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CHELSEA CARTER  
FAITH DUPREE  
SHAY EVANS  
JUSTICE MARSHALL  
BRANDON MCCLLOUD  
NYLA PETERSON  
JEZREEL YOUNG



JARVIS ADAMS  
ESTELLA COOK  
CANDICE HICKMAN  
CHANTRISE HOLLIMAN  
CECLIA JOHNSON  
TOSHA OLIVER  
JAMAR ROBINSON



# Westlake Pride



Tuesday, January 19, 2015

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL ATLANTA, GA

2016 Issue 11

## SKILLSUSA BRINGS HOLIDAY CHEER

BY STAFF

**ATLANTA** - SkillsUSA members showed a tremendous amount of love, compassion, and character this holiday season by adopting a family in need.

The family had fallen on rough times due to a recent job loss, and the holiday season was in jeopardy for three children who braced themselves to receive few if any gifts under the tree.

The children, however, were overjoyed to discover that a crew of Westlake students from SkillsUSA had found out about their need and provided wrapped gifts for the holiday season.

On Christmas morning, the two girls, ages 11 and 12, and their brother, age 8, were so ecstatic to see that they had presents that it took them a while to get to opening the gifts, because they were far too busy celebrating to unwrap.

The gift giving effort, which was led by Ms. Carlene Thorton, combined the efforts of teachers, including Ms. Shakirah McConnell and Ms. Cheryl Hudson, as well as students who shopped for gifts and spent their afternoon at school, wrapping gifts.

Specifically, Jailah Carter, Shakir Crews, Victoria Culpepper, Nicholas Manning, Alexis Mason, Markia Smith, and Jermaine Stokes all volunteered their time and effort to the project.

"Our SkillsUSA members had a great time working together and teaching each other how to wrap gifts," said Ms. Thorton.

"Teamwork was definitely required," added Ms. Thorton, slyly implying that some of the students, perhaps the boys, had to focus to keep the gift wrapping from getting messy.

Ms. Thorton found that she did not have to

worry about the high school students wanting to lend a helping hand. In fact, the only problem she had was that the students were so enthusiastic that they had to be reigned in.

According to Ms. Thorton, Jermaine was so excited about the Star Wars gift he had purchased that he wanted to personally sign a note and deliver it.

Because this was a group effort, Ms. Thorton preferred to have all the gifts from "SkillsUSA," so that way students remained focused on working as a team to help the children in need rather than making it an individual competition.

This certainly fits the mission statement of SkillsUSA, which is a club dedicated to ensuring that the country has a skilled, collaborative, and compassionate workforce through career and technology training, especially when

it comes to service fields, such as medicine, education, public administration, hospitality, public relations, law, and public safety.

Gifts that SkillsUSA delivered included toys, clothes, and coats, and the children were very appreciative for each and every gift, as evidenced by the loving thank you notes that they sent the SkillsUSA members.

Based on this, it sounds like SkillsUSA inspired three children to pass forward the love and compassion they received.

There is nothing better we can do this Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday than to recognize the service of SkillsUSA and challenge ourselves to find a similarly rewarding project.

Thank you, SkillsUSA for leading us in service and showing the impact that we can have on the community! **W**

## COACH WILSON NAMED TRACK COACH OF THE YEAR; NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



BY STAFF

**ATLANTA** - Coach Wilson has received two pieces of excellent news, including a national recognition as Coach of the Year.

To read more about the successes of Coach Wilson, please be sure to read the full article and interview inside this edition (CONT PAGE 2).

## SEÑORA QUEEN-JAMES RELEASES NEW GOSPEL ALBUM

BY STAFF

**ATLANTA** - This holiday season, we at the PRIDE Newsletter did not have to look far for this year's best gospel album--in fact, it came from just down the hall!

Señora Casinda Queen-James has released a new album, *From Brokenness to Blessings*, which features eight original songs performed by Queen-James, as well as background singers and a full band.

Señora has a powerful voice that is well known at Westlake, as well as at neighbouring community churches, but it is extraordinarily nice to have her voice with you in the car, kitchen, or recliner, bringing you good spirit and high energy through her songs of devotion and redemption.

"The name of the album comes from realizing that there was purpose to my pain, that it is to be used for greatness in developing me and helping others," explained Señora.

This theme is most present in the song "Don't Look Like," which speaks to the power of light to bring people out of dark places.

*From Brokenness to Blessings* is not the first album that Señora Queen-James, and the professionalism of the album shows.

It begins high-energy with a soaring praise song called "Psalm 100: 1 - 4," where Señora reworks the famous Psalm, bringing it to new heights.

The music then slows down with "I Believe," a soulful exploration of wholeness and salvation,



but perhaps the most interesting song on the album is the hip-hop infused song "Without You."

This extremely catchy and inspirational song has a heavy drum track and a spoken word interlude---think "Girl

on Fire" but less about individual power and more about heavenly power.

Students will enjoy an early moment in "Without You," where the rapper, James Richardson, refers to their teacher as "Sinda," which

surprised Señora, who goes by Casinda.

"I had to learn that rap artists have stage names. He shortened my name without telling me first, and my producers laughed at it," recalled Señora.

"He called me "Sinda," and I was like... WHO? At first, I thought he did not know my real name after singing with him in the same group for 5 years."

