



# George Jenkins

Volume XXVII  
Issue 1  
"A Five Star School"  
★★★★★  
August  
2024

For The Parents, Students, Staff And Community of George Jenkins High School

## Principal's Message

**Our Mission... Each student is Prompt, Polite and Prepared.**

**Our Vision... Each student will graduate with the skills necessary to be successful in college or in a career.**

Dear parents,

I would like to take a moment to say thank you to the students, staff and the entire George Jenkins Community for everyone's hard work and dedication. With the adjustments we needed to make for last school year, I am very proud of our accomplishments. Our students and staff continued to SOAR, and we continued to achieve despite the obstacles! As a school, we continue to strive for greatness, but that does not take away from the victories that should be celebrated, and I am **THANKFUL** to be your leader!

The bell schedule for the start of class (7:00 am) and end of school (2:00 pm) will continue to be the same. We are using a modified bell schedule which will have all 7 classes meeting each day Monday, Tuesday, and Friday then an Odd/Even block schedule will be on Wednesday and Thursday. The bell schedules will be posted on our website.

Be sure to read the entire newsletter to gather details you need to know:

- The 7-period day will be on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday.
- 1,3,5,7 (odd days) and 1,2,4,6 (even days) will be on a Wednesday and Thursday.
- **The students' first school day is Monday, August 12th. The bell schedule will be a straight 7 period day for that week, and we will continue our normal schedule the following week.**
- We have many opportunities for parent involvement: booster organizations, student clubs and activities, and chaperoning school-sponsored trips.
- Our continued emphasis on mathematics, science, technology, reading, arts and academies will enhance our students' abilities to be life-long learners and productive citizens.
- Please remember that supervision before/after school and at any school sponsored activity is 30 minutes before-to-30 minutes after the end of the event. Please plan accordingly to drop off or pick up your child within this time frame.
- Before school drop off and after school pick up is at the front of the school. For the safety of students and orderly flow of traffic, please do not drop off or pick up students at other locations on campus during the time between 6:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. These areas will be blocked off to through traffic and the gates locked.

Please contact Student Services and your child's teacher regularly to ensure your child is performing to the best of their ability in all academic endeavors. Please reach out to Student

...continued on page 2

### School Contact Information

Main Number  
(863) 648-3566

School Fax  
(863) 648-3573

Attendance Office Fax  
(863) 648-3018

Guidance Fax  
(863) 701-1131

### Administration

Tom Patton  
*Principal*

Carmen Bonilla  
*Assistant Principal*

Lacy Emmerling  
*Assistant Principal*

Kyle Guira  
*Assistant Principal*

Brad Hiers  
*Assistant Principal*

Bruce Victor  
*Assistant Principal*

Erin Crosby  
*Dean of Student Activities*

Danisha Rivera  
*Dean of Students*

Gavin Osborn  
*Dean of Students*

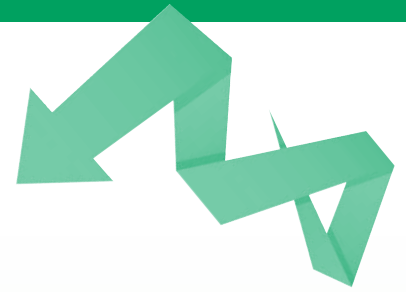
<http://georgejenkinshs.com/>

George Jenkins High School Newsletter  
August 2024 • Issue #1  
Published Five Times Per Year  
George Jenkins High School  
6000 Lakeland Highlands Road  
Lakeland, Florida 33813

### Polk County Schools Mission Statement

*"The mission of Polk County Public Schools is to ensure rigorous, relevant learning experiences for our students that result in high achievement."*

# Principal's Message



*continued from cover...*

Services if you need Parent Portal information.

## Dates to Remember:

**Orientation, Wednesday, Aug. 7th (will publicize times later)**

Remember, changes are not made for the sake of change...but to improve results. Our continued success with our programs and policies is the direct result of research and analysis by our staff and community members. We want what is considered the most effective school practices for our students. Working together we can make a positive difference!

Students should be on time and in their classrooms, where they can achieve and excel. Our Mission is to see that each student is **"Prompt, Polite and Prepared"** along with the Vision that each student will graduate with the skills necessary to be successful in college or in a career.

