



Cougar Campus Connection

NEWNAN HIGH SCHOOL

190 LaGrange Street • Newnan, GA 30263 • 770-254-2880 • www.cowetaschools.org/nhs

April/May 2010

Important Dates



Prom Dress/Accessories Sale— Apr. 2
5:00–8:00 p.m., Main Cafeteria

Spring Break— Apr. 5 - 9

Senior Cap and Gown Panoramic Picture—
Apr. 21, 8:30 a.m.

Senior Play— Apr. 24, 25, 26, 27
Sunday's matinee, 2:00 p.m.
All other dates, 7:00 p.m.
NHS Auditorium

Progress Reports— Apr. 30

AP Testing— May 3 - 14

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week— May 3 - 7

Academic Team Reception— May 4
7:00 p.m., Main Cafeteria

Honors Night— May 6
7:00 p.m., NHS Auditorium

JROTC Awards— May 11
7:00 p.m., NHS Auditorium

Sr. National Honor Society— May 11
6:30 p.m., Major Long House

Spring Band Concert— May 13
7:00 p.m., NHS Auditorium

PROM— May 15
6:00 - 10:00 p.m., Opera in Atlanta

Band Awards Night— May 17
7:00 p.m., NHS Auditorium

End of Course Testing— May 17 - 21

Chorus Concert— May 18
7:00 p.m., NHS Auditorium

Senior Picnic— May 21

Baccalaureate— May 23
2:00 p.m., Newnan First Baptist Church

SENIORS: 4th Nine Weeks Exams—
May 24: 1st & 3rd Blocks
May 25: 2nd & 4th Blocks

Drama Awards Night— May 25
7:00 p.m., NHS Auditorium

4th Nine Weeks Exams—
May 27: 1st & 3rd Blocks
May 28: 2nd & 4th Blocks

Graduation Practice— May 28, 8:30 a.m.

Graduation— May 28, 7:30 p.m.

Last Day of School— May 28

Report Cards Available— Jun. 7

ACT Testing/NHS— Jun. 12

From the Principal

Dr. Doug Moore

Our juniors have just finished the spring 2010 administration of the Georgia High School Graduation Test. With student success always as our goal, our teachers scheduled review sessions; we gave students review packets, and we enrolled them in tutorial websites. It is my hope that each student took advantage of these opportunities and felt confident as they took the tests. The results of this experience will certainly have an impact of the future of each student. As we eagerly await the test results, we will be here to guide those who passed all sections and those who will retake part of the test.

As we continue to experience the difficult economic situation and job market, the importance of education becomes more apparent. Never before has it been more necessary for a high school student to choose classes wisely, to attend school regularly, and to develop a strong work ethic. Success in high school is a critical step towards continuing education and career opportunities. The following information may help as you plan:

- *Take End of Course Tests (EOCT) very seriously. The EOCT is a state mandated test that is given in several high school courses. These tests count 15% of the final grade and can be a strong predictor of success on the Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHSGT).*
- *The Georgia High School Writing Test (GHSWT) is given to **juniors** in September.*
- *The Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHSGT) in math, English, science, and social studies is given to **juniors** in March.*
- *All students must pass the GHSWT and the GHSGT in order to receive a diploma from a Georgia high school – even if all the required classes have been taken and passed.*
- *Preparation for the GHSWT and the GHSGT is occurring each day a student attends school. Good attendance, good behavior, and a strong work ethic are essential to success.*
- *Develop an area (or areas) of interest. Students may participate in engaging experiences in academic, elective, and extracurricular areas at NHS. By enrolling in classes at Central Educational Center (CEC), students are able to choose from an incredible variety of vocational and technical programs.*
- *Some classes at NHS and CEC can award college credit.*
- *Research proves that students who pursue a particular interest are more likely to graduate than students who do not.*

Teachers, counselors, and administrators are here to help students become graduates. Please do not hesitate to contact us as we all work together for a strong finish of the 2010 school year! Go Cougars!

Monitor Student Grades & Attendance!

