



"Planting Seeds for  
**STUDENT SUCCESS**"

# Conference Program

2018 Annual Conference

November 7 - 9, 2018

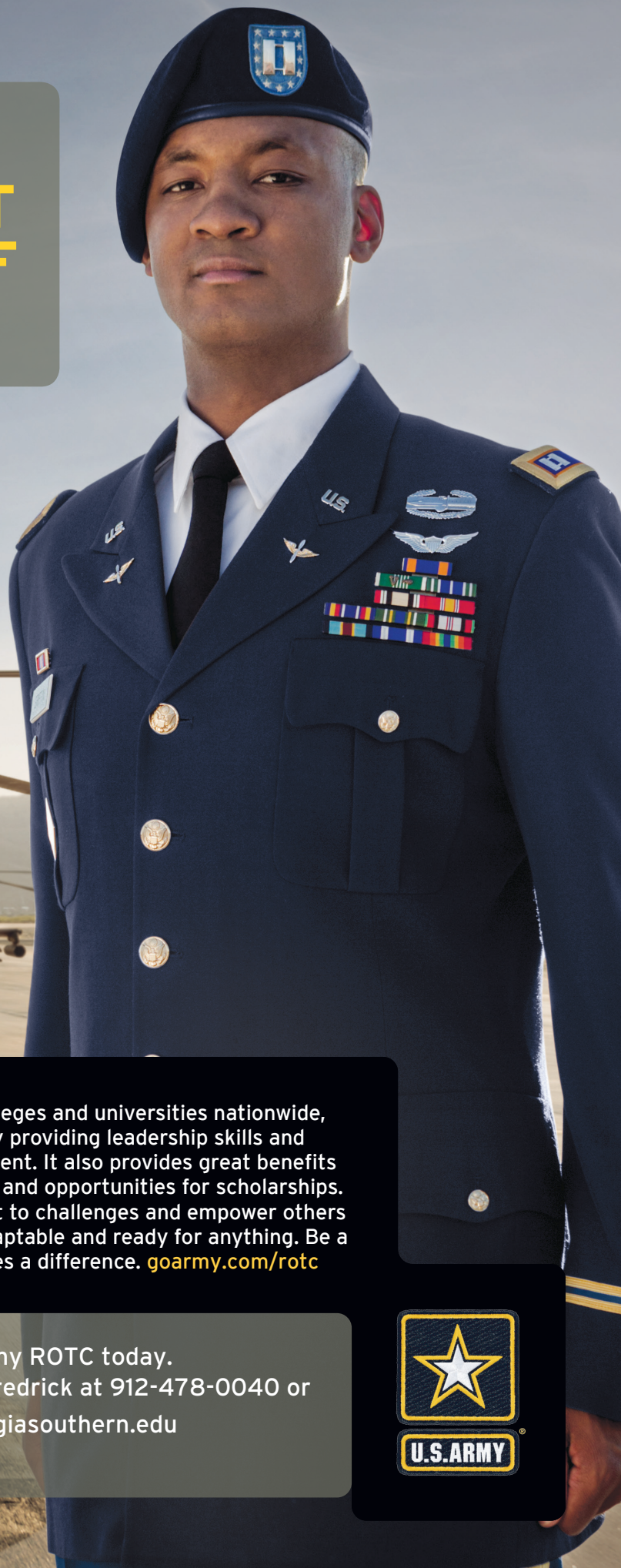
Macon Centreplex

Macon, GA

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TOMORROW.



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Planting Seeds for  
STUDENT SUCCESS



## Conference Schedule of Events

Macon Centreplex; Macon, Georgia  
November 7 - 9, 2018

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018

- 8:00 am - 9:00 am Pre-Conference Registration Only  
8:30 am - 11:30 am **Pre-Conference**  
Session 1 - **“Building and Maintaining a Quality SEL Program”** - *Sha Wortman and Kristan Riedinger*  
Session 2 - **“The 21st annual BOOK-A-HOLICS ANONYMOUS: Using Children’s Literature in Your School Counseling Program”** - *Nancy Jones*  
Session 3 - **“Technology”** - *Erin Mason*  
Session 4 - **“Code of Ethics”** - *Dr. Karla Sapp*  
Session 5 - **Preparing the Careers of the Future: School Counselors Lead the Way!** - *Angela Cleveland, Catherine Roberts, and Christy Conley*  
12:00 pm - 3:30 pm Registration Desk Open  
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm **Pre-Conference**  
Session 4 - **“Code of Ethics”** (cont.) - *Dr. Karla Sapp*  
Session 5 - **Preparing the Careers of the Future: School Counselors Lead the Way!** - *Angela Cleveland, Catherine Roberts, and Christy Conley*  
Session 6 - **“Trauma 101 in Schools”** - *Debra Ross, CWTC*  
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Concurrent Sessions (1)  
1:00 pm - 3:30 pm Exhibit Hall Open  
2:15 pm - 3:00 pm Newcomers Session  
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm Spotlight on Exhibits and Meet & Greet with Candidates  
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm Opening Session with Jon Gordon - **“The Seed”**  
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm President’s Reception  
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm *Optional Ticket Event - Art Night with Macon Masterpieces (limited to the first 50 people who pre-register to attend)*