**KEEP SOARING EAGLES!**

Tom Patton, Principal



## George's Closet

George's Closet is closed for the summer. Our new President is Rihanna Townsend, VP#1 McKenzie Hilton, VP#2 Gabriella Rivera and Secretary Isabella Alvayero! We will be having an interest meeting shortly after we get back from summer for the new Freshmen. Look for notices about the meeting!!

If your student is interested in service Hours, the Closet is open early in the day. Stop by in the morning before class to help and earn some service time. Meetings will be the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month. We have plans for fashion shows for HOCO and Prom along

with a few donation drives.

Now, while we are on summer break, donations can be dropped off at the main office and they will get it to our room. When we return, we will sort and organize. Thank you for everything! Everyone have a great summer!!

Remember, George's Closet is organized by students, run by students to help students!  
"Helping others one hanger at a time!"

Grow Toward A Positive Future

## Thoughtful Counseling LLC

Denise J Norgan MA MC LMHC  
Cognitive Behavioral Therapist

5147 South Lakeland Dr., Ste. 4  
Lakeland, FL 33813

863-701-5127

djnorgan@verizon.net  
thoughtfulcounseling.com



## Lakeland Oral & Facial Surgery

Edward J. Meszaros, DMD



IV Sedation, Wisdom Teeth, Extractions, Bone Grafting, Implants and New Smiles.  
No referral needed.

1736 E. Edgewood Drive • Lakeland, FL 33803  
863-284-9050 • lakelandomsf.com  
Emergency Appointments Available

Member American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons



**Fulmer Law, PA**  
FAMILY LAW & CRIMINAL DEFENSE

FAMILY LAW • CRIMINAL DEFENSE • MEDIATIONS

**CALL 863-688-2220**

**FulmerLawPA.com**

1960 E. Edgewood Drive  
Lakeland, FL 33803

*No Appointment Needed*  
**(863) 777-2740**  
**SUNSHINE URGENT CARE**

Open 9am - 9pm | 7 days a week  
*\*taking last patients at 8:30pm*

**Offering Schools/Sports Physicals**  
**Only \$50 - Walk Ins Welcome**

**www.SunshineUrgentCare.com**  
3305 U.S. Hwy 98 South • Lakeland, FL 33803



**Wake Up To Clearer Skin!**  
**Call Today!**

**FloridaDermatology**  
AND SKIN CANCER CENTERS

EXPERIENCE THE MOHS FELLOWSHIP DIFFERENCE

*Trust is more than skin deep*

**Belleair**

**727.446.6217**

609 Indian Rocks Rd.,  
Belleair, FL 33756

[www.FLDSCC.com](http://www.FLDSCC.com)

## GJHS Academic Booster Club

The ABC, Academic Booster Club, is a parent run organization that helps support teachers, staff, and students throughout the school year. We would love to have you join the ABC group. We will have a table set up at orientation where you can join. Student membership is only \$5; staff \$10; and family \$25. If you miss us at orientation and want to join, please reach out to Contact Lilly Harris at LAA97@hotmail.com. Your membership dues and the proceeds from various spirit nights help fund programs of support, encouragement, and appreciation for GJHS students and staff throughout the school year such as academic medallions, honor cards, and the many other recognition programs that ABC sponsors. If you are a member and complete at least 10 hours of service, you will get special seating at graduation and your child can apply for one of two scholarships offered through our club. Attendance at our monthly meeting is not required, but it provides a wealth of information about what's happening at George Jenkins High School. Join us on the second Monday of each month at 6PM in the GJHS Media Center to learn about decisions being made that affect your student(s), important events, and much more!

JOIN  
US

2024  
SCHOOL YEAR  
2025

Bring On the New School Year  
**WITH CONFIDENCE!**

Sylvan Learning

663-588-0020 | SylvanLearning.com

## A Message from the GJHS Tech Office

We have finished year 2 of the PCPS 1:1 device program. We have all learned a lot as we have progressed through this year. We are improving in some areas but still working to improve in others, for staff, students, and parents. As we closeout this school year and make plans for the summer, please be aware of a few things. If your student kept their device for summer school, virtual classes or credit recovery, please try to get the device back to school as soon as you can for a checkup before school starts in August. Many things can happen over this time, planned and unplanned, so this helps get things going smoothly when the students come back. If something has changed to cause your student to not return to us next year, please bring

the device to the school office (even over the summer) with all accessories so we can check it in and get it ready for the next student. We will also be reminding and suggesting that every student purchase the insurance offered to cover any damage to the device as accidents happen. The insurance cost is minimal compared the cost of parts, repair, or device replacement without it. Have a great summer and we will see you in August.



