



NEWS RELEASE

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GCPS Class of 2020: **Gwinnett seniors prepare for graduation**

After 13 years of hard work during their K-12 academic careers, more than 12,700 potential Gwinnett graduates are counting down the days until their high school career is over. Due to the effects of the global pandemic, this year's seniors were forced to endure a difficult and unusual ending to their high school careers, which makes their accomplishments even more impressive worthy of celebration.

“Graduation is a special time of celebration and we salute the Class of 2020,” says **CEO/Superintendent J. Alvin Wilbanks**. “The COVID-19 pandemic may have changed *where* and *how* this year's senior class completed their high school career, but it cannot take away all that they have accomplished. These students made lasting contributions to our schools— earning prestigious awards and scholarships, state championships, and more. As important, they established themselves as civic-minded individuals who contributed to our community through service to others, leadership opportunities, and giving back to Gwinnett. I applaud them for their accomplishments and extend my deep appreciation to the families who supported and encouraged them during their academic career. I also salute the thousands of educators who gave their all to these students, helping these graduates to thrive and to be prepared for their futures.”

The senior report for the Class of 2020 shows that:

- **81.5% 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 **85.7 %**, plan to attend college in Georgia.
- These seniors have been offered, as of April 2020, **more than \$204.9 million in academic, athletic, and military scholarships**.
- The majority of the scholarship amount, **more than \$105 million, was earned for academic achievement**. Gwinnett students also received **more than \$92.3 million in athletic scholarships, and more than \$7.5 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.

Gwinnett County Board of Education

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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



- **Mill Creek High** graduates the largest class this year with 866 students, closely followed by **Brookwood High** with 839, and **Peachtree Ridge High** with 808.
- The Class of 2020 also includes **3,672 Honor Graduates**, who are graduating with a grade percent average of 90 or better.
- During high school, **6,756 seniors took Advanced Placement (AP) courses**.
- While members of the Class of 2020 were working on their high school diploma, **1,887** of them also **earned college credit through dual enrollment**.

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:

School	Valedictorian (1 st in Class)	Salutatorian (2 nd in Class)
Archer HS	Cole Thomas	<i>Student did not want name included</i>
Berkmar HS	Gia-Minh Nguyen	Lavonté Saunders
Brookwood HS	Jay Patel	Jiyuan Dong
Central Gwinnett HS	David Palmer	Carolyn Phung
Collins Hill HS	Matthew Sumanen	Max Schoenfuss
Dacula HS	Miranda Colon	Matthew Weiss
Discovery HS	Cindy Ho	Jedidah Titus
Duluth HS	Shalin Jain	Hussan Ali
Grayson HS	Claire Mistretta	Abigail Chambers
Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology (GSMST)	Davin Shi	Wenjun Wang
Gwinnett Online Campus	Catherine Elizabeth Slack	Elizabet Verizova
Lanier HS	Stella Choi	Mason Ladd
McClure Health Science HS	Yesenia Lopez	Tanya Rodriguez
Meadowcreek HS	Valeria Granados	Gigi Tu
Mill Creek HS	Cassidy Hettesheimer	Bryce Hancock
Mountain View HS	Shayla Nguyen	Nicholas Isaza

Norcross HS	Luke Gries	Chance Keown
North Gwinnett HS	Maya Chande	Alexander Fonzi
Parkview HS	Toby Nguyen	Rhiannon Eplett
Paul Duke STEM HS	Chunjin Park	Cameron Potter
Peachtree Ridge HS	Alice Ao	William Ao
Shiloh HS	Miriam Martinez Rivera	Catherine Trobradovic
South Gwinnett HS	Sidney Swanstrom	Princess Deborah Onyeonula

2020 Gwinnett County Public Schools Virtual Graduation Schedule:

Each high school's virtual graduation will air on GCPS TV and be livestreamed on the GCPS TV's website (www.gcpstv.org)

<u>School</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Phoenix High	Wednesday, May 20	4:30 p.m.
Paul Duke STEM High	Wednesday, May 20	6:30 p.m.
McClure Health Science High	Wednesday, May 20	8:30 p.m.
Duluth High	Thursday, May 21	8:30 a.m.
Central Gwinnett High	Thursday, May 21	10:30 a.m.
Brookwood High	Thursday, May 21	12:30 p.m.
Discovery High	Thursday, May 21	2:30 p.m.
Mill Creek High	Thursday, May 21	4:30 p.m.
Parkview High	Thursday, May 21	6:30 p.m.
Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology	Thursday, May 21	8:30 p.m.
Dacula High	Friday, May 22	8:30 a.m.
Archer High	Friday, May 22	10:30 a.m.
Shiloh High	Friday, May 22	12:30 p.m.
Mountain View High	Friday, May 22	2:30 p.m.
Berkmar High	Friday, May 22	4:30 p.m.
Norcross High	Friday, May 22	6:30 p.m.
Gwinnett Online Campus	Friday, May 22	8:30 p.m.
MeadowCreek High	Saturday, May 23	8:30 a.m.

Grayson High	Saturday, May 23	10:30 a.m.
South Gwinnett High	Saturday, May 23	12:30 p.m.
North Gwinnett High	Saturday, May 23	2:30 p.m.
Peachtree Ridge High	Saturday, May 23	4:30 p.m.
Collins Hill High	Saturday, May 23	6:30 p.m.
Lanier High	Saturday, May 23	8:30 p.m.

In addition to watching GCPS TV live on the school district website, you can tune in on the following cable stations:

AT&T U-verse	Listed under Local Government
Charter	Channel 180
Comcast	Channel 24 or 26

***Graduations also will be available on-demand.**

In July, Gwinnett County Public Schools will hold in-person graduation ceremonies should conditions allow. Dates and times of these ceremonies are available on the GCPS website.

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