Parents will also enjoy the tracks "Almighty God" and "You Are," which are smooth, traditional power ballads.

After listening to the album, it will be clear that Señora is a valuable resource for any budding singers who want to know how to succeed in the music industry.

"I suggest young people work with people

that know you and will push you to your highest potential," recommended Señora.

"Know how to take care of your singing or musical instrument, your body and soul. Know what season and time you are in before recording, meaning compose, record and release at the right time and season! Also, take these classes taught by our wonderful music teachers here at Westlake and learn as much as you can."

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of *From Brokenness to Blessings*, please search the album title at any of the major music websites, including iTunes, Amazon, and CD Baby. If you would like a physical copy, please see Señora Queen-James. **W**

# WILSON NAMED COACH OF THE YEAR; ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

## BY STAFF

**ATLANTA** - Coach Robert Wilson has had a busy year full of awards and accolades, both nationally and locally.

First, Wilson was named Coach of the Year by the nation's top track organization for his spectacular work as coach of the girls' track and field team

Then, fresh on the heels of that award, he was tapped to be Westlake's new Athletic Director, a position where he can bring elements of the success he has built in the Track Program to all the sports.

It is no surprise that the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, which goes by the hefty acronym USTFCCA, took note of Coach Wilson.

In the past three years, Westlake's girls' track team has won three State Championships, going back-to-back-to-back under the leadership of Coach Wilson, as well as his co-coach, Jason Cage.

The continued success of the track program has been unprecedented for Westlake and has become an impressive national story in high school athletics.

In fact, when Ms. Bates announced that Coach Wilson had received the Coach of the Year award at a faculty meeting, she made sure to celebrate the news in a way that would reflect the national importance of the story and grab every teacher's attention.

The drumline burst into the auditorium, flanked by cheerleaders and the dance team, essentially leading a parade for Coach Wilson through the meeting.

The parade preceded to the auditorium stage, where the curtains parted to reveal Coach Wilson's family, happy to celebrate him with hugs and words of congratulations.

During the celebration, Ms. Bates also announced that Coach Wilson has been tasked with the responsibility of becoming Westlake's new Athletic Director, a position that oversees all athletic operations at the school.

Coach Wilson inherits the position from Mr. Jarvis Adams, who is no stranger to awards either



after being named the state of Georgia's 2015 Athletic Director of the Year for his work with Westlake's Athletic Department.

This title is one, however, that Mr. Adams is quick to deflect, explaining that the award was due to the success of the individual coaches and athletes, specifically Coach Love's wildly successful Return to Glory program in football, the perennial powerhouse basketball programs led by Coach Rogers and Hankerson, and the ridiculously decorated track team, which seems addicted to state championships.

For the past few years, Coach Wilson, Mr. Adams, and Administrative Assistant Lisa Lennon have worked together, spearheading an effort that brought Westlake's athletic budget into the black, coordinating with the photography company Cady Studios to increase the visibility of Westlake's sports, and fostering great relationships with vendors and the community.

"Coach Wilson is the right man for the job and will be a great Athletic Director," commented Mr. Adams, who could not contain his praise.

"Coach Wilson lives and breathes Westlake. He went here as a stu-

dent and loves this place as a home. I am very excited about where he is going to take the different programs."

Already, Coach Wilson has made his mark by coordinating a smoothly operated football postseason, in which Westlake was able to host two playoffs games.

Coach Wilson has executed an initiative to coordinate athletic spiritwear that should benefit parents, athletes, and coaches alike.

Specifically, Fulton County has signed an agreement with Under Armour to be the exclusive provider of gameday uniforms, and Coach Wilson has embraced the opportunity to streamline the look of the sports' spiritwear and move to online sites where parents can order gear easily and directly.

For more information about his Coach of the Year award, as well as his plans as Athletic Director, we at the PRIDE Newsletter sat down with Coach Wilson for an interview.

**Could you tell us a little bit about the organization that named you coach of the year? We understand that it is a national organization, which is stunning.**

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association

(USTFCCA) is a non-profit professional organization representing cross country and track & field coaches of all levels.

The organization represents over 9,000 coaching members encompassing 94% of all NCAA track & field programs (DI, DII, and DIII) and includes members representing the NAIA and NJCAA, as well as a number of state high school coaches associations.

**What does this Coach of the Year title mean to you, your family, and your team?**

The Coach of the Year title means a lot to me, my family and the Westlake Track and Field Program.

Without the support of my family I would not be able to spend countless hours away from them in order ensure the track program is successful.

I look at this recognition as a TEAM award because we have an awesome coaching staff that puts in long hours with me, and they too are sacrificing time away from their families.

**Westlake's girls track team has won three state championships in a row, which seems like an almost impossible task in high school athletics. How**

**has Westlake been able to threepeat?**

Our girls track team has been able to win three state championships in a row as a result of the hard work, dedication and sacrifice from the girls.

Each class of students that comes through our program does not want to be out done by the one before them. They don't want to be the team that didn't win a state championship.

I also have to give a HUGE shout out to the parents of the track and field program. I believe we have the best parents around! I say this because they are sooooo supportive and don't mind helping out where help is needed.

**When you look at this year's team, what are your goals, who are your student leaders, and which meets and races are instrumental to your seasons?**

Our #1 goal is to show up at the state meet healthy. As a coaching staff, we feel that if we are healthy, then we can win state titles with the boys and girls.