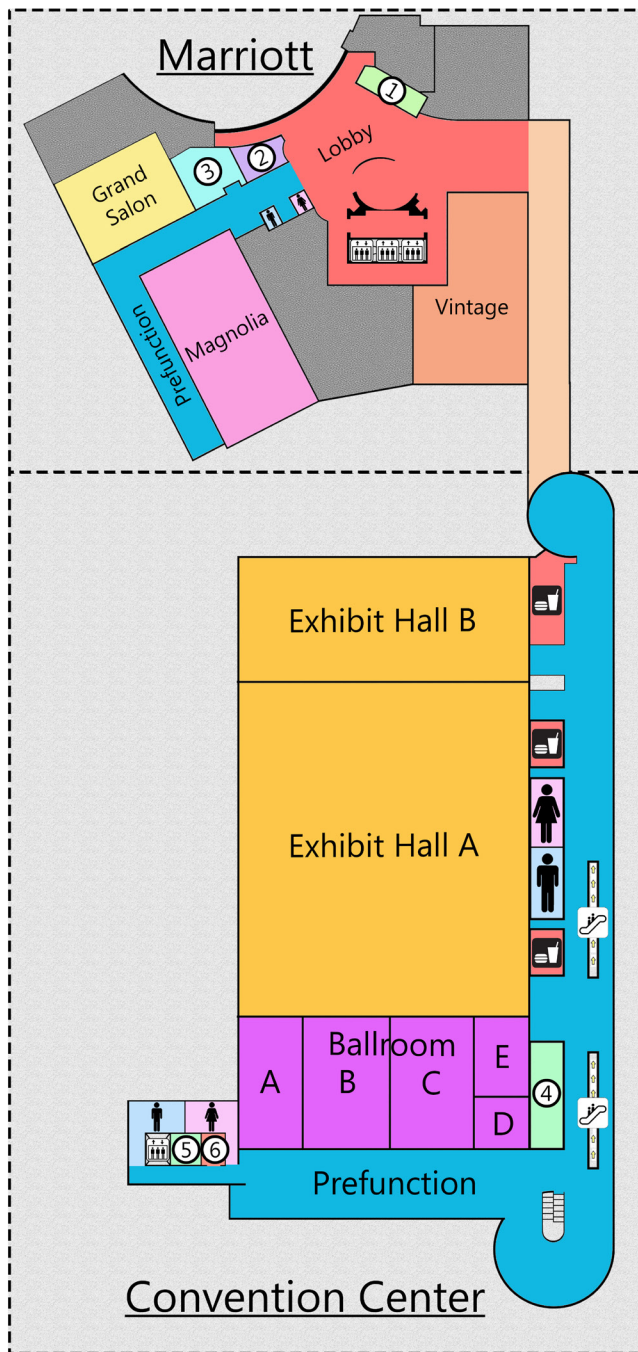
### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018

- 7:00 am - 8:00 am Army Boot Camp  
*Brought to you by the Army ROTC*  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration Desk Open  
8:30 am - 9:45 am Concurrent Sessions (2)  
8:30 am - 4:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open  
10:00 am - 11:00 am Membership Assembly  
11:15 am - 12:30 pm Concurrent Sessions (3)  
12:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch Break On Your Own  
1:30 pm - 2:45 pm Concurrent Sessions (4)  
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm Spotlight on Exhibits and Meet & Greet the Candidates  
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm Concurrent Sessions (5)  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Leadership Team / PPAC Dinner  
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm PROBE Party (*transportation begins at 8:15 pm at the Marriott*)

