



# NEWS RELEASE

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## GCPS Class of 2019:

### **Gwinnett seniors prepare for graduation**

After 13 years of hard work during their K-12 academic careers, more than 12,900 potential Gwinnett graduates are counting down the days. This year's high school seniors will walk across the stage as the school district's largest and most decorated class to date.

"Graduation is a special time of celebration and we salute the Class of 2019 on all that they have accomplished," says **CEO/Superintendent J. Alvin Wilbanks**.

"These students have had an impressive career in Gwinnett County Public Schools and they leave us ready for the next chapter in their lives. They have left their mark on our schools— earning prestigious awards and scholarships, state championships, and more. As important, they have contributed to our community through service to others, leadership opportunities, and giving back to Gwinnett. And, while the focus is on the graduates at this time of year, I would be remiss if I did not extend our deep appreciation to the families who supported and encouraged these students during their academic career and to the thousands of teachers who made teaching come alive so these students thrived throughout the years."

The senior report for the Class of 2019 shows that:

- **82% of the students graduating this year report that they plan to continue their education** by attending college or postsecondary schools. The vast majority of graduates, or 84.5%, plan to attend college in Georgia.
- These seniors have been offered, as of April 2019, **more than \$203.6 million in academic, athletic, and military scholarships**.
- The majority of the scholarship amount, **more than \$104.2 million, was earned for academic achievement**. Gwinnett students also received **more than \$91 million in athletic scholarships**, and **more than \$8.3 million due to military appointments**. These monetary awards do not include HOPE, or full-tuition scholarships associated with the Posse, QuestBridge, or Gates scholarship programs.
- **One of the three Georgia students honored as a U.S. Presidential Scholar hails from Duluth High School**. Nationally, 161 scholars were selected this year based on their academic success, artistic excellence, essays, school

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CEO/Superintendent

#### **THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*is to pursue excellence  
in academic knowledge,  
skills, and behavior  
for each student,  
resulting in measured  
improvement against  
local, national, and  
world-class standards.*

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It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools  
not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex,  
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any  
employment practice, educational program,  
or any other program, activity, or service.

**2010 and 2014 Winner of**

the **broad prize**  
for urban education



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evaluations and transcripts, as well as evidence of community service, leadership and demonstrated commitment to high ideals.

- As of May of 2019, **17 Gwinnett seniors earned a full scholarship through the QuestBridge College Match Program.** Of the eight Gwinnett schools with QuestBridge Scholars, **Archer High School** had the most with four.
- **Four of the nation’s 300 Gates Scholarship recipients for 2019 are Gwinnett students.** Two of the students are graduating from **GSMST** and two are graduating from **Mountain View High School.** This prestigious scholarship program provides an all-expenses-paid scholarship to high-potential, low-income minority students. It also provides support to Scholars by engaging with them and their institutions in ways to ensure they have access to the resources and services they need.
- **Nine Gwinnett graduating seniors earned full rides as Posse Scholars.** Founded in 1989, the Posse Foundation identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes. Posse extends to these students the opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams— Posses— of 10 students. Partner colleges and universities award four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships to Posse Scholars.
- **Twenty-one Gwinnett students received military appointments.**

<u>School</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>School/Branch</u>
Archer HS	Emmanuel Michel	United States Air Force Academy
Berkmar HS	Jennifer Arreola-Meliton	United States Merchant Marine Academy
Brookwood HS	Joseph Garcia	United States Naval Academy
Brookwood HS	David Key	United States Naval Academy
Grayson HS	Daniel Lett	United States Air Force Academy
Grayson HS	Jazmin Robinson	United States Naval Academy
Grayson HS	Jordan Williams	United States Air Force Academy
Gwinnett Online Campus	Alexander Mobley	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
Lanier HS	Ejai Washington	United States Naval Academy
Mill Creek HS	Spencer Carroll	United States Naval Academy

Mountain View HS	Jeremy Go	United States Air Force Academy
Mountain View HS	Keenan Baxter	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
Mountain View HS	Tae Woong Chung	United States Coast Guard Academy
North Gwinnett HS	William Brinson	United States Air Force Academy
Peachtree Ridge HS	Shwan Ahn	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
Peachtree Ridge HS	Samuel Brown	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
Peachtree Ridge HS	Matthew Han	United States Air Force Academy
Peachtree Ridge HS	Edwin Jang	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
South Gwinnett HS	Skye Williams	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
South Gwinnett HS	Tavares Gordon	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
South Gwinnett HS	Mahjadi Ward	United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)

- **Brookwood High** graduates the largest class this year with 887 students, closely followed by **Mill Creek High** with 851, and **Peachtree Ridge High** with 802.
- The Class of 2019 also includes **3,592 Honor Graduates**, who are graduating with a grade percent average of 90 or better.
- During high school, **7,036 seniors took Advanced Placement (AP) courses**.
- While members of the Class of 2019 were working on their high school diploma, **1,619** of them also **earned college credit through dual enrollment**.