Keeping homes pest free since 1938!

WE GET RID OF THE PESKIEST PESTS. THERE'S NO ESCAPE!

**\$50<sup>\*</sup> Off** 4 Seasons Pest Control

**\$100<sup>\*</sup> Off** Termite Control

\*Applicable to new annual service agreement.

863 • 683 • 7378

trulynolen.com

PEST • TERMITE • RODENT • LAWN

TRULY NOLEN  
PEST CONTROL  
TERMITES



*“Be the change that you wish to see in the world”*

Mahatmas Gandhi

Rick Zalanka MS LMHC  
Counselor and Coach

Over 25 years experience with:  
children • teens • adults

Specializing in:  
Substance Abuse • Eating Disorders  
Anxiety • Depression  
Poor Academic Motivation

863-701-8700

190 Fitzgerald Rd., Ste. 1 • Lakeland, FL 33813

COPLEY EYE CARE  
& ASSOCIATES

Dr. Chris Copley  
Board Certified Optometrist

6745 North Church Avenue  
Mulberry, FL 33860

(863) 644-5444

Adjacent to  
Mulberry Walmart Vision Center

(863) 701-2573





## Join GJ's National English Honor Society

The National English Honor Society carries forward our traditions of being an organization dedicated to furthering the values of English literature and writing, academic responsibility, leadership, scholarship, and community service.

Our 2024-2025 Executive Board Officers are: President, Sarah Strickland; Vice President Co-Chair of Activities and Meetings, Bella Overbaugh; Vice President of Community Service, Isabella Alvayero; Vice President of Marketing and Recruiting, Jayda Nieves; Historian, Lucia Winkler; Parliamentarian, Alessio Guerrero; Secretary, Naomi Jalloh; and Treasurer, Abbie Kent. Mrs. Michele Barr and Ms. Alyssa Rose serve as our NEHS Sponsors.

NEHS meetings occur every first and third Thursday of every month, either 6:25 AM or 2:05 PM in Mrs. Barr's classroom (19-127) or the Media Center. Furthermore, new members must fill out applications for acceptance into the NEHS. Upon acceptance, members will be required to pay the \$25 annual dues, and returning members pay \$20 dues maintain membership. Dues cover the costs of the new club t-shirts and assist in financing the many activities we participate in throughout the year.



**A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies... The man who never reads lives only one.**  
George R.R. Martin

Members of the NEHS are offered multiple opportunities to earn their service hours and foster enjoyable bonding experiences to make new friends. Key fall semester activities the NEHS takes part in includes hosting picnics at Bonnet Springs during pumpkin season, offering **Eagle To Eagle Tutoring** every Monday-Wednesday, and hosting the October Teacher Appreciation Breakfast to show our gratitude and thank them for all their hard work. When looking for additional service hours, we offer an array of events such as **Socktoberfest** (giving socks to those in need), collecting **Legos** for pediatric hospital wards, and food donations for Thanksgiving Baskets.

The NEHS also helps underclassmen and seniors compose and polish scholarship essays to aid in financing their future college goals. We collect and read books and poetry, write and revise short and long essay responses, and create bookmarks and letters for various community outreaches. We welcome new members to bring their creative ideas to the NEHS.

George Jenkins thrives because of our outstanding clubs and members, and the NEHS is no exception. We are an enjoyable, beneficial, and multifaceted organization. If you are interested in joining us, talk with any of our members. New applications will be available beginning Thursday, September 5, 2024.

**GO EAGLES!**

Lunch • Dinner • Brunch | Catering  
& Private Dining | Happy Hour Daily

1569 Town Center Dr. Lakeland, FL 33803  
863-688-8844

**FREE APPETIZER**  
WITH ANY 2 ENTRÉES

Limit one coupon per table, per visit. Offer valid for (1) appetizers, with any 2 entrees purchased at the Grillsmith Lakeland location only. No cash value. Expires July, 20th, 2025

**{ SCOTT }**  
**ORTHODONTICS**  
*The Smile Specialists*  
Invisalign & Braces

Lakeland      Winter Haven

Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics  
Members of the American Association of Orthodontists

[www.ScottSmiles.com](http://www.ScottSmiles.com)

*Live Life Smiling*

**YOUR TRUSTED HOMETOWN REAL ESTATE AGENT**

**DALTON WADE**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP  
*Building Lifetime Relationships Through Real Estate*

Lisa Matheny  
REALTOR  
(863) 412-6633  
[LisaMathenySells.com](http://LisaMathenySells.com)

**Where FUTURES begin**

**PROGRAMS INCLUDE**

- Information Technology
- Graphic Arts and Design
- Business Administration

\*Programs vary by campus.