Parents— You can monitor student grade and attendance information from your computer by accessing the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Parents should come to the attendance office and present a photo I.D. to obtain password information.

2010 Census: It's About Us!

Aaron Corley, Ed.D., Asst. Principal, SRMS

The United States Constitution requires that a population count occur every ten years, and this spring the U.S. Census Bureau will undergo the meticulous process of trying to take count of how many people live in our towns, counties, states, and in our country. Soon, your household should receive an official U.S. Census questionnaire that consists of ten questions regarding the people who live at your residence. - The questionnaire will include a prepaid postage stamp so you can send it in without any cost to you but about ten minutes of your time. If you do not return your questionnaire, a census worker will visit your home and collect the needed information in person.

So why is taking part in the Census so important? Over \$300 million is provided to states each year to help cities, towns, and communities fix roads, help schools, and pay for programs. Without accurate counts, many communities may go overlooked and go without needed financial support. Furthermore, population counts determine state and legislative districts, so obtaining an accurate count assures appropriate representation at the state and national level. In 2000, over 50,000 citizens of Alabama did not return their Census questionnaires, costing the state \$540 million in aid and support over the past decade and almost costing the state a congressional seat.

What does this have to do with schools? Federal money for our schools and districts is based upon the number of people who live in a school district. If large numbers of people go uncounted, school districts stand to lose money that they need to properly educate and serve their communities. Additionally, Census numbers can impact the amount of funding provided to state and federal educational programs, from Title I funding, special education grants, college tuition grants, and education loan programs. Census numbers can even influence if and when schools are constructed in communities.

We urge you to please take the time to fill out and return your Census questionnaire when it arrives so that you and your family are counted and that our community receives proper representation, aid, and support.



Students who register for driver's education next year must have a valid learner's permit by the first day of school. Because scheduling will not be complete until late summer, we strongly encourage students who have requested the driver's education class to get their learner's permit over the summer.

The required Georgia DDS Certificate of Attendance for both the learner's permit and driver's license should be obtained from Ms. Paula Wells in the Guidance Office prior to the end of the school year.

Cougar Couture 2010 Prom Dress Shop



Friday, April 2
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
NHS Cafeteria

Newnan High would like to make sure that every girl who wants to attend her Prom this year is able to by introducing the Cougar Couture Prom Dress Shop. This event will give girls an opportunity to purchase a consigned dress or receive a donated dress at no cost.

We are seeking community involvement to help stock our Prom Dress Shop. New and 'gently used' formal wear and accessories will be gladly accepted as donations, while items for consignment sale are also welcomed. Contact teachers Kristan Aaron (kristan.aaron@cowetaschools.org) or Kelley Finger (kelley.finger@cowetaschools.org) or bring items to the Principal's Office.

Clinic Housekeeping

Susie Jonassen, RN, BSN,
CPN, School Nurse



Just a few reminders that the end of the year is fast approaching and that means time to clean house! For any students who have medications or supplies in the clinic, parents will have until the last day of school to pick up any that are unused. If your student keeps prescription medication in the clinic, please only send enough to get through the end of the year. Medication—both prescription and non-prescription—will be released only to the parents or legal guardians. Any medication left unclaimed on the last day of school will be discarded.

To parents of graduating seniors, if you require your child's immunization form for college admission, please notify me ASAP. No requests will be granted over the summer by the clinic. Please take care of this before the last day of school. Once a student graduates, the immunization record is no longer kept in the clinic. If you need this form, please come by the clinic during the hours of 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. while school is in session.

Jobs for Georgia Graduates

Gaines Coker, Sponsor

Jobs for Georgia Graduates (JGG) is a school-to-work transition program designed to provide high school students with pre-employment training, work skills, motivational activities, and job development. Funded by the Georgia Department of Labor, JGG provides a twelve month follow-up service to increase the graduation rate and encourage a successful transition from school to work, post secondary education, and the military. The Senior Model services students in the 12th grade while the five year model services begin at the 9th grade level. A student participating in JGG for all four years would receive approximately 720 hours of curriculum/classroom contact.