If our boys team was healthy at the last state meet, they would have had a great chance at winning the state title.

Being that our student-athletes take pride in the program, everyone shows leadership in various ways.

The most important meets in our season are the region, sectional, and state championships, and I am looking forward to seeing our leaders rise to the occasion.

**You and Mr. Adams have talked about the basketball program here at Westlake and how it inspired you. Could you speak on this or any other sources of inspiration for how your track program should run?**

Coach Rogers and Coach Hankerson have done a marvelous job at making our basketball program nationally recognized. I watched how they dedicated so much time into making the basketball programs what they are today, so I too wanted the same success for the track program.

Overall, being a graduate of Westlake and growing up in College Park has been my main

source of inspiration. I have always wanted to represent this school and this side of Atlanta to the best of my ability.

**You have also recently become the athletic director here at Westlake. How does it feel to assume this level of leadership?**

Although being the athletic director here at Westlake comes with a great level of responsibility, I take pride in having the privilege of being able to take the athletic program to the next level.

**For those of us who do not know much about the behind-the-scenes work of high school athletics, what is the day-to-day business of an athletic director like?**

I don't where to begin. To name a few things that take place behind-the-scenes, I'm charged with checking eligibility, approving departmental purchases, checking the GHSA website for daily updates, inspecting facilities for repairs, initiating maintenance requisitions, and arranging for proper supervision of all home athletic events.

**Could you tell us a bit about any plans or goals you have for Westlake's athletics?**

It is my desire to maintain high level athletic programs with a primary focus on academic success for all student-athletes, sportsmanship, and character development; to continue to embrace the collaborative relationships established between the school and the community; and to build revenue within the athletic programs, which will ensure equitable opportunities for non-revenue sports.

**You have mentioned wanting to come to parent meetings and athletic events. How important is it to build a relationship with parents and the community as athletic director?**

It is very important to build relationships with the parents and the community since they play a vital role in our athletic programs. Attending as many athletic events is important to me as well because I know that our kids like to know they are being supported. **W**

## KEEP UP WITH ALL THESE SCHOOL EVENTS

PLEASE MARK THE BLOOD DRIVE IN YOUR CALENDARS!

INNOVATION

8th Annual  
**LEADERS**  
Georgia Youth Leadership Awards  
Celebrating 20 Outstanding Youth Leaders

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

Do you know an outstanding high school student who has:

- Started their own business or non-profit?
- Given back to their community or school in an extraordinary way?
- Created an initiative that had a local or global impact?
- Demonstrated strong leadership skills at their school or in their community?

Nominate them for the 2016 Georgia Youth Leadership Awards!

NOMINATIONS CLOSE DECEMBER 4, 2015  
To nominate, go to [www.21stcenturyleaders.org](http://www.21stcenturyleaders.org)

21st Century Leaders is looking for Georgia high school students who have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and exemplifies the five leadership qualities that truly embody a 21st Century Leader: passionate, forward-thinking, leverage diversity, resourceful, and service oriented.

Only 20 young leaders from across the state will be selected and honored at the 2016 Georgia Youth Leadership Awards on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta! Each awardee will be presented with a mini-grant for their work.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:  
Jasmine Tillman, 21CL Program Manager  
[jasmint@21stcenturyleaders.org](mailto:jasmint@21stcenturyleaders.org)  
404-373-7441

[www.21stcenturyleaders.org](http://www.21stcenturyleaders.org)  
#21CLGYLA

LEADERSHIP

IMPACT

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Only 20 students selected  
Application deadline is March 7, 2016  
Program begins June 18, 2016

This 6-week summer program is for high school students interested in careers in pharmacy, science & other health professions

**College of Pharmacy  
Center of Excellence  
High School Summer  
Enrichment Science  
Academy**

**Program Highlights:**

- Exciting and educational field trips
- Research experience & interaction with award-winning Professors
- Exploration & exposure to a variety of healthcare professions i.e., PA, PT & Dentistry, Nursing and Medicine
- Shadowing & internship opportunities
- Challenging curriculum & acclimation to college life
- Continued partnership with local high school & Community Colleges
- Housing, meals, course materials are included upon selection

• Participants will work with Researchers in their labs  
• Coursework WILL prepare participants for college  
• Selection is competitive  
• Students will become acclimated to 'real' college life  
• Professional Skills Workshops

• Problem-solving and independent living skills will be sharpened  
• Career exploration will be fine-tuned  
• Six-week Academic Summer Program for high school rising Juniors & Seniors.

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Outreach Coordinator  
College of Pharmacy, Center of Excellence  
Email: [coepharmacy@howard.edu](mailto:coepharmacy@howard.edu)  
Phone: (202) 806-4212

To download application go to:  
<http://healthsciences.howard.edu/education/colleges/pharmacy/center-excellence/components/summer-enrichment/high-school-academy>

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**HRSA**  
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Administration's  
Center of Excellence Program

Braylon  
age 2

**Westlake High School  
BLOOD DRIVE  
Friday, January 22, 2016  
8:30 am until 2:00 pm**

All donors  
will receive  
a T-shirt.

Please donate in this time of need. We are in need for ALL blood types. Each donor will receive a FREE T-Shirts and refreshments.