**KEISER UNIVERSITY**

Learn more at [KeiserUniversity.edu](http://KeiserUniversity.edu)  
863.682.6020

**GO EAGLES!**

**Make the journey count.**

**trax**  
CREDIT UNION

[TraxCU.com](http://TraxCU.com)

Federally Insured by NCUA.

# YEARBOOK NEWS

## CLASS of 2025 SENIOR PORTRAITS

This year our official photographer will be Leonard's Photography. Leonard's will be taking all senior portraits at their downtown studio location.



**LEONARD'S PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO**  
225 N. Kentucky Avenue  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
(800) 215-4852

Sitting fees start at \$15.00 and increase in price based on the session that you schedule. This fee must be paid before the pictures are taken. Make sure to visit [www.leonards.com](http://www.leonards.com) to get more information in regards to sessions that are available. Go online to [www.leonards.com/schedule](http://www.leonards.com/schedule) or call Leonard's Photography at (800) 215-4852 to schedule your session. Please note that to be in the yearbook your senior MUST take his/her pictures with Leonard's Photography.

## SENIOR OR BUSINESS ADS

Senior and/or business ad in the GJHS yearbook are currently on sale. Do not miss the opportunity to let your senior know how proud you are of them and their accomplishments by placing an ad in the yearbook. The yearbook staff will gladly design your ad and provide you with a proof before publication. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Salas at [Jessica.salas@polk-fl.net](mailto:Jessica.salas@polk-fl.net).

Full Page . . . . .	\$440.00	Quarter Page . . . . .	\$200.00
Half Page . . . . .	\$275.00	Eighth Page . . . . .	\$110.00

## YEARBOOKS ON SALE

Don't forget to pre-order your yearbook for the 2024 - 2025 school year. Yearbooks may be purchased with cash or check (made payable to George Jenkins High School) in room 4224 or by a yearbook staff member. Credit and debit card purchases may be made online at [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com), job #0140. Extra yearbooks will not be purchased this year so all orders must be pre-paid.

**To Buy Your Yearbook At the Lowest Price of the Year**

<p><i>Don't Forget!</i></p> <p>\$80.00 - Book Only \$95.00 - Book, Nameplate &amp; Cover <b>Price Increases on 08/08/2024</b></p> <p>Join us on Social Media!  </p>	<p>Purchase at Orientation OR <a href="http://www.yearbookordercenter.com">www.yearbookordercenter.com</a> school order number: 0140</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>@gjyearbook</b></p>
---	---

**Price until August 7th (Orientation Day)**  
Yearbook Only . . . . . \$80.00  
Yearbook, Nameplate & Cover . . . \$95.00

**Price AFTER August 8th**  
Yearbook Only . . . . . \$95.00  
Yearbook, Nameplate & Cover . . . \$110.00

## UNDERCLASSMEN PICTURE DAY

School pictures for students in grades 9 – 11 will be taken on Thursday, August 29th. The Price packets will be available one week before Picture Day or can be viewed online and purchased at [www.leonards.com](http://www.leonards.com). Please make sure that your student attends school on this date to have his/her picture taken.

## GRADE POWER

**LEARNING**

### SAT/ACT Tutoring

1-1 And Small Group  
Classes Available

**863-279-0564**

[gradepowerlearning.com](http://gradepowerlearning.com)

4525 Florida Ave S., Unit 19  
Lakeland, Florida 33813

## What brings us joy? Taking good care of you.

**Christian Brothers Automotive**

**Lakeland Heights**

**(863) 250-3634**

[cbac.com/lakeland-heights/](http://cbac.com/lakeland-heights/)

6585 South Florida Avenue  
Lakeland, FL 33813

Owned & Operated By Donnie Johnson

- AC Services
- Batteries
- Brakes
- Oil & Filter Change
- Scheduled Maintenance
- Tune Ups



Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! Student schedules will be available at orientation on August 7th, and the first day of school is August 12th. Class changes are limited to corrections only. Remember, the GJHS Master Schedule was built on the courses that students selected at registration last spring. When scheduling students, we must adhere to the policies set forth by both the State of Florida Department of Education and the Polk County Schools. Academic course placement follows the District Progression Plan and is based on previous course, course grade, and testing data. Electives were chosen by the students at the spring registration.

