

Cowan Road Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 9

April 2021

Parent Engagement Corner

Parents,

As testing time approaches, it is now more important than ever to work with your student at home on skills learned in class. Please read over the test taking tips in this month's newsletter to help give you some ideas on ways you can prepare for standardized testing at home.

As always, please feel free to contact us any time if you need support or information on how to improve your child's academic performance in school. You can reach us at 770-229-3790 or allison.baker@gscs.org or angela.roth@gscs.org.

Did You Miss...?

In March, we held the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) and School Improvement Plan (SIP) stakeholder meetings.

We reviewed and revised the CNA and SIP. We discussed Georgia School Performance Standards, strengths, challenges based on trends and patterns, overarching needs and root causes. We also discussed improvement goals and action steps. Stakeholders were given an opportunity to give feedback.

If you missed the stakeholder meetings but would like the information presented, you may watch a video clip at <https://bit.ly/COESResources> or please contact Allison Baker or Angela Roth at 770-229-3790 or at allison.baker@gscs.org or angela.roth@gscs.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR-IMPORTANT DATES IN APRIL

4/1	"IC Math Fun" Parent Workshop Infinite Campus Parent Portal and Math games to take home Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Location: Truett's Grill, Griffin front drive way (near Sherwin Williams) 1455 N. Expressway Griffin
4/5-9	Spring Break
4/29	Progress reports



District Improvement Plan Parent Feedback!

The district needs your input. Please take a few minutes to review the District Improvement Plan at <https://tinyurl.com/GSCSFY21DIP>.

After reviewing the plan, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/GSCSFY22DIPFeedback> to provide input on the District Improvement Plan.

Spring Parent Survey



Please take a few minutes to take the spring parent survey. The survey will help us know how to meet the interests and needs of your family more effectively.

English: <http://tinyurl.com/SpringParentSurveyE2020-2021>

Spanish: <http://tinyurl.com/SpringParentSurveyS2020-2021>

Estimados padres:

Este es un documento importante de la escuela de su hijo.

Si ustedes necesitan que traduzcamos esta información, por favor, llamen a Lisa Bates al 770-229-3710 ext. 10327.

Georgia Milestones

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) is a comprehensive summative assessment program spanning grades 3 through high school.

Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Students in grades 3 through 8 take an end-of-grade assessment in English language arts and mathematics. Students in grade 5 are also assessed in science and students in grade 8 are also assessed in science and social studies. High school students take an end-of-course assessment in Algebra I, American Literature, Biology and U.S. History as designated by the State Board of Education.

Features the Georgia Milestone Assessment System include:

- Open-ended (constructed-response) items in English language arts and mathematics (all grades and courses);
- A writing component (in response to passages read by students) at every grade level and course within the English language arts assessment; and
- Norm-referenced items in all content areas and courses to complement the criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison

VISIT THE PARENT ENGAGEMENT PAGE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE AND CHECK OUT THE GREAT RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/COESRESOURCES](https://bit.ly/coesresources)

SLDS has a Training Center for Parents

The [Training Center for Parents](#) is a place where parents and students can go online to review videos and user guides for various applications such as...



Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment Guides:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-End-of-Grade-Assessment-Guides.aspx>

Georgia Milestones End of Course Assessment Guides:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-End-of-Course-Assessment-Guides.aspx>

Academic Tips and Websites to Practice at Home

- Rigorous Curriculum Dialogue (RCD) for Parents: <https://sites.google.com/gscs.org/rigorous-curriculum-dialogue>
- GA Milestones practice website for parents and students: <http://www.gaexperienceonline.com/>
- Cowan's symbaloo page of test practice sites: <https://www.symbaloo.com/mix/gmasfunpractice>

*The listed resources are not endorsed by GSCS but are offered as possible tools that families may utilize.

District Improvement Plan Stakeholder Meeting Dates

All parents and community members are invited to attend and participate. The purpose of the meeting is to review and revise the Consolidated Local Education Agency (LEA) Improvement Plan which includes the Comprehensive Needs Assessment, District Improvement Plan, and District Parent and Family Engagement Policy, as well as to provide input on the reservation of funds and to discuss building staff capacity.

Please be sure to join us to provide input on one of the following dates and times:

- April 20 at 12:00 pm
- April 30 at 10:00 am
- May 10 at 5:30 pm

All meetings will be held virtually.

RSVP link: <https://tinyurl.com/GSCSYourInputMatters>

Please contact Melinda Owens at 770-229-3710 ext. 10363 or at melinda.owens@gscs.org for more information.