## WESTLAKE GRADUATION RATES RISE BY 20%; CATCHES DISTRICT

**BY ALEXANDRA BATES**  
**ATLANTA** - Our students did it again-raising the bar for the next graduating class.

Our graduation rate has risen to 84.4%. Go Lions!!! In just four years our graduation rate has

risen by about 20%.

Our goal is to have 100% of our 9th graders proceed to graduation in four years or less. We have the student talent and intelligence to do this!

This can only happen with dedicated teachers,

hardworking students, committed parents, and diligent counselors. It surely does take a village to support our students as they journey towards success.

The staff at Westlake is here to support them to

School	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	4-Year Gain
Alpharetta	85.8	85.7	89.2	90.8	93.5	7.7
Banneker	41.9	41.2	41.7	50.9	62.5	20.6
Cambridge	N/A	N/A	84.3	96.6	92.3	N/A
Centennial	74.7	80.3	79.9	82.6	87.9	13.2
Chattahoochee	90.0	93.5	93.8	90.4	94.7	4.7
Creekside	44.5	46.2	50.1	58.6	77.1	32.6
Fulton Science Academy	86.8	88.0	87.8	96.3	83.3	-3.5
Hapeville Career Academy	N/A	N/A	89.4	94.8	97.4	N/A
Independence	38.6	51.9	40.4	43.6	59.0	20.5
Johns Creek	88.7	95.1	96.4	95.0	97.6	8.9
Langston Hughes	64.7	62.0	73.6	73.8	83.4	18.7
McClarain	31.8	19.0	25.6	25.9	49.6	17.9
Milton	96.5	96.4	96.0	91.2	94.7	-1.8
North Springs	64.6	67.3	71.9	77.5	90.0	25.5
Northview	89.4	96.0	94.2	96.2	98.3	8.9
Riverwood International	71.6	70.7	67.8	81.3	89.6	18.0
Roswell	68.6	81.5	86.5	85.6	86.8	18.3
Tri-Cities	77.5	65.2	71.1	67.3	76.4	-1.1
<b>Westlake</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>20.8</b>
<b>District Averages</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>78.7</b>	<b>85.3</b>	<b>15.2</b>

## FULTON SCHOOLS BEGINS SEARCH FOR NEXT SUPERINTENDENT

**BY KEN ZEFF**

**ATLANTA** - Tonight, our school board announced that it is beginning the official search process for a permanent district leader. The goal is to have a new permanent superintendent named and on board by the summer of 2016.

As the search process begins, I want to offer my sincere thanks to all of you for your leadership, your support and your hard work following Dr. Avossa's departure in June. Over the course of the past six months, we've had much to celebrate - the smooth start to a new school year; the opening of new schools and the continued implementation of our Strategic Plan 2017. Just recently, we announced a significant increase in our graduation rates. Our success, particularly our steady and consistent student achievement



gains, is attributable to all of you.

The first step of the board's selection process begins with gathering information on what the community expects from its superintendent. This will include collecting input from our staff, parents and community through public meetings and a survey launched on the district's website.

As with the last superintendent search, the school board will manage the process through

its legal counsel. Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP will solicit candidates meeting the leadership profile qualifications from a number of search firms as well as request applicants through national advertisements and notices to state and national school leadership associations.

Moving forward, we will continue to focus on achieving our goals and ensuring that all of our students are on the path to success. We will keep you informed about opportunities to provide input. Meanwhile, thank you again for all you do for our students and for our school district.

Thank you,  
Ken Zeff  
Interim Superintendent

### SCHOLARSHIP CLASSIFIEDS

## STAFF IDENTIFIES SCHOLARSHIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

**BY ERICA GWYN**

### Doodle 4 Google Competition

**Deadline: December 7, 2015**

This year, Discovery Education and Google have teamed up to give educators a chance to win with an exclusive teacher contest. Tell us how you are inspiring your students to enter the 2015 Doodle 4 Google contest for the chance to win \$1,000 for classroom supplies and a trip for two to Mountain View, CA to meet the Doodle Team. Four runners-up will also receive \$1,000 to use.

### Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards

**Registration Open**

Calling All Creative Teens: Be Bold, Claim Your Place in Art & Writing History and Earn Scholarships to Support Your Talent The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards 90th annual call for submissions is open, inviting innovative teens to follow in the footsteps of distinguished alumni such as Andy Warhol, Robert Redford, Zac Posen, Sylvia Plath, Joyce Carol Oates & Ken Burns, who won when they were young.

### Burger King /

**McLamore Foundation Scholarship Program**

**Deadline: December 15, 2015**

The BURGER KING® Scholars Program has awarded more than \$15.4 million to high school seniors and employees across the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico since the program's inception in 2000. This year alone we awarded more than \$1.4 million in scholarships to 1,258 students, and introduced and awarded four new major scholarships, including one King \$25,000 award and three James W. McLamore WHOPPER™ Delta Airlines

### Summer Internship

Summer Luggage Handler/Equipment Services Employee College

students will earn up to \$2,000 in tuition assistance in addition to your hourly rate and great travel privileges for you and your parents! Delta Airlines Airport Operations has a number of opportunities for college students to work as luggage handlers (ESEs) during their summer and winter breaks. Enrollment in a two year or four

### Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Scholarship

**Deadline: Various**  
SWE Scholarships The SWE Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to women admitted to accredited baccalaureate or graduate programs, in preparation for careers in engineering, engineering technology and computer science. In 2014, SWE awarded over 230 new and renewed scholarships valued at over \$700,000. SWE provides one application for sophomores through graduate students.