State assessment scores from the May 2024 administration of the FAST ELA and End of Course (EOC) exams are updated in Student and Parent Portal. What does all of the testing mean for your student? Score achievement levels range from 1 to 5. Scores are used partially as a guide for scheduling academic levels. Any student whose score was at an achievement level below 3 must have interventions in their schedule as part of their curriculum.

### Graduation Requirements

**All students** are required to earn 24 credits to earn a high school diploma including:

- 4 English (ELA)
- 4 Math (must include Algebra and Geometry)
- 3 Science (must include Biology)
- 3 Social Studies (1 World History, 1 US History, .5 Government, .5 Economics)
- 1 Physical Education (.5 Personal Fitness AND .5 any other PE OR 1 credit in HOPE)
- 1 Practical/Performing Art
- 8 electives
- Maintain a 2.0 un-weighted cumulative GPA.

**State Assessment Requirements: will update with legislation changes**

- Grade 10 English Language Arts ELA (or ACT/SAT/CLT concordant score)
- Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) or comparative score on SAT, ACT, CLT, PSAT, or Geometry EOC

Students must participate in the EOC assessments and the results constitute 30 percent of the final course grade. These assessments are in the following subjects:

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- U.S. History
- Biology I

**Scholar Diploma Designation:** In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must:

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra II
- Pass the Geometry EOC
- Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course
- Pass the Biology I EOC
- Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics
- Pass the U.S. History EOC
- Earn 2 credits in the same World Language
- Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course

A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP Biology or U.S. History course and the student

- Takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and
- Earns the minimum score to earn college credit.

### Merit Diploma Designation:

- Meet the standard high school diploma requirements
- Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.)

### State University Admissions Requirements

Florida universities have a competitive admissions process. The MINIMUM eligibility requirements for admissions are as follows:

Earn a standard diploma with a minimum 2.5 GPA in 18 academic courses which include:

- 4 English
- 4 Math (Algebra I and higher level courses)
- 3 Science
- 3 Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (in the same language)
- 2 Academic electives

Earn competitive scores on national college entrance exams:

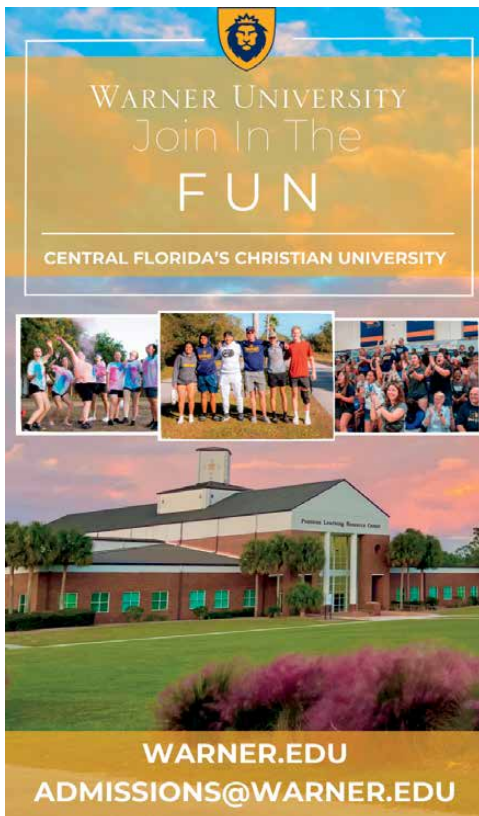
- SAT or ACT or CLT

However, students only earning minimum requirements will not gain admissions to most Florida universities. These schools are also looking for a rigorous curriculum, strong GPA with an upward trend, competitive test scores, a well written essay, a passionate commitment to extracurricular activities, and leadership experiences. Each school accepts their most competitive applicants. To view each universities average freshmen profile of GPA's and test scores, visit Florida Shines, then 'Go to College' at [www.floridashines.org/go-to-college/get-ready-for-college/average-university-freshmen-profile](http://www.floridashines.org/go-to-college/get-ready-for-college/average-university-freshmen-profile).