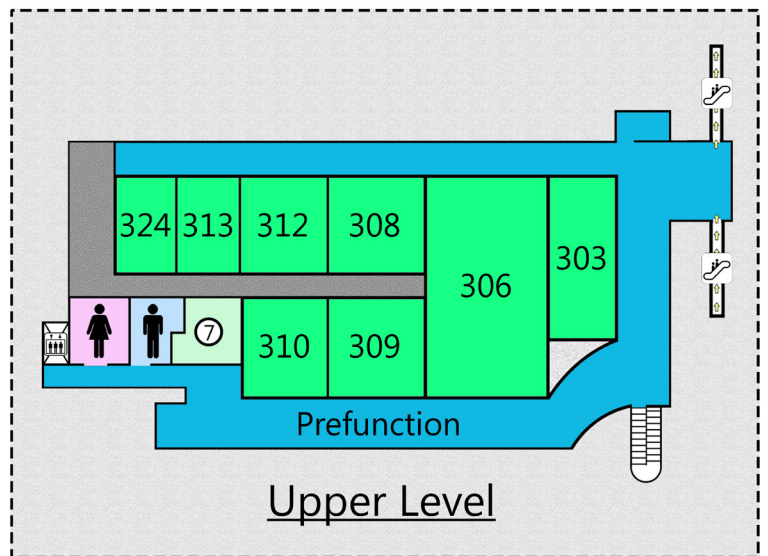
### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018

- 7:00 am - 7:30 am Yoga  
8:00 am - 9:00 am Registration Desk Open  
8:30 am - 10:30 am Exhibit Hall Open  
8:30 am - 9:45 am Concurrent Sessions (6)  
9:00 am - 1:30 pm Information Desk and Professional Development Form Drop Off  
10:00 am - 11:00 am Region Networking and Education (*open to all conference attendees*)  
11:15 am - 1:30 pm Awards Luncheon and Closing Session and Panel with Ellen Kahn, *Human Rights Campaign Foundation*

# Map of Facility



## MACON MARRIOTT CITY CENTER AND THE EDGAR H. WILSON CONVENTION CENTER



### Marriott Meeting Rooms:

- Grand Salon A
- Grand Salon B
- Magnolia A
- Magnolia B
- Magnolia C
- Magnolia D

### Convention Center Meeting Rooms:

- Ballroom A - E
- Exhibit Hall A
- Room 303
- Room 306
- Room 308
- Room 309
- Room 310
- Room 312
- Room 313
- Room 324



# President's Message



Dear Fellow GSCA Attendees:

Welcome to the GSCA Annual Fall Conference. I am excited that the time has finally arrived and that so many school counselors were able to come to Macon for three days of encouragement, learning, and FUN. Thank you for making this a priority!

A school counselor's job is demanding and often it is difficult to find time to care for ourselves. That is what these three days are about! The Conference Team has been working diligently for many months to ensure that your time spent here is worth all the effort that went in to you preparing to be out of your building. There are 90 breakout sessions being held with the majority of presenters being fellow Georgia school counselors. A major goal in the selection process was to provide sessions for all levels on a variety of relevant topics. We hope you find our efforts were successful.

I know that I look forward to this conference not only for the outstanding professional development, but also for the opportunity to "hang out" with other school counselors. We are in the unique position of being alone or nearly alone in what we do in our buildings. I hope that you use this time to connect with those who are like minded. Share ideas, problem-solve, take time to listen to and support other school counselors. Most of all just enjoy being around others who understand you and your job!

We have many special activities planned for these three days and hope that you will be able take advantage of them. Be sure to join us for the President's Reception after Opening Session. We also have an exciting PROBE party planned at The Piedmont Brewery Thursday night. AJ the DJ is an energetic entertainer you will definitely enjoy. Transportation to and from the Marriott will be provided. And of course, don't forget our Closing Luncheon on Friday. The Professional Recognition Awards Ceremony will be held at that time.

I hope you all have a great time while here. If you need an assistance or have any questions be sure to find me or any conference team member so that we can assist you. My challenge for you during this time is to learn a lot, connect with current friends, meet at least one new person a day, and have a blast!