**AIM Program University of Tennessee Knoxville Accounting and Info. Management Academy**  
**Dates: July 12th - 15th, 2015**

The Accounting and Information Management Department at the University of Tennessee is pleased to announce the acceptance of applications for the 2015 AIM Academy. The Program dates are July 16th - 20th, 2016. The AIM Academy is a three-day residential program designed to introduce high schoolers to the field.

### Health Careers Program Office Summer Science Institute (SSI)

The Health Careers Program (HCP) Office, <http://www.uthsc.edu/HCP>, is offering an unpaid two week Summer Science Institute (SSI) for incoming junior and senior high school students. Outstanding high school students with strong academics, citizenship, community involvement,

and commitment to pursuing a career in the sciences are invited to apply.

### 2015 Business Education for Talented Students

**Deadline: March 18, 2016**

The College of Business Administration at the University of Tennessee is pleased to announce the acceptance of applications for the 2015 Business Education for Talented Students (BETS) Program. Program dates: June 15th-25th, 2016 What is the BETS? The BETS Program is a one-week residential program designed to introduce high school students from diverse backgrounds to the various fields of business.

### University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) EDP Pre-College Programs

**Deadline: March 4, 2016**

EDP Pre-College Programs EDP sponsors summer programs for rising 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders interested in learning about and pursuing an engineering career. The Middle-school Introduction to Engineering (MITE) program is offered to rising 7th and 8th graders. Introduction of Sophomores to Engineering Principles (INSTEP) is offered to rising 9th and 10th graders.

### 2016 Tennessee Governor's Schools Application Accepted Now

2016 Governor's Schools The State of Tennessee provides twelve summer programs for gifted and talented high school students.

These programs provide challenging and intensive learning experiences in these disciplines: Arts, Humanities, International Studies, Engineering, Science, Prospective Teachers, Scientific Exploration of Tennessee Heritage, and Information Technology Leadership.

### SMEDP - Summer Medical Dental Educational Program

**Deadline: March 1, 2016**

SMDEP is a free (full tuition, housing, and meals) six-week summer medical and dental school preparatory program that offers eligible students intensive and personalized medical and dental school preparation.

### 2016 Graduate School Fellowship - Yearlong Placement Education Pioneers

**Deadline: Various**

Are you ready to use your skills to help address one of the critical challenges of our generation -- ensuring that all children have access to a high-quality education? Building on the success of the 10-week Education Pioneers Graduate School Fellowship, the Graduate School Fellowship Yearlong Placement is a 12-month leadership development program that places top professionals in roles.

### Pathway to Science Research Opportunities

Paid Summer 2016 Undergraduate Research Placements: Over 800 programs -- NSF REU, NASA and other paid summer research opportunities for undergrads <http://www.pathwaystoscience.org/undergrads.aspx> For Financial Support in Graduate School: Fellowships and graduate programs in a wide variety of STEM disciplines: <http://www.pathwaystoscience.org/grad.aspx>

### DHS HS STEM 2016 Summer

The Department of Homeland Security sponsors a 10-week summer internship program for undergraduate and graduate students majoring in homeland security related science, technology, engineering and mathematics (HS-STEM) disciplines. The program provides students with quality research experiences at federal research facilities located across the country.

### Department of Homeland Security Summer Research

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Summer Research Opportunities Now accepting applications for TWO 2016 Summer Programs U.S. citizenship required Summer Research Team Program for Minority Serving Institutions This 10-week program offers the opportunity to enhance the scientific leadership at Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in research areas.

### Davidson Fellows

**Deadline: February 2016**  
Davidson Fellows Scholarship - The Davidson Fellows Scholarship awards \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 scholarships to extraordinary young people, 18 and under, who have completed a significant piece of work. Application categories are Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Literature, Music, Philosophy and Outside the Box. Davidson Fellows are honored every year in Washington, D.C.

### NIDDK StepUp

**Deadline: February 15, 2016**  
NIDDK Short-term Education Program for Underrepresented Persons (STEP-UP) High School Program Undergraduate Program - PLEASE NOTE: The application deadline is February 15, 2016. No applications will be accepted after this date. Program Purpose: The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease's STEP-UP Program is designed to provide short-term research education.

### The Excel Center

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at our campus at 1490 Norris Road Monday-Thursday (8a.m. to 8p.m.) Friday (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

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### Now Hiring Workers

Now Hiring Handlers Part-time - Day and night shifts available at our locations around the world, FedEx handlers move millions of packages each day. Our handlers are the driving force behind our business, making absolutely sure packages are loaded safely and securely into FedEx planes and trucks. We invite YOU to join this elite team! Our permanent positions offer tuition.

### iSchool Inclusion Institute (I3) February 12, 2016

Summer research program for undergraduate students from underrepresented populations Application deadline: February 12, 2016. Please share with students of all majors: [www.ischool-inclusion.org](http://www.ischool-inclusion.org) The iSchool Inclusion Institute (I3) is an undergraduate research and leadership development program that prepares students from underrepresented populations for graduate study and careers.