### Bright Futures Scholarships

These scholarships, funded by the Florida Lottery, provide millions of dollars in college

*Student Services continued...*



WARNER UNIVERSITY  
Join In The  
**FUN**  
CENTRAL FLORIDA'S CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

WARNER.EDU  
ADMISSIONS@WARNER.EDU



**BURGER 21**  
BURGERS REINVENTED

**FREE FRY**  
with any burger purchase

Dine-in or Carry Out only. Limit one coupon, per guest check. Must present coupon to receive offer. Not valid in conjunction with any other offers, discounts, or coupons. Offer Valid thru August 1st, 2025.

**BURGER 21**  
BURGERS REINVENTED

Order Online  
BURGER21.COM



Concerned about your pet's bad breath?

**the Magic Paws**

Professional Pet Teeth Cleaning Without Sedation

**Call Us**  
321-440-3724

tuition to Florida students. Students who meet the eligibility criteria will earn the scholarship. The State Legislators set the eligibility criteria for the Bright Futures Scholarship programs. The current criteria is listed below but is liable to change during any legislative session. For more information about these scholarships, visit the website at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org).

**Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)**

**Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)**

*ONLY eligible to receive funding for specific vocational education programs*

- Students are required to have a 3.0 overall GPA, a 3.5 GPA in their vocational program
- Complete 3 vocational courses in a vocation program with a minimum 3.5 GPA
- Students are required to have a minimum of 30 documented community service hours
- Test score requirement SAT: Reading/Writing 490, Math 480 or ACT: English 17, Reading 19, Math 19 or PERT: Reading 106, Writing 103, Math 114

Type	16 High School Course Credits †	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT®/CLT®/SAT®)	Volunteer Service Only	Paid Work Hours Only	Combination of Volunteer/ Paid Hours
FAS	4 - English (does not include substantial writing) 4 - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level) 3 - Natural Science (one must have substantial laboratory)	3.50	2023-24 Graduates: 29/96/1340 2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - Foreign/World Language (required, in same language)	3.00	2023-24 Graduates: 25/84/1210 2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours

college planning based on your PSAT scores on [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

- Evaluate your time management skills. Make sure that you have a balance between school, work, and play.
- Maintain good attendance, grades, and citizenship.
- Update your portfolio of achievements.
- Make a commitment to one or more extracurricular activities or a job. Employers and colleges like to see active students.
- If you haven't already done so, begin a savings account for college.
- Look into summer academic programs that might be of interest. Colleges offer many programs.
- Do you want to play college athletics? Talk to your coaches and go to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) for NCAA information.

**Be prepared! Year-by-Year College and Career Checklist**

**9th grade**

- Know your graduation requirements and monitor your academic progress on [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org).
- Begin to think about what you'll do after high school: college, vocational training, field of study. Look at possible careers and education requirements. Visit [floridashines.org/find-a-career](http://floridashines.org/find-a-career).
- If you're thinking about college, know the Bright Futures Scholarship Program ([www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org)) and state university admissions requirements.
- Plan challenging high school courses based on post-secondary plans.
- Consider taking a course on Polk Virtual School or FLVS ([www.flvs.net](http://www.flvs.net)) to explore other areas of interest.
- Maintain good attendance, grades, and citizenship. Take school work seriously because every year and course counts.
- Apply to the Community Service program through Student Services.
- Make a commitment to one or more extracurricular activities. Get involved!
- Create a portfolio (a file or folder). Keep samples of excellent school work, report cards, special awards, letters of commendation, and any other materials that document your successes.
- Take advantage of after school tutoring if needed. Individual teacher assistance is available on Wednesday and Thursday.

**10th grade**

- Continue to explore possible career options. Begin to gather college information. Utilize internet resources, college websites, and [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org).
- Check your academic progress and re-evaluate your course selections.
- Know the admission requirements for universities in which you are interested. What GPA do you need? What SAT or ACT scores do you need? Use Florida Shines and college websites.
- Challenge yourself with honors courses. Consider Advanced Placement courses.
- Take the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) given in October. Use the College Board resources with Khan Academy to get personalized feedback, practice and

**11th Grade**

- Monitor your academic progress and status toward meeting your requirements. Utilize [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org).
- Take the PSAT. This test, and other criteria, could qualify you for a National Merit Scholarship.
- Maintain your portfolio of achievements. Continue to challenge yourself with advanced placement or honors courses.
- Attend college fairs, write or call colleges on your list and visit their websites.