Leslie Hamilton  
2018-2019 GSCA President

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# 2018 - 2019 Executive Board



Leslie Hamilton  
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*President-Elect*



Tinisha Parker  
*Immediate Past President*



Kathryn Sadowski  
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Catherine Roberts  
*Treasurer*



Sloane Molloy  
*Parliamentarian*



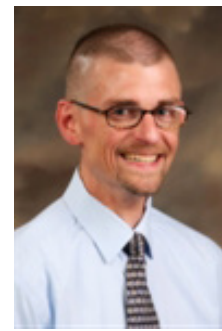
Dr. Davesha Miller  
*Elementary Director*



Rebecca Burkhart  
*Middle Director*



Mark Ellis  
*Secondary Director*



Richard Cleveland  
*Counselor Educator Director*



Vance Sims  
*Northern Director*



Katrina Wilson  
*Metro Director*



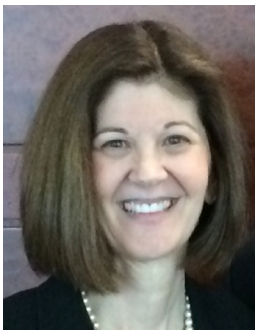
Dr. Yasmin Whirl  
*Central Director*



Donna Jones  
*Southern Director*



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*Advocacy Chair*



Gail Smith  
*Advocacy Co-Chair*



Sarah Berke, CAE  
*Executive Office*

## GEORGIA SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION

1827 Powers Ferry Road

Building 14, Suite 100

Atlanta, GA 30339

Toll Free Phone ♦ 888.455.0997

Phone ♦ 770.971.6002

Fax ♦ 404.393.9506

[info@gaschoolcounselor.org](mailto:info@gaschoolcounselor.org)

[www.gaschoolcounselor.org](http://www.gaschoolcounselor.org)



# 2018 - 2019 Leadership Team



President	Leslie Hamilton, Forsyth	Graduate Student Liaison	Cameron Aurandt, Lowndes
President-Elect	Maria Grovner, APS	PPAC Liaison	Torri Jackson, Liberty
Immediate Past President	Tinisha Parker, Gwinnett	Educators Liaison	Lacy Ricks, Carroll
Secretary	Kathryn Sadowski, Glynn	Coordinators Liaison	Senetra Haywood, Glynn
Treasurer	Catherine Roberts, Clayton	Elementary Liaison	Nicohl Webb, Henry
Parliamentarian	Sloane Molloy, Glynn	Middle Liaison	Kristy Hess, Houston
Elementary Director	Davesha Miller, Lowndes	Secondary Liaison	Cedric Cooks, Gwinnett
Middle Director	Rebecca Burkhart, Chatham	Rural Counselor Liaison	Brittany DePlato, Grady
Secondary Director	(Gary) Mark Ellis	Conference Chair	Julie Jordan, Glynn
Counselor Educator Director	Richard Cleveland, Bulloch	Content Vice-Chair	Sloane Molloy, Glynn
Northern Director	Vance Sims, Oconee	Host City Vice-Chair	Beverly Stewart, Bibb
Metro Director	Katrina Wilson, Rockdale	Conference Team	Rachel Read, Forsyth
Central Director	Yasmin Whirl, Wilkinson	Conference Team	Natalie Edirmanasinghe, Gwinnett
Southern Director	Donna Jones, Chatham	Conference Team	Lakeshia Williams, Bibb
Advocacy	Jennifer Diaz, Gwinnett	Journal Editor	Karen Rowland, Mercer
Advocacy	Gail Smith, Cobb	Beacon Editor	Chon Hester, Henry
PPAC Finance Committee	Jenny Lacy, Glynn	Social Media Editor	Laura Ross, Gwinnett
Member Finance Committee	Laura Spencer, Gwinnett	Photographer	Stacey Cooke, Coweta
Professional Advancement	Yasmin Whirl, Wilkinson	Archives Editor	Amy Taylor, Grady
ASCA/RAMP Chair	Kim Jackson-Allen, Chatham	Region 2 Liaison	Felicsha Green, Walton
Career/Post Secondary Co-Chair	Lakisha Bonner Fayette	Region 3 Liaison	Whitney Adams, Forsyth
Career/Post Secondary Co-Chair	Lee Grimes, Lowndes	Region 4 Liaison	Jennifer Jones, Coweta
CKES	Robin Zorn, Gwinnett	Region 5 Liaison	Moya Pope, Jefferson
Professional Recognition Chair	Myesha Davis, Cobb	Region 6 Liaison	Crystal Holt, Grady
Professional Recognition Co-Chair	Alex Huguelet, APS	Region 7 Liaison	Alecia Pittman, Glynn
Service Project Chair	Michelle Stevens, Cobb	Managing Director	Sarah Berke, CAE
Recruitment/Sustainability	Rebecca Burkhart, Chatham		

# 2018 Conference Team



*Left to right: Lakeshia Williams, Natalie Edirmanasinghe, Leslie Hamilton, Sloane Molloy, Rachel Read and Beverly Stewart.  
Not pictured: Julie Jordan*

The GSCA Fall Conference is an event that requires many months of detailed planning. The success of the conference is dependent upon a group of volunteers who give their time and talents to creating the vision for what will occur at conference and to ensuring that the details of implementing that vision are identified and carried out. This team started the planning process early this year and have worked tirelessly to make it the amazing conference that you are experiencing. Thank you does not come close to expressing how appreciative I am of my conference team. They were full of great ideas and ready to jump in and bring all the ideas to fruition! Thank you Julie, Sloane, Rachel, Natalie, Lakeshia, and Beverly!