### 2016 Women of

### Vision ABIE Awards

The ABIE Award for Leadership recognizes a leading technical woman who has led an important technology development or innovation, made a significant contribution to the technology industry, and inspires others. Women recognized have included the leader of a team of computer scientists, interaction designers, human factors engineers and social scientists. **W**

## TESTING CORNER

## STATE MILESTONES RESULTS

## BY STAFF

**ATLANTA** - State scores from the 2014-15 administration of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones in grades 3-8 and Georgia Milestones EOCs in grades 9-12) were released.

These preliminary scores reflect the first administration of Georgia's new comprehensive testing system.

This year's assessment results establish a baseline for the progress we expect student to make over time.

According to the Georgia Department of Education, the state showed overall lower results than in past years.

"These results show a lower level of student proficiency than Georgians are used to seeing, but that does not mean Georgia students know less or that teachers are not doing a great job - it means they've been asked to clear a higher bar," State School Super-

intendent Richard Woods said.

**State Results for GA**  
9th Grade English (25% Beginning, 39% Developing, 29% Proficient, 6% Distinguished)

American Lit (25% Beginning, 39% Developing, 29% Proficient, 6% Distinguished)

Algebra (31% Beginning, 36% Developing, 26% Proficient, 8% Distinguished)

Geometry (32% Beginning, 35% Developing, 25% Proficient, 8% Distinguished)

Biology (37% Beginning, 25% Developing, 29% Proficient, 9% Distinguished)

Physical Science (36% Beginning, 33% Developing, 26% Proficient, 5% Distinguished)

US History (27% Beginning, 34% Developing, 30% Proficient, 9% Distinguished)

Economics (30% Beginning, 31% Developing, 30% Proficient, 9% Distinguished)

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE  
COUNCIL ANNOUNCED**Representatives****3 Parents:**

Chris Lennon  
Keisha Minter,  
Christel Jackson

**2 Teachers:**

Yoshana Jones,  
Ashley Barker

**2 Community:**

Suzanne Wilborn,  
Rhonda Hudson

**2 School Employees:**

Chantrise Holliman,  
Estella B. Cook

**FY16 SGC****Meeting Calendar****Location:**

Westlake High School  
Media Center

**Time:**

Tues. 4:30-5:30 PM

**Dates:**

12/01/15, 1/26/15,  
2/23/15, 3/22/15,  
5/10/15

## COUNSELING PROGRAMS

**School Programs** .....

- Counselors' Corner will be held in the school cafeteria (November 3rd)
- Apply to College Day (November 5th)
- Counselors' Corner will be held in the school cafeteria (November 17th)

**9th Grade Programs** .....

- 9th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Career Interest Inventory (October - November)
- Suicide Prevention Classroom Guidance: Signs of Suicide (October - November)

**10th Grade Programs** .....

- 10th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Dual Enrollment and College Credit Now Opportunities (November 18th - 19th)

**11th Grade Programs** .....

- Applying to College Guidance Lesson (November 10th - 11th)
- Fall Junior Classroom Guidance: What Colleges Consider in Admissions (November)
- 11th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Virtual College Search (November)

**12th Grade Programs** .....

- Please see School Programs

**Counseling Programs Reaching 11th - 12th**.....

- College and Career Center
- College Representatives at WHS (Grades 11-12)

**Counseling Programs Reaching 9th-12th** .....

- New Student Enrollments
- Academic Advisement
- Post-Secondary Planning and Advising
- Dual Enrollment Information
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Summer School Information
- Community Agency Referrals
- Collaboration with Teachers, Administrators, School Social Worker, and School Psychologist
- Care Team Referrals
- SAT and ACT Information
- Crisis Intervention
- Career Guidance and Exploration
- Transcribing Student Records

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

PARCHMENT REGISTRATION  
FOR SENIORS

**ATLANTA** - To make it easy to send transcripts to colleges, Fulton County Schools has partnered with Parchment to provide secure online transcript ordering available

24/7.

Creating the account is free and only takes a few steps. All seniors received their Parchment registration codes on September 24th and/or 25th and should register with Parchment right

## SIGN UP FOR REMIND 101

**ATLANTA**- Join our distribution list to receive texts and/or emails with information on upcoming college representative visits and scholarship updates.

Both students and parents are encouraged to register.

Don't be left out of the loop—join today.

To receive messages via text, text @566a2 to 81010 or to receive messages via email, send an email to 566a2@mail.remind.com.

## CHECKING SENIOR STATUS

**ATLANTA**- On May 20, 2016, senior students will be closing this chapter on their high school career.

Congratulations to all the senior students and parents of senior students who have almost made it to the graduation milestone.

Counselors will begin senior status checks immediately following the schedule change window so we can inform you of your student's specific status.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

## CONTACTING COUNSELORS

**ATLANTA**- As the year advances, you may find yourself in need of contacting one of Westlake's counselors.

When that happens, we want to make sure that you know the correct number and can quickly get in touch with the person who can best help your student.

Below, you will find a list of useful contacts for

the counselors.

If you need to set up a parent-teacher conference, we can set up a conference with all your student's teachers if you contact the Student Services office.

Please either call the school at (404) 346-6400 and request Student Services or email Jeanine Griswold at the email address posted below.

## STUDENT SERVICES' CORNER

## CONTACTING STUDENT SUPPORT STAFF

Please use the following numbers to contact the school in times of need.

