



# GMS Pride Blast

## Sunday, May 26th, 2019

*The Githens Pride Blast is distributed most Sundays during the school year. If you have any news you would like to share with the Githens community, or if you no longer wish to receive the Pride Blast, you can send an email to: [githensprideblast@gmail.com](mailto:githensprideblast@gmail.com). Please let friends know they can receive weekly Blasts by emailing: [githensprideblast@gmail.com](mailto:githensprideblast@gmail.com).*

*Spanish translations of the Pride Blast are available on the PTA page of the Githens Middle School website (<http://githens.dpsnc.net>).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Memorial Day Tomorrow.** In recognition of Memorial Day, there will be no school tomorrow, Monday, May 27th.

**EOG Schedule.** End of Grade testing starts this Wednesday. Here is the schedule:

Wednesday: 6<sup>th</sup> Science, 7<sup>th</sup> Math, 8<sup>th</sup> ELA

Thursday: 6<sup>th</sup> Math, 7<sup>th</sup> ELA, 8<sup>th</sup> SS

Friday: 6<sup>th</sup> ELA, 7<sup>th</sup> Math 1 only, 8<sup>th</sup> Science

Monday: 6<sup>th</sup> SS (AM), 8<sup>th</sup> Math, 7<sup>th</sup> SS (PM)

Tuesday: 7<sup>th</sup> Science, World History

**EOG Proctors Needed!!** We still need help!!! Please volunteer to proctor an exam.

Times are 745 until 1130 each day. Dates are: Wednesday, May 29; Thursday, May 30;

Friday, May 31; Monday, June 3; Tuesday, June 4. Please let us know if you can help.

Contact Susie Hill at: 919-560-3966

or [Susiewhill@gmail.com](mailto:Susiewhill@gmail.com), [Susan.Hill@dpsnc.net](mailto:Susan.Hill@dpsnc.net) or Kate Murphy 919-560-3966

or [Kathleen.Murphy@dpsnc.net](mailto:Kathleen.Murphy@dpsnc.net).

**SIT Parent Representative Needed.** Please consider volunteering to be a member of the

SIT team. As a SIT team member you will be expected to attend monthly meetings (second Monday of each month) to discuss items on the school agenda. At the end of each meeting we have time set aside to discuss any other issues, and plan for improvement. There is also a Summer Retreat (2 days), where we meet to analyze the Teacher Working Condition Survey, Parent Survey, Student Survey, testing data and discipline data to create a yearly School Improvement Plan. All members are elected and serve a **two year commitment**. Application is simple, just send an email to [githensptapresident@gmail.com](mailto:githensptapresident@gmail.com) by May 31st requesting to be on this year's ballot.

**Githens Promotion.** The 8th grade Promotion Ceremony will be on June 7th, with Keynote Speaker Dr. William Logan, Principal of Hillside High School. The promotion ceremony will be broadcast via a live feed-- a link to the live feed will be available on the Githens website.

## REMINDERS

**8th Grade Formal. *BIENVENUE:*** A Night In Cannes, will be held at Githens this coming Friday May 31st, from 6:30 - 9:30pm. Tickets are \$10. Semi-Formal attire. All 8th graders should plan to attend!!

**7th Grade Parents: Sign Up to Help @ 8th Grade Events.** As the 8th grade students prepare to leave GMS, there are two big events that need parents' support. Our tradition at GMS is that the 7th grade parents help with those events so that 8th grade parents can enjoy them. One is the 8th grade dance, where parents help decorate and the other is the 8th grad picnic after promotion ceremony practice. If you are a 7th grade parent (or any other parent that wants to help!!), please mark the afternoon of May 31 to help decorate for the dance and the morning of June 6th to help at the picnic. .

**Band Banquet.** Our annual Band Banquet will be held this Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Githens Cafeteria. Students will receive a free dinner ticket, but anyone else planning to eat will need to purchase a ticket, \$7 in advance, and \$10 at the door.

*8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony.* Rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Band members will be required to perform at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion ceremony on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Costa Rica Trip with Ms. Jimenez.** The skills gained through foreign travel can provide your child with life-long benefits. Now Githens students have the opportunity to try it out as Githens teacher Ms. Jimenez will be leading a week-long trip to Costa Rica!!! This is a structured program and a great chance for a first travel experience. For more

information, see Ms. Jimenez in Rm AA4B or email [Dionne.jimenez@dpsnc.net](mailto:Dionne.jimenez@dpsnc.net).

**EOG Study Help Online.** Interested in previewing sample EOG Test Items and Answer Keys? Click the link so your children can prepare for the EOG:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/testing/releasedforms>

## END OF YEAR EVENTS

**8th Grade End of Year Events & Behavior Requirements.** As a team of 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers we want to alert you about the expectations and requirements regarding attendance of many end of year events. We want to reward those who have honestly and respectfully earned the privilege to attend. We ask for your support in helping us honor the following expectations.