Fondly,

*Leslie Hamilton*  
2018-2019 President



November 7, 2018

Dear Georgia School Counselors,

Welcome to the 2018 Georgia School Counselor Association Conference!

I hope you enjoy networking and learning alongside other counselors during your time here. Professional development time set aside with colleagues is a great way to go back to school refreshed to accomplish our goals.



Your role is more important than it ever has been as we continue to refocus our work on educating the whole child. You are truly in a unique position to plant the seeds of success for each and every student at your school.

Now is a crucial time for Georgia as we move forward together to bridge the gap between K-12 education and our students' futures. I know that you're being asked to do more and more for students, and my staff at the Georgia Department of Education is here to support you as you help students grow to reach their full potential.

Enjoy your time at the conference and don't hesitate to reach out if I may ever be of assistance.

*Richard Woods*

Richard Woods  
State Schools Superintendent



On behalf of the Bibb County School District, it is my pleasure to extend to you a warm welcome to the city of Macon for your 2018 Georgia School Counselor Association Annual Conference.

As counselors, you are keenly aware of the challenges that our students face daily, and how important your efforts are to the ultimate success of our students, our schools, and our community. You make the difference for children every day.

The conference theme, “Planting Seeds for Student Success,” truly captures the work you do each day to promote academic achievement, career, and social/emotional development, ensuring today’s students become the productive, well-adjusted adults of tomorrow. I want to thank each of you for your continued dedication and support of our students in your role as a school counselor.

I hope that you find your time in Macon to be valuable. Best wishes for a successful conference!

Sincerely,

Curtis L. Jones, Jr., Ed.D.  
Superintendent



# Download the GSCA App

Navigate the event like a pro with the GSCA 2018 mobile app, powered by Core-apps.com. Downloading the App is easy! Search the App Store or Google Play for GSCA Conferences. With the GSCA 2018 mobile app, you can:

- Stay organized with the up-to-the-minute Exhibitor, Speaker, and Event information.
- Receive important real-time communications from GSCA
- Build a personalized schedule and bookmark exhibitors
- Take notes and download event handouts and presentations
- Find attendees and connect with your colleagues
- Stay in the know and join in on social media with #GSCA2018

## Name Badge Requirements

All Conference attendees and exhibitors must wear a name badge **at all times**. These will be checked for admittance to all sessions (including Opening and Closing), Reception, Closing Luncheon, and events.

## Professional Development Information

Information for GSCA Conference Attendees:

Conference attendees will receive a Professional Development Form (in duplicate) in the registration bag/packet. This form is complimentary and will be distributed for all attendees.

- At the conference, attendees will be responsible for completing the form indicating which sessions and events have been attended.
- At the conclusion of the conference, attendees will sign and date the form. One copy will be for personal use to self-submit (see below) and the other copy will be collected at the conclusion of the conference at the registration desk by GSCA staff.
- Forms must be submitted in person at the conclusion of the conference and will not be accepted late.

Attendees are responsible for self-submitting to the appropriate accrediting body.

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What food functions are included in your registration fee?

- Wednesday's Spotlight on Exhibits Break
- Wednesday's President's Reception (cash bar)
- Continental Breakfast on Thursday
- Thursday's Spotlight on Exhibits Break
- Friday's Awards Luncheon and Closing Session and Panel

What is NOT included in your registration fee?

