  
big emotions, it's our job  
to share our calm,  
not to join their chaos.  
-l.r. knest

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<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/129548926765458477/>