PRIDE Field Trip to Carowinds – June 10, 2019 8:00am - 7:45pm

- Students must pay by the set deadlines established by PBIS.
- Students who do not reach the two (2) PRIDE Party attendance limit or receive a major referral resulting in OSS after April 1 will NOT receive a refund for any payments made.
- Please be on time to pick up your child.
- The cost of the trips is \$95 (which includes park entry, lunch, charter bus fees)

Semi-Formal – May 31, 2019 6:30-9:30 pm

- Any student suspended on or after April 1, 2019 will **not** be allowed to attend the semi-formal.
- No tickets will be sold at the door (all tickets need to be purchased in advance). Tickets will be sold **May 20-24th and Wednesday May 29th only**. The cost of a ticket will be \$10 per student.
- School and District dress code still applies. Dresses should be age and length appropriate. Dresses cannot be revealing or tight. Students can be denied admission into the semi-formal based on this violation WITHOUT a refund.
- Students will be expected to be in attendance the ENTIRE day of the semi-formal. Students who are absent will not be able to attend. Missing school or leaving early the day of the semi-formal to get hair and nails done is unacceptable.
- In order to purchase tickets, students will need to have all required signatures.
- The semi-formal will begin at 6:30 and will end at 9:30. Please be on time to pick up your child.

## Promotion Rehearsal & Picnic June 6, 2019 8:30-2:20

- Please ensure that your student is at school and on time, so they will be prepared for the promotion ceremony.
- **Any student who was absent for an EOG tests WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE because they will need to make up the EOG.**
- Students serving any kind of suspension (ISS /OSS) the last week of school WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.

## Promotion Ceremony – June 7, 2019 9:00-10:00 am

- This event will be held at Githens Middle School in the Gym.
- Black and White dress is encouraged. White Dress shirt and a tie for all male students.
- **Any student who was absent for an EOG tests WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE because they will need to make up the EOG on Tuesday.**
- Students serving OSS on June 7th WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE in the graduation ceremony.
- Each family will be allotted **two** tickets for entrance into the promotion ceremony.
- Pickup locations following the ceremony are as follows: **Ravens - Cafeteria;**  
**Hawks -- Homerooms; Ospreys-- Small Gym.**

**7th Grade End of Year Trip.** This year 7th Graders will be going to Galaxy Fun Park on Monday, June 10th, 2019! The cost for each student is \$66.00. The cost includes an all day gaming experience, lunch, and bus fare. Students may pay in one lump sum or make payments on a monthly or weekly as described below. All final payments MUST be turned in to the school by May 1st, 2019.

Monthly Payment Schedule: March 1st- \$22; April 1st- \$22; May 1st (final payment)- \$22

Biweekly Payment Schedule: March 1st- \$11; March 15th - \$11; April 1st- \$11; April 15th- \$11; May 1st (final)- \$ 22

*Refund Policy:* In order to keep cost affordable, refunds will not be provided and funds are non-transferrable.

*Eligibility Requirements:* Office Referrals- From March 1st, 2019 until the field trip date, June 10, 2019, students may not have more than three major discipline referrals. If your child exceeds the parameters outlined above, they will only be allowed to accompany us on this field trip if they have a parent or adult guardian as their chaperone. The parent or guardian chaperones would also need to pay all applicable admission fees. Out of School Suspension- From February 1st, 2019 until the field trip date, June 10, 2019, students may not have an out of school suspension.

If your child exceeds the parameters outlined above, they will not be eligible to attend.

## VOLUNTEERS / DONATIONS NEEDED

**8th Grade Dance and Picnic.** Githens needs volunteers to help honor our 8th graders - both for the 8th grade Dance on May 31 (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba9ac2ba6f58-8thgrade3>) and the 8th grade Picnic on June 6 (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba9ac2ba6f58-gms8th3>). Please see the next two signups. 6th/7th grade parents/families are especially encouraged to help out.

**EOG Proctors Needed.** Proctors for the EOG Test coming soon at GMS. We will need 20 for each day. Times are 745 until 1130 each day. Dates are: Wednesday, May 29; Thursday, May 30; Friday, May 31; Monday, June 3; Tuesday, June 4. Please let us know if you can help. Contact Susie Hill at: 919-560-3966 or [Susiewhill@gmail.com](mailto:Susiewhill@gmail.com), [Susan.Hill@dpsnc.net](mailto:Susan.Hill@dpsnc.net) or Kate Murphy 919-560-3966 or [Kathleen.Murphy@dpsnc.net](mailto:Kathleen.Murphy@dpsnc.net)

**Food Pantry Items Needed.** The Githens Backpack Program is in urgent need of your help. We will be conducting a food drive for food donations that are portable and easy to prepare. Examples include canned vegetables, ravioli, tuna, boxes of macaroni and cheese, packs of snack crackers, granola and cereal bars, single serving oatmeal packs, fruit cups and medium-sized jars of peanut butter are also good. Please leave all donations in the office. Thank you for your help in making sure that all of our students have plenty to eat over the weekend when they're not in school.