- Breakfast on Wednesday or Friday
- Lunch on Wednesday or Thursday
- Dinner on Wednesday or Thursday
- PreConference Workshops on Wednesday (*pre-registered*)
- Conference T-Shirts (*pre-ordered prior to conference*)
- Art Night with Macon Masterpieces (*pre-registered*)

# Thank You to Our 2018 Sponsors

## Titanium Sponsors:



**ARMY ROTC**



**Technical College**  
System of Georgia

## Gold Sponsors:



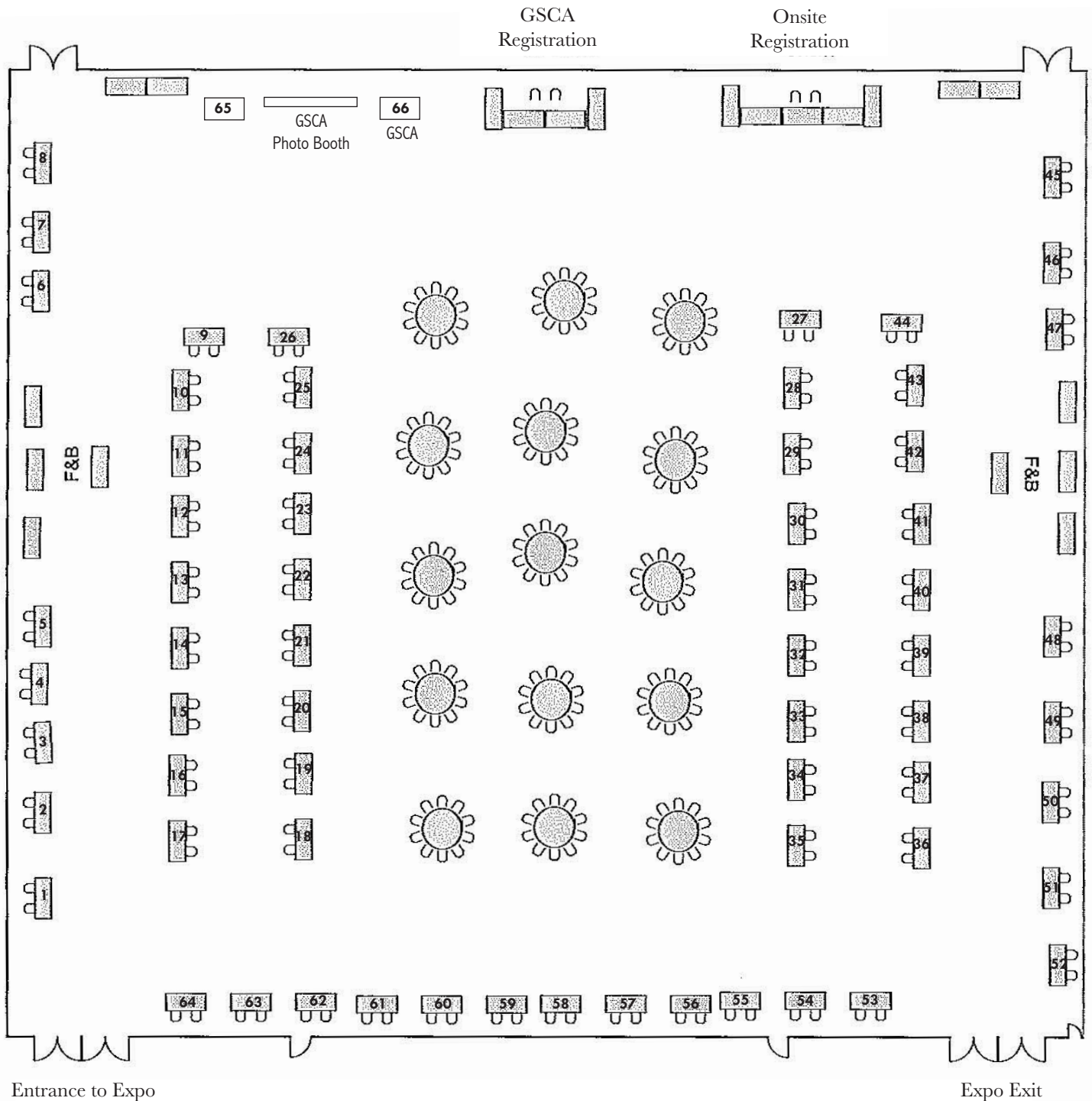
## Bronze Sponsor:



## Event Sponsor:



# 2018 GSCA Exhibit Layout



Exhibition Hall A



**ACT, Inc.**

TABLE: 14

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

ACT is a nonprofit organization providing a continuum of integrated assessment solutions that align with our mission of helping people achieve education and workplace success.

**American Book Company**

TABLE: 27

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

For 20 years, ABC has been creating innovative content to help students achieve success inside and outside the classroom. ABC takes pride in writing books that are accurate, effective, easy to read, enjoyable for teachers, and engaging for students. ABC publishes materials based on all subject matter, including mathematics, English Language Arts, science, and social studies.