**Student Services Administration**

**Curriculum Assistant Principal:** Cecelia Johnson,  
johnsonc5@fultonschools.org

**Administrative Assistant:** Candice Hickman,  
hickmanc@fultonschools.org

**Student Support Staff**

**College and Career Advisor:** Steven Johnson  
johnsons16@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46462

**504 Coordinator and Graduation Coach:** Twanda Harrison,  
harrisont1@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46428

**Instructional Support Teacher:** Jennifer Swint,  
swint@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46444

**SEC Department Chair:** Andrea Freeman,  
freemana1@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46444

**Data Specialist:** Jan McLemore,  
mclmorej@fultonschools.org

**Back Up Data Specialist:** Mesi Spencer,  
spencerm@fultonschools.org

**Records Clerk:** Jenna Bannister,  
bannister@fultonschools.org

**Guidance Secretary:** Donna Carter,  
carterd2@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400

**School Social Worker:** Willette Stephens,  
stephensw@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46483

**School Psychologist:** Judith Perkins  
perkinsj@fultonschools.org

**School Psychologist:** Elizabeth Scott,  
scottea@fultonschools.org

**9th Grade (A - Z):** Antonio Grissom,  
grissom@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46429

**10th - 12th (A - E):** Anthony Decosta,  
decosta@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46434

**10th - 12th (E - K):** Beatrice Ford,  
fordb@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46482

**10th - 12th (L - Q):** Shelia Reese-Jackson (Head),  
reeses@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46433

**10th - 12th (R - Z):** Dawn Perry,  
perrydb@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46432

**Guidance Secretary:** Donna Carter,  
carterd2@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400

SCHOOL NEWS

# 2016 ATHLETIC CALENDAR AVAILABLE FOR PREORDER

**BY STAFF**

**ATLANTA** - If you are interested in supporting the Westlake Athletic Department, then please preorder a Westlake 2016 Athletic Calendar!

Each month of this 12 month calendar is dedicated to one sport (and in some cases two or three) and features top athletes galore.

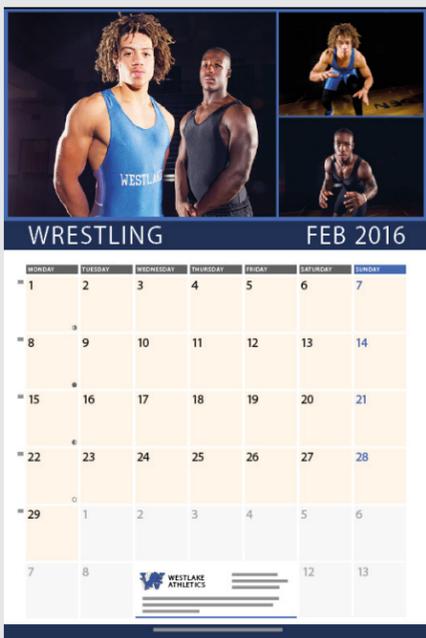
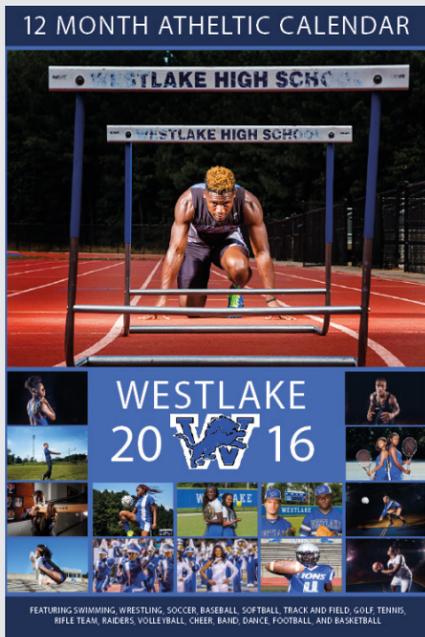
Nearly all pictures in the calendar were taken by CadyStudios, who gives an impressive professional edge to our student athletes.

You can look through the thumbnails to the

right to get an idea of the calendar's design, but when printed, the calendar will be full-sized and ready to hang on your wall or be displayed on your desk.

Featured sports include swimming, wrestling, soccer, baseball, softball, track and field, golf, tennis, rifle, volleyball, cross country, cheer, band, dance, football, and basketball.

For more information, please email the athletic director, Coach Wilson at [wilsonr3@fultonschools.org](mailto:wilsonr3@fultonschools.org)



## CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

<b>ACT/SAT Baselines</b> .....1/19
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/19
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium @ 2:00pm - 5:30pm
<b>Magnet Entrance Exam for 2016 - 2017</b> .....1/23
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 1/23
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium @ 9:00am - 12:30pm
<b>HOSA Battlegroundz IV Step Show</b> .....1/23
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 1/23
<b>PLACE:</b> Main Gym @ 1:00pm - 4:30pm
<b>School Governance Council Meeting</b> .....1/26
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/26
<b>PLACE:</b> Media Center @ 4:30pm - 5:30pm
<b>EF Tour Update Meeting (Europe)</b> .....1/26
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/26
<b>PLACE:</b> Media Center @ 6:00pm - 7:00pm
<b>GAAHBSU Presentation</b> .....1/27
<b>DATE:</b> Wednesday 1/27
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium @ 8:00am - 12:00pm
<b>AP Student/Parent Night for 2016-2017</b> ..1/28
<b>DATE:</b> Thursday 1/28
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium; Cafeteria @ 6:00pm - 7:00pm
<b>Club Picture Day</b> .....2/2
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 2/2
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium @ 3:00pm - 5:00pm
<b>National Signing Day</b> .....2/3
<b>DATE:</b> Wednesday 2/3
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium @ 2:00pm - 3:30pm
<b>Dance Team Competition Showcase</b> .....2/5
<b>DATE:</b> Friday 2/5
<b>PLACE:</b> Main Gymnasium @ 4:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Atl. Urban League Debate Tournament</b> .....2/6
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 2/6
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium; Cafeteria @ 7:00am - 6:00pm
<b>Fashion Club Photo Shoot</b> .....2/11
<b>DATE:</b> Thursday 2/11
<b>PLACE:</b> Cafeteria @ 4:00pm - 6:30pm
<b>Girl Scouts: International Thinking Day</b> .....2/20
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 2/20
<b>PLACE:</b> Cafeteria; Media Center @ 11:00am - 3:00pm
<b>Westlake High School Graduation</b> .....5/20
<b>DATE:</b> Friday 5/20
<b>PLACE:</b> Georgia Dome @ 7:00pm

## STUDENTS OF THE DAY



**TUESDAY 1/19** Ajani Bacon is a very respectful and hardworking young man. Ajani helps to lead his AP Stats class by class. (Nominated by Ms. Belinga)



**WEDNESDAY 1/20** Ciarra Haney is a very respectful and hardworking young lady. Ciarra finds success in her AP Stats thanks to her diligence. (Nominated by Ms. Belinga)



**THURSDAY 1/21** Thailand Wilson found two checkbooks on the ground, and Thailand's first reaction was to try and find out who had lost their checkbooks. Thank you for looking out for others and taking care of your peers! You have a genuinely kind attitude toward others. (Nominated by Mr. Gossett)



**FRIDAY 1/22** Kenani Love-Smith, Destiny Whatley, Adrianna White, and Tierra Tollar are self-motivated and hardworking young ladies who are not afraid of challenges. They are very respectful, positive, and hardworking. (Nominated by Ms. Belinga)



## CALENDAR OF SPORTING EVENTS

<b>Girl's Varsity Basketball vs. Newnan</b> ..... 1/19
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/19
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Boy's Varsity Basketball vs. Newnan</b> ..... 1/19
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/19
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Baseball Tryouts</b> ..... 1/21
<b>DATE:</b> Thursday 1/21
<b>PLACE:</b> Baseball Field @ 4:00pm - 6:00pm
<b>Girl's Varsity Basketball vs. South Cobb</b> .... 1/22
<b>DATE:</b> Friday 1/22
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Boy's Varsity Basketball vs. South Cobb</b> ... 1/22
<b>DATE:</b> Friday 1/22
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Swim Meet (Tribal Challenge)</b> .....1/23
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 1/23
<b>PLACE:</b> Summit Family YMCA @ 2:00pm
<b>Football Awards Ceremony</b> .....1/24
<b>DATE:</b> Sunday 1/24
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium; Cafeteria @ 12:00pm - 7pm
<b>Wrestling Match v. HHS, NHS, &amp; TCHS</b> .....1/26
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/26
<b>PLACE:</b> Auxillary Gym @ 5:30pm - 8:30pm
<b>Girl's Varsity Basketball vs. Campbell</b> ..... 1/26
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/26
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Boy's Varsity Basketball vs. Campbell</b> .....1/26
<b>DATE:</b> Tuesday 1/26
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Baseball Parent Meeting</b> .....1/27
<b>DATE:</b> Wednesday 1/27
<b>PLACE:</b> Auditorium @ 7:00pm - 8:00pm
<b>Swim Meet (Spartan-Mustang Sprints)</b> .....1/30
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 1/30
<b>PLACE:</b> Summit Family YMCA @ 2:00pm
<b>Girl's Varsity Basketball vs. Tri Cities</b> ..... 1/30
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 1/30
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
<b>Boy's Varsity Basketball vs. Campbell</b> .....1/30
<b>DATE:</b> Saturday 1/30
<b>PLACE:</b> Westlake Main Gym @ 6:00pm - 9:00pm

## SENIOR BIRTHDAYS



**Saturday 1/16**  
Russell Gaines Jr.



**Saturday 1/16**  
Adrian Parks Jr.



**Saturday 1/16**  
Tarveres Tate Jr.



**Tuesday 1/19**  
Angel Cooper



**Wednesday 1/20**  
Darrinique Kirksey



**Thursday 1/21**  
Kyra DeLoach



**Thursday 1/21**  
Damonte' White



**Friday 1/22**  
Charsye Callahan



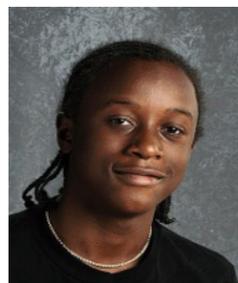
**Friday 1/22**  
Teonna Kelley



**Saturday 1/23**  
Alana Bufford



**Saturday 1/23**  
Felicia Hamilton



**Sunday 1/24**  
Frederick Slaughter II



**Sunday 1/24**  
Tashay Taylor