

A.Z. Kelsey Academy and Achievement Center Newsletter

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Parent Engagement Corner

Parents,
Homework has been a part of student's lives since the beginning of formal schooling in the United States. Homework can have many benefits for students including:

- Remembering and understanding of schoolwork
- Developing study skills
- Learning problem solving skills

With the many benefits of homework, it is important that you are involved in the process. Please read this month's newsletter to find homework tips to help you and your students at home.

As always, please feel free to contact us any time if you need support or information on how to improve your child's academic performance in school. You can reach us at 770-229-4365 or joet.williams@gscs.org and tonga.releford@gscs.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR-IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY

01/8/19 Report Cards sent home
01/8/19 Project: Power! Parent Workshop in Resource Center at 3:00 PM

This month the school will partner with Project Aware to offer resources for families.

If you are in need of childcare or transportation for the January parent workshop, please contact 770-229-4365 or joet.williams@gscs.org and tonga.releford@gscs.org no later than December 14, 2018.

Your Input Is Valuable!

Each year we seek your input on how parents, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement through the development of the School-Parent Compact. The compact is a written commitment that helps bridge the learning connection between school and home.

We also seek your input on how we can establish the expectations for family engagement and strengthen student academic achievement through the development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The policy describes the different ways that the school will support family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

Please visit <http://www.azkelsey.education/Students--Families/Parent-and-Student-Resources/index.html> to view the 2018-2019 School-Parent Compact and Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/GSCSFY19PandFEngagementPolicy> to view the District Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

You may provide your feedback at <https://tinyurl.com/GSCS2018FeedbackLink> or contact Joet Williams or Tonga Releford at 770-229-4365 or at joet.williams@gscs.org and tonga.releford@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 Lisa Bates al (770) 229-3710 ext. 10327.

Academic Tips and Websites

Establish a regular time and place for reading.

Keep on hand a variety of reading materials such as newspapers and magazines.

<https://www.teenreads.com/> <http://www.read.gov/teens/>



Welcome to Experience Online Testing Georgia!

This practice site lets students see what testing online is like. Parents and educators are welcome to try it too. The items on the demonstration tests are general and are organized into three grade bands: Grades 3 – 5, Grades 6 – 8, and High School in the content areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The items do not necessarily represent the specific grade-level content that students learn daily in their classrooms. Included in this site are examples of new types of test items that are being field tested this spring. Items that are field tested do not impact the scores of students. The primary purpose is to let students experience, firsthand, the functionality of the online testing platform. The sample tests are not graded, so have fun!

Directions for Taking the Demonstration Tests

1. Using a Google Chrome browser, open this Web page: <http://gaexperienceonline.com/>
 - Note that Google Chrome is the only supported browser for this public version of the DRC INSIGHT test engine.



2. Select the **Test Practice** link.



Math

Try some of these tips to help your student specifically in the area of math:

- Encourage your student to use a daily math assignment book
- Follow the progress your student is making in math. Speak with your student's teacher on areas your student is doing well in and areas where they can improve. Ask for tips on how you can help your student in areas where they struggle.
- Use household chores, trips to the grocery store and cooking as opportunities for reinforcing math learning.
- When your student's teacher presents a new concept, ask the teacher to show your student how to illustrate it. Often a drawing or a diagram can help your student better understand the problem.
- If your student likes words better than numbers, have them ask their teacher to provide an example of a word problem that fits the concept they are learning. It may help them to know what the formula is saying, rather than just how it looks.
- Ask your student to check their math homework by working long math problems backwards.
- When your student sees a new problem, they should think about old problems. What have they done that was similar? Did they use a formula? Can they use the same formula for this problem?

Upcoming Parent Engagement Opportunities

February 2019

Stakeholder Meetings (AM and PM Sessions): School-Parent Compact, School Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and Building Staff Capacity

March 2019

Stakeholder Meetings (AM and PM Sessions): Comprehensive Needs Assessment and School Improvement Plan for the 2019-2020 school year

April 2019

Parent Workshop/Event: Open Topic (based on Fall Parent Survey) and partnership with a business or community organization to offer resources to families

College & Career Performance Index (CCRPI)

The College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) is Georgia's annual tool for measuring how well its schools, districts, and the state itself are preparing students for the next educational level. It provides a comprehensive roadmap to help educators, parents, and community members promote and improve college and career readiness for all students.

The CCRPI includes five main components each scored on a scale of 0 to 100: Achievement, Progress, Closing Gaps, Readiness, and Graduation Rate (high school only). These components, encompassing multiple indicators, are combined for a total CCRPI score on a scale of 0 to 100. The CCRPI also reports other information, such as the performance of student subgroups, school climate and financial efficiency status. Our school's CCRPI score is 60.2.

Content Mastery	24.1%
English Language Arts (9 th grade Literature and American Literature)	35.78%
Math (Algebra I/Coordinate Algebra and Geometry/Analytic Geometry)	14.80%
Science (Physical Science and Biology)	20.91%
Social Studies (US History and Economic)	25.00%

Content Mastery addresses whether students are achieving at the level necessary to be prepared for the next grade, college, or career.

To view detailed score reports for the state and every public school district in Georgia, visit the GaDOE CCRPI page at <http://ccrpi.gadoe.org/2018/Views/Shared/Layout.html>.

School Designation Status

Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, the Georgia Department of Education will use a new method to identify schools that need additional support and improvement. As required by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the new designations will be Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools. When CSI and TSI schools are identified, schools may or may not have been a Priority or Focus school in previous years; however, these schools will no longer have the Priority or Focus school designation.

CSI schools fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Lowest 5%: Title I schools that, when ranked according to their three-year CCRPI average, are among the lowest performing 5% of Title I schools in the state
- Low Graduation Rate: High schools with a four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate less than or equal to 67%

TSI Schools fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Have at least one subgroup that is performing in the lowest 5% of all schools in at least 50% of CCRPI components.
- Among all schools identified for consistently underperforming subgroup, have at least one subgroup that is performing in the lowest 5% of all schools in all CCRPI components.

CSI Schools

- Anne Street Elementary School
- Atkinson Elementary School
- AZ Kelsey Academy
- Cowan Road Middle School

TSI Schools

- Orrs Elementary School

For more information about the designation status of schools, please visit the Division of School and District Effectiveness website at <http://www.gadoe.org/school-improvement/school-improvement-services/pages/default.aspx>.