**American School Counselor Association**

TABLE: 44

[www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org)

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, career and social/emotional development so they achieve success in school and are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. ASCA provides professional development, publications and other resources, research and advocacy to professional school counselors around the globe.

**ASVAB Career Exploration Program**

TABLE: 15

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

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program helps you identify your skills and interests, explore jobs, and develop after high school plans.

**Bussey Books Publishing**

TABLE: 19

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

Bussey Books Publishing can provide many useful services to book lovers. Please visit our website for more information

**BYU Independent Study**

TABLE: 35

[is.byu.edu](http://is.byu.edu)

Brigham Young University Independent Study is a program that operates under BYU Continuing Education. Independent Study is one of the nation's largest non-profit distance education programs. It provides the majority of college courses offered to students enrolled in the BYU Bachelor of General Studies program; supplements BYU, BYU-Idaho, BYU-Hawaii, and LDS Business College curriculum portfolios; and provides online curriculum to middle school and high school students.

**Cerebellum / Kelso's Choice**

TABLE: 30

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

Kelso's Choice is the leading tool for teaching conflict management skills for children Pre-K through 5th grade. Home of the beloved choice wheel, this conflict resolution curriculum teaches children the difference between big problems and little problems. Kelso the frog is a fun and engaging way for children to learn conflict management.

**Coastal Harbor Health System**

TABLE: 28

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

Coastal Harbor Health System is a mental health care facility in Savannah, Georgia that serves patients of all ages.

**Communities in Schools Georgia**

TABLE: 25

[www.cisga.org](http://www.cisga.org)

Communities In Schools surrounds students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Our goal is to support youth, improve graduation rates, academic achievement and job and post-secondary school readiness.

**Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health**

TABLE: 20

<http://www.devereux.org>

For more than 40 years, Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health, has been providing new hopes, new dreams, and new choices for children, adolescents and young adults struggling with emotional and behavioral health challenges. Devereux is one of the nation's largest not-for-profit behavioral health organizations, giving Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health Georgia access to national experts from across the country.

**Discover Student Loans**

TABLE: 29

[CollegeCovered.com/Assist](http://CollegeCovered.com/Assist)

College Covered CollegeCovered.com was created to help provide families with the know-how to plan and pay for college and includes resources and tips for each step of the process. College Covered is brought to you by Discover Student Loans, one of the largest providers of private student loans in the United States

**Duke Talent Identification Program**

TABLE: 11

<https://tip.duke.edu/>

The Duke University Talent Identification Program is dedicated to being a global leader in identifying academically talented students and providing innovative

programs to support the development of their optimal educational potential. Programs for students, families, and educators will be of such excellence that they will become models for the education of academically talented students worldwide.

### **Edgenuity**

*TABLE: 16*

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

As a company of educators, we believe all learners can achieve their full potential, and educators work tirelessly to help their students do that. That's why we've made it our mission to provide schools with the tools and resources they need to leverage technology in ways that improve student outcomes.

### **Georgia Career Information Center**

*TABLE: 9 and 26*

[www.gcic.peachnet.edu](http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu)

Georgia Career Information Center, through its Georgia Career Information System (GCIS), provides current and accurate occupational and educational information to schools and agencies throughout Georgia in order to help young people and adults make informed career choices.

### **Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation**

*TABLE: 5*

[www.gfbf.org](http://www.gfbf.org)

Our mission is to partner with the fire service and burn care community to provide fire safety and prevention education, support medical facilities and assist burn survivors in their recovery.

### **Georgia Gwinnett College**

*TABLE: 62*

[www.ggc.edu](http://www.ggc.edu)

Georgia Gwinnett College is a four-year, accredited liberal arts college that provides access to targeted baccalaureate and associate level degrees that meet the economic development needs of the growing and diverse population of Gwinnett County and the northeast Atlanta metropolitan region. GGC opened its doors in August 2006 as the nation's first four-year public college founded in the 21st century, and the first four-year public college founded in Georgia in more than 100 years. Georgia Gwinnett produces contributing citizens and future leaders for Georgia and the nation. Its graduates are inspired to contribute to their local, state, national and international communities and are prepared to anticipate and respond effectively to an uncertain and changing world. Visit Georgia Gwinnett College's Web site at [www.ggc.edu](http://www.ggc.edu). For news, go to [www.ggc.edu/news](http://www.ggc.edu/news).

### **Georgia School Counselor Association**

*TABLE: 66*

[gsca.org](http://gsca.org)

The Georgia School Counselor Association supports school counselors in Georgia as they promote student success.