**Formal Wear Donations?** We are in need of semi-formal dresses and white shirts and ties for 8<sup>th</sup> graders for the semi-formal dance. Please reach out to Ms. Megan Shulse.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS & ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Entrepreneurship Program.** The Young Founders Institute in conjunction with UNC and Launch Chapel Hill will be offering a summer entrepreneurship program for ambitious middle and high school students in Durham. Build a prototype, compete in a pitch competition and connect with like-minded students, industry experts, and local entrepreneurs. Registration is now open, scholarships available. Learn more at <http://www.youngfoundersinstitute.com>

**Youth Refugee & Immigrant Summer Enrichment (RISE) Camp.** Providing opportunities for K-12th youth to combat summer learning loss in a culturally and

linguistically supported environment. July 15TH - August 9TH, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday, at Jordan High School. Contact Rob Callus, Youth Services Program Coordinator, for more information and registration details. P: (919)519-1133 | E: rcallus@wr.org.

**Free Math Camp for Rising 9th Grade Girls.** *Girls Talk Math* is a FREE summer day camp for rising 9th-12th grade students in the Triangle area who identify as female or an underrepresented gender. Daily lunch and afternoon snacks will be provided for all participants at no cost. The program challenges campers to explore advanced mathematics, research a female mathematician, and create a **blog post** and **podcast** to share what they learned. Visit the camp **website** to learn more.

This year camp will run July 8-19, Monday to Friday, from 9:00am-4:00pm. Before and after camp supervision will be provided beginning at 8:30am and ending at 5:00pm. Camp is held in the Mathematics Department at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**Like us on Facebook! Remember to “Like” and “Share” posts so that these keep bubbling to the top of your feed. You can also click on “notifications” to receive these posts.**

**Share your Githens photos by emailing them to [githenssocialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:githenssocialmedia@gmail.com)**

- **Githens Middle School PTA**
- **Githens Middle School Band**
- **Githens Raider Orchestra**
- **Githens Middle School Athletics Boosters Club**

## FREE MONEY FOR GITHENS

**MENCHIE’S Frozen Yogurt at Patterson Place– every Thursday, Menchie’s will donate 20% of your purchase to Githens. All you have to do is mention “Githens Middle School” when you pay. Offer good every Thursday during the school year. Patterson Place location only. Hours on Thurs: 12pm – 10pm**

***Box Tops for Education®:* With more than 250 participating products, collecting Box Tops is an easy way to help fund our school. Each Box Top is worth \$0.10! Box Tops do have expirations, so don’t forget to clip and send them in with your student every**

Friday during the school year. And now there's a new app that lets you earn bonus Box Tops in combination with the on-pack Box Tops clip and any other coupon, discount, store program or promotion!.The app, which is available for iPhone and Android, lets you scan your receipts to get bonus Box Tops – more information is available at [www.BoxTops4Education.com](http://www.BoxTops4Education.com) under “Earn Box Tops.”

Please participate in these programs:

**Harris Teeter:** Ask cashier to register your VIC card with Sherwood Githens code #2516 or register online at <https://www.harristeeter.com/manual-link#/app/cms>

**Kroger:**Ask the cashier to register your Kroger Rewards card with Sherwood Githens NPO number #89005 or register online at <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>

**Office Depot:** At Office Depot, you can register your card with the Sherwood Githens Code: #70060926.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### MAY

May 27: Memorial Day Holiday (no school for students)

May 28, 6:00 pm, Githens Cafeteria: Band Banquet

May 29 - May 31: EOG Testing (continues in June)

May 31, 6:30 - 9:30 pm: 8th Grade Semi-Formal Dance: “A Night in Cannes”

### JUNE

June 3 - 11: EOG Testing continues (includes make-up days)

June 6, 8:30 am - 2:20 pm: 8th grade Promotion Rehearsal & Picnic

June 7, 9:00 - 10:00 am: 8th grade Promotion Ceremony

June 10: Field trips (6th: Frankie’s; 7th: Galaxy Fun Park; 8th: Carowinds)

June 11: Last Day of School & “Githens Got Talent” Show (9:00 - 11:00 am)

### REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS: ALL WELCOME!

Faculty meetings - 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month

School Improvement Team meetings - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 2:50 in the Media Center

***You can access the most recent SIT meeting minutes from the “About Githens” page of the school website: <https://www.dpsnc.net/domain/577>***

Athletic Boosters Club –Last Monday of the month at 6pm in the Media Center

PTA meetings - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6pm in the Media Center

***To view the minutes from the previous PTA meeting, please click [here](#)***

***For an up-to-date PTA calendar, please click [here](#)***

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