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Gwinnett County Public Schools also salutes the highest-ranked students in each school based on their GPA, those earning the title of **valedictorian or salutatorian**.

They are:

<b>School</b>	<b>Valedictorian (1<sup>st</sup> in Class)</b>	<b>Salutatorian (2<sup>nd</sup> in Class)</b>
Archer	Jared Smith	Lauren Sandidge
Berkmar HS	Richard Wong	Sarah Monteiro
Brookwood HS	Abigail Obeng-Marnu	Thi Dao
Central Gwinnett HS	Amy Truong	Britney Pena
Collins Hill HS	John Kang	Brett Muegel
Dacula HS	Mark Minh Tran	Anuoluwa Esther Ayannusi
Discovery HS	Amy Tin	Adam Siffel
Duluth HS	Vani Senthil	Caitlyn Nazareth
Grayson HS	Mesum Zaidi	Grace Scartz
Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology (GSMST)	Julius Tao	Alex Kim
GOC	Daniel Gallagher	Imani Vincent
Lanier HS	Michael Kim	Britley Jones
Meadowcreek HS	Xiang Li	Nhu Ha
Mill Creek HS	Diana Kim	Lauren Kelly Davis
Mountain View HS	Akash Kumar Sinah	Adam Hordines
Norcross HS	Joseph Mao	Christopher Wang
North Gwinnett HS	Hyosang Kim	Du-Shyun Chiang
Parkview HS	Ryan Tay	Kareena Udeshi
Peachtree Ridge HS	Shawn Im	James Cai
Shiloh HS	Jada Johnson	Jayda Hart
South Gwinnett HS	Jingwei Li	Emir Ibrismovic

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The graduation ceremonies for Gwinnett's Class of 2019 will take place as follows:

<b><u>Monday, May 20, 2019</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>
Phoenix High	Infinite Energy Theatre	7 p.m.
<b><u>Wednesday, May 22, 2019</u></b>		
Shiloh High	Infinite Energy Arena	3 p.m.
Central Gwinnett High	Central Gwinnett Stadium	7 p.m.
Brookwood High	Brookwood Community Stadium	8 p.m.
Mountain View High	Infinite Energy Arena	8 p.m.
Mill Creek High	Mill Creek Community Stadium	8 p.m.
Parkview High	Parkview Community Stadium	8 p.m.
<b><u>Thursday, May 23, 2019</u></b>		
Meadowcreek High	Infinite Energy Arena	8:30 a.m.
Duluth High	Infinite Energy Arena	2 p.m.
Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology	Infinite Energy Exhibit Halls A/B	5 p.m.
Gwinnett Online Campus	Gwinnett Online Campus Auditorium	7 p.m.
South Gwinnett High	Infinite Energy Arena	7:30 p.m.
<b><u>Friday, May 24, 2019</u></b>		
Peachtree Ridge High	Infinite Energy Arena	8:30 a.m.
Grayson High	Infinite Energy Arena	2 p.m.
Archer High	Infinite Energy Arena	7:30 p.m.
<b><u>Saturday, May 25, 2019</u></b>		
Berkmar High	Infinite Energy Arena	8:30 a.m.
Lanier High	Infinite Energy Arena	2 p.m.
North Gwinnett High	Infinite Energy Arena	7:30 p.m.
<b><u>Sunday, May 26, 2019</u></b>		
Norcross High	Infinite Energy Arena	2 p.m.
Collins Hill High	Infinite Energy Arena	7 p.m.
<b><u>Monday, May 27, 2019</u></b>		
Dacula High	Infinite Energy Arena	8:30 a.m.
Discovery High	Infinite Energy Arena	2 p.m.

Please note that due to construction in and around the Infinite Energy Arena, families are encouraged to carpool and to plan accordingly for travel time as parking is more limited than in previous years. Downloadable parking maps with routes for parents and families are available on the GCPS website.