

# Griffin High School Newsletter

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September 2016

## Parent Involvement Corner

Parents,  
We are now in our second month of school. As the year kicks back into gear, I would like to encourage you to help your student review class materials daily. There are several tools that you can use to make studying fun and easy for your student such as:

- Websites
- Apps
- Flash cards
- Books (fictional and non-fictional) on the subjects your student is learning in school

As always, please feel free to contact me at any time if you need support or information on how to improve your child's academic performance in school. You can reach me at 770-229-3752 ext27121 and Theresa.tolbert@gscs.org

Estimados padres:  
Este es un documento importante de la escuela de su hijo. Si ustedes necesitan que traduzcamos esta información, por favor, llamen a Pearla Hodo al (770) 229-3710 ext. 395.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR-IMPORTANT DATES IN SEPTEMBER

9/6	GSCS Board Meeting
9/13	Parent Involvement Workshop
9/8	No School Labor Day
9/7	Midterm Progress Reports Issued
9/15	PROBE College Fair
9/10	Saturday Credit Recovery 8 am - 12 pm

### District Workshops: Google Classroom Parent Training

September 12 @ 10:00 am OR September 13 @ 6:00 pm

Please RSVP by using this link or contacting Melinda Owens.

<https://goo.gl/forms/UKbCP3CiHw2VGRFx2>

## Did You Miss...?

In August, we held our Annual Title I meeting. We discussed topics such as the school and district level Parent Involvement Policy, School-Parent Compact, Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Waiver and school designation status and meaning. If you missed the workshop but would like the information presented, please contact 770-229-3752 ext27121 and Theresa.tolbert@gscs.org

## Math Apps

Engaging students in math can sometimes be challenging. Try some of the free math apps listed below to help engage your student in math with games or handy tools.

- Math Blaster HyperBlast 2
- Desmos
- Geometry Dash Lite
- My Math Flash Cards App
- Math Ninja HD
- 6 Numbers by Brainbow
- MyScript Calculator
- BrainPOP
- Khan Academy
- Free Graphing Calculator
- SAT Up
- Math.
- Fraction Calculator Plus Free
- King of Math
- Dots and Boxes
- Mental Math Cards



## MATH WARS

**Math War is a fun and easy way to get your students to work on their math facts daily or weekly.**

With students getting back into the school routine, it is so important that we provide time for them to work on their number facts to gain fluency no matter their level. Math War is a fun and easy way to get them to work on their math facts daily or weekly. You can use store-bought flash cards to play these games, a regular deck of cards (only use the digits 1 – 9) or make your own deck with index cards. Always emphasize important math language and enjoy watching your children learn!

**Addition War:** Deal the entire deck to all players. Each player will turn over 2 cards to find the *sum* (emphasize this math language). The player with the higher sum wins and takes all 4 cards. Repeat this until all of the cards are gone. The player with the most cards at the end wins.

**Subtraction War:** Deal the entire deck to all players. Each player will turn over 2 cards to find the *difference* between the numbers. For students in grades K-5, have them use the larger digit first. For example, if they turn over a 4 and 6, make sure they subtract  $6-4=2$ . For grades 6 and higher, this is a great game to play for understanding operations of positive and negative numbers.

**Multiplication War:** Deal the entire deck to all players. Each player will turn over 2 cards to find the *product*. The player with the greater product (or lower product – you decide) wins. Play continues as normal.

**Division War:** Using division flashcards (you can buy or make your own), deal the cards out to all the players. Each player will turn over one card with a division problem on it and the player with the greater (or lower) *quotient* wins.

**Fraction War:** Deal the entire deck out to all the players. Each player will turn over 2 cards and create a proper fraction (the numerator is less than the denominator). For example, if you turn over a 3 and 5, the fraction should be  $\frac{3}{5}$ . The player with the greater (or lower) fraction wins. Fractions can be very challenging for students and playing this game will really help them to see fractions as numbers, not just as parts of a whole.



### 2015 Fall Parent Survey

Have you taken the fall parent survey? If not, please take it here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PJDMRFR>

### How Can we Help Our Students Think about Math?

GSCS Math Coordinator, Graham Fletcher, suggests these tips for fostering growth in our mathematicians:

- Ask them to make estimations often.
- Ask them to help you calculate something.
- Ask them: *What do you notice? What do you think? How do you know?*
- Avoid saying, "I was never good in math".



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