JGGs major goals are:

- ◆ Improve knowledge and employment skills of high school students.
- ◆ Produce qualified graduates for the Labor Market, post-secondary education, and military.
- ◆ Provide student training, counseling, and remediation for personal and academic development.
- ◆ Provide employers access to a pool of motivated, job-ready employees.

Continued on next page.

Title I: Parent Corner

Chase Puckett, Asst. Principal

Parents are an integral part of student success at Newnan High School. All parents are invited to stay connected by visiting the school website at www.cowetaschools.org/nhs. Also, Newnan High School is currently developing a Parent Resource Center (PRC) as a component of the Title I: Targeted Assistance Plan. In the PRC, parents will be able to view the current school improvement plan, current assessment data, the Title I plan, and access literature and resources geared specifically for parents. The PRC is located in the school media center. Parents should first check in at the Principal's Office to get a visitor's pass.

The goal of the Newnan High School's Title I Targeted Assistance Plan is to increase the graduation rate of our students by improving their performance in core academic classes. In order to accomplish this goal, NHS will focus on the academic performance of students in the areas of mathematics and English. Contact Assistant Principals Penny Johnson or Chase Puckett if you have questions about components of the Title I plan.

Attendance Reminders:

Newnan High School's faculty and staff believe that daily involvement in the class-

room is necessary for each student to perform to the maximum.

- A written excuse must be presented within three school days of the student's return to school from an absence.

- Make up work must be completed according to the grading policy established by the teacher. Both excused and unexcused absences from class will result in the loss of full credit for class participation missed unless arrangements to do the work are made by the student with each teacher within three school days returning to school from the absence. For each unexcused absence beyond five days per class, per term, the school administration must approve any make up work.

- If a student is absent 10 unexcused days or 40 blocks, the Department of Driver Services will revoke his or her license.

- All students sign out in the Attendance Office when checking out early. A student must have a parent note in order to leave campus during school hours. Notes are to be turned in to the Attendance Office between 8:00 a.m. and 8:20 a.m. Students may not leave campus to go to lunch.

- Students who are enrolled in classes at NHS and at the CEC are expected to follow regular checkout procedures.

Continued from JGG.

Newnan High School (Senior Model) has currently 35 student members. The officers are: Matt East, President; Laura Lacy, Secretary; Jasmine Gooden, Vice-president of Social Activities; Joshua Tuck, Vice-president Leadership Development; Brianna Cleveland, Vice-president Career Preparation; and Harry Turner, Vice-president Civic Affairs.

In February, JGG participated in Region Competition in Atlanta, GA. Students competed in Public Speaking, Decision Making, Outstanding Leadership, Outstanding Chapter Manual, Creative Problem Solving, and Employment Interview. Newnan High School competed against eight other Metro Atlanta Public Schools. NHS students placed, as follows:

Josh Tuck – 1st Place Public Speaking; Alicia Morrow – 2nd Place Decision Making; Brianna Cleveland, Andrew Coria, & Megan Frazier – 1st Place Creative Problem Solving; Matt East – 3rd Place Outstanding Leadership Award; Newnan High School Outstanding Chapter Manual – 1st Place.


These students also competed in state-wide Employability Skills Competitive Events at Macon State College, Macon, Georgia. Newnan High School JGG students will be recognized for their accom-

plishments at the 2010 State Career Conference and Luncheon at Fort Valley State University in April.

JGG has participated and volunteered throughout the school year with Georgia Power's Renew Our Rivers, Elm Street Elementary School Fall Festival, Taste Of Newnan, Powder Puff Football Game/Coweta Food Pantry, JGG Leadership Summit, Valentines for the Georgia Baptist Children's Home in Palmetto, GA, and sang Christmas carols at Beulieu Convalescent Home.

JGG students are getting an opportunity to become **Georgia Work Ready Certified** through the Governor's Office of Workforce Development. JGG students from Newnan High School will be taking the assessment at CEC and will receive special recognition for this national certification.

JGG at Newnan High School is led by Mr. Gaines Coker. To find out how to be a part of JGG next school year, you may contact Mr. Gaines Coker at 770-254-7223 or gaines.coker@cowetaschools.org.