Student Services continued...

**HUNTINGTON CAN HELP ANY STUDENT AT ANY LEVEL.**

**ACT SAT PREP**      **1.800.CAN.LEARN**

**Lakeland South**  
6655 South Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL 33813  
863-709-9600

**HuntingtonHelps.com**  
Personalized Attention. Proven Results.

**BUSH WOOD GOLF SHACK**  
"Don't Kill The Golfers"

**bushwoodgs.com | 863-656-5182**

International Market World  
1052 U.S. Highway 92W  
Auburndale, FL 33823  
Unit K-8 (In the Main Building)

**Mitchell's ALL PRO PAINTING LLC**  
Veteran Owned Small Business

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**863.797.3895**  
**donmitchellsallpropaintingllc.com**

Licensed & Insured      **Don Mitchell, Owner**

**Charlie's Hot, fresh and made to order!**

We provide custom donuts by appointment.  
Fresh gluten free donuts every Wednesday (celiac safe).  
We support local business by selling local honey, crafts, and our coffees are supplied by Joffreys.

1023 East County Road 540A Lakeland  
**863-500-1414**

Tuesday through Saturday 7 AM to 5PM • Sunday 7 AM to 12 closed Monday.  
We can be found on Facebook and Instagram



# George Jenkins

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Orlando, FL  
Permit # 2346

George Jenkins High School  
6000 Lakeland Highlands Road  
Lakeland, Florida 33813

To Addressee or Current Resident

Student Services continues...

8

- Review college admissions requirements for colleges you are considering. Don't be afraid to contact these colleges with questions.
- Familiarize yourself with different college pathways. You don't have to start at a 4 year university to earn a 4 year degree. Many state colleges offer direct path university entry within certain majors by following a specific course line up in the first 2 years at the state college.
- Meet with your School Counselor in the spring to review your transcript, plan for your senior year, and discuss a list of colleges you would like to explore.
- Prepare for and take the SAT and/or ACT in the spring. Utilize collegeboard.com and actstudent.org to register and prepare.
- Use your spring and summer breaks to visit college campuses. Call ahead or visit college websites to schedule visits. Write a thank you note if you participate in an interview.
- Begin thinking about which teachers and others you might ask to write recommendations in the fall of your senior year. Prepare a resume based on the information in your portfolio.
- Maintain good attendance, grades, citizenship, and commitment to extracurricular activities and/or job. **Junior year is most important when applying to college!**
- Look into summer jobs, volunteer opportunities, or academic programs offered at colleges. Find an internship or job shadow in a profession that interests you.

## 12th Grade

- Continue to work hard. Colleges DO care about your coursework and grades throughout your entire senior year. Don't slack off!
- If you haven't already done so, take the SAT or ACT in the fall for college admissions. Continue to test through the June test dates to

- qualify for Bright Futures.
- Meet with your School Counselor to be sure you are on track for graduation.
- Narrow down your list of colleges: create a file for each one. Prepare a schedule for each school showing requirements, deadlines, fees, test scores, teacher recommendations, school transcripts, essays, and important names/phone numbers.
- Apply for admissions early in the fall. Write essays and ask teachers to write recommendations when needed. Which schools require a SSAR (self-reported student academic record) and which require a transcript? Students don't submit a transcript to colleges using the SSAR until they are accepted and decide that's the college they will be attending. **Watch deadlines!**
- Research and apply for financial aid and scholarships. Look for our scholarship bulletin and visit our website at [www.georgejenkinshigh.polkschoolsfl.com](http://www.georgejenkinshigh.polkschoolsfl.com)
- After October 1, complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) that includes the Bright Futures scholarship program at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org).
- After October 1, fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This application is your first foot in the financial aid door of the college you chosen to attend. For help, **attend the Financial Aid night at GJHS.**
- Check your email for admission decisions. Pay close attention to acceptance deadlines. Also watch for information from the college of your choice on housing, orientation, summer academic programs, and other information that will help with your transition to college.
- **Graduate! Congratulations!!!**