Class of 2010

Senior Notes

- ☑ Cap & Gown— Orders can still be made in the Guidance Office. Orders through April 30 cost \$85. Orders in May will cost \$90.
- ☑ Outstanding fees, library books, textbooks, or other materials should be turned in or paid before graduation.
- ☑ Transcript Fee: The first five are free. After the fifth transcript, there is a charge of \$3 each.
- ☑ Official Transcripts may be ordered in the Attendance Office. Please allow at least three days for the registrar to send transcripts electronically.
- ☑ Unofficial Transcripts may also be ordered in the Attendance Office. Check back after three days for your copy.
- ☑ Final Transcripts: Request forms will be available from the Registrar's Office in May. Before you leave for the summer, complete the form and turn it in to the registrar who will send your final transcript directly to your college.
- ☑ College Recommendations: If you would like the guidance counselor to complete a college recommendation, bring your request to the Guidance Office at least one week prior to the time it is needed. The counselor will call you when it is available for pick up.
- ☑ ACT/SAT Scores: You must contact ACT and/or SAT to have scores sent directly to colleges from the testing agency. Online, phone, or mail!
- ☑ Scholarships: If you have been awarded a scholarship, please complete a scholarship announcement release form and attach a copy of the official notification. Forms are in the Guidance Office and are due to Mrs. Fincher by May 5. (All Honor's Night scholarship recipients will automatically appear in the newspaper and do not require a release.)

REACH Open Referral Period for High School ends April 2!

Contact Mrs. Daphne Keene in the ninth grade building.

Newnan High School
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Newnan, GA 30263
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Principal Dr. Doug Moore

12 Asst. Principal Penny Johnson
Counselor Linda Fincher

11 Asst. Principal Bennie Rhodes
Counselor Shea Lasiter

10 Asst. Principal Chase Puckett
Counselor Michael Barnes

9 Asst. Principal Stephen Allen - Main Campus
Asst. Principal Rick Surrett - 9th Gr. Campus
Counselor Will Noe

Georgia Teens Ride With P.R.I.D.E.

Is your teenager's life worth two hours of your time?

Georgia Teens Ride With P.R.I.D.E. (**P**arents **R**educing **I**njuries and **D**river **E**rror) is a Free, National Award-Winning two hour course designed to help parents and their new (or soon-to-be) teen drivers, ages 14–16, learn what they need to do during the 40 hours of supervised practice driving time required by Georgia law. There are no attendance restrictions. You may attend P.R.I.D.E. any-

where a class is offered.

For the latest information about Joshua's Law and Driver's Education requirements in Georgia, visit www.gateendrivereducation.dds.ga.gov.

To get more details and to find a P.R.I.D.E. class near you, visit their website at <http://extension.caes.uga.edu/gtipi/Templates/classes.htm>.

Congratulations to NHS Teacher Of The Year, Mrs. Angie Whitlock!



"Pride" by Cortney Harrison

Art Briefs

During March, the following students have watercolor landscapes on display at the Carnegie Reading Room in downtown Newnan: Alex Aaron, Alex Pifer, Kelsey Veal, Hallie Jenkins, Haley Pilgreen, and Chloe Wooten. Their work was also on display at Mann Jewelers during the Spring Art Walk on March 26.

Newnan High art students fared well at the Newnan-Coweta Kiwanis Student Art Show held at the Centre for Performing and Visual Arts in March. Both senior Katie Turner and freshman Mayra Colindres won third place awards. Sophomore Allie Haydon and junior Elizabeth Finger each won second place awards.

Dale Sizemore, pottery teacher, is organizing the Annual State-wide Ceramic Art Show & Symposium. This juried exhibit with clay workshops will be held on April 17 at the Centre for Per-



"Discovered" by Carly Moser

forming and Visual Arts.

Fifteen works have been entered in the Annual Congressional Art Competition. Winners will have their work exhibited in the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. and in Congressman Lynn Westmoreland's District Office. Newnan High students have fared well in past competitions, and we wish them the best of luck this year.