### **Hillside, Inc.**

*TABLE: 4*

[www.hside.org](http://www.hside.org)

Hillside provides a continuum of mental health care of children and adolescents from outpatient services to residential treatment.

### **Hobsons**

*TABLE: 32*

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

Hobsons solutions enable educators to improve college and career planning, admissions and enrollment management, student success and advising.

### **Kids Chance of Georgia, Inc.**

*TABLE: 21*

[kidschancega.org](http://kidschancega.org)

Provide scholarships to the children of Georgia workers' who have been fatally or seriously injured in a work related accident.

### **Laurel Heights Hospital**

*TABLE: 31*

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

Our mission is to provide the highest quality psychiatric and behavioral care to the meet the needs of the children and families we serve. Laurel Heights specializes in the treatment of children and adolescents with complex psychiatric and behavioral problems.

### **Life University**

*TABLE: 55*

[www.life.edu](http://www.life.edu)

As the largest Chiropractic school in the world, LIFE University are pioneers leading the vitalistic health revolution. Life University is a unique place where students can feel empowered to break molds, pursue new ideologies and strive for excellence in the areas where their passions lie. LIFE provides its students with opportunities to learn, disrupt and impact the world around them.

### **Lighthouse Care Center of Augusta**

*TABLE: 34*

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

Located in Augusta, Georgia, Lighthouse Care Center provides treatment to children and adolescents experiencing psychological issues.



## **National Center for Youth Issues**

*TABLE: 1, 2 and 3*

[www.ncyi.org](http://www.ncyi.org)

NCYI provides resources and support programs for school counselors to help them foster the healthy psychosocial, emotional and physical development of their students.

## **National Guard Youth Challenge Program**

*TABLE: 6*

[www.georgiayouthchallenge.org](http://www.georgiayouthchallenge.org)

Mission: Intervene in and reclaim the lives of at-risk youth to produce program graduates with the values, skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to excel as adults.

## **NCWIT - Counselors for Computing**

*TABLE: 22*

[ncwit.org/c4c](http://ncwit.org/c4c)

NCWIT Counselors for Computing (C4C) provides professional school counselors with information and resources they can use to support ALL students as they explore computer science education and careers.

## **Paddio**

*TABLE: 10*

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

Paddio is a tutor management platform designed for schools & institutions. We provide custom solutions for all education technology needs.

## **Surveying and Mapping Society of Georgia**

*TABLE: 24*

[www.samsog.org](http://www.samsog.org)

The Surveying and Mapping Society of Georgia, recognizing that service to society, to our State, and to our Nation is the fundamental purpose of surveying and mapping, does hereby dedicate itself to the promotion and the protection of the profession and surveying and mapping as a social and an economic influence vital to the affairs of men and of the community.

## **Savannah State University**

*TABLE: 53*

Savannah State University, established in 1890 is the oldest institution of higher education in the city of Savannah and the oldest public HBCU in the state of Georgia. The institution have over 30 degrees in the area of Social Science, Business, Science and Technology and Teacher Education.

## **Southern Association for College Admission Counseling (SACAC)**

*TABLE: 57*

[www.sacac.org](http://www.sacac.org)

SACAC supports and engages its collaborative network

of enrollment and counseling professionals by promoting ethical responsibility, professional growth, access, advocacy, and outreach to help all students realize their postsecondary educational goals.

## **Springbrook Behavioral Health**

*TABLE: 23*

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

Residential Treatment Facility

## **TCSG**

*TABLE: 52 (TCSG Cornucopia will be located in 36-43 and 45-51)*

[www.tcsg.edu](http://www.tcsg.edu)

The 22 colleges of the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) are Georgia's top resource for skilled workers. TCSG offers world-class training in 600 associate degree, diploma and certificate programs to students who are trained on state-of-the-art equipment by instructors who are experts in their fields. TCSG partners with companies through Quick Start, the nation's top customized workforce training program, and through its individual colleges, who work with local industry to provide workforce and training solutions.

## **Universal Technical Institute**

*TABLE: 58*

[www.uti.edu](http://www.uti.edu)

UTI is the leading provider of technicians in the transportation industry. We specialize in manufacturer-specific training.

## **University of Georgia, College of Family and Consumer Services**

*TABLE: 61*

Our mission is to advance the well-being of individuals and families over their life span and strengthen communities through the generation and dissemination of knowledge, education of professionals, and provision of research-based programs.

## **University of Kentucky**

*TABLE: 54*

[www.uky.edu](http://www.uky.edu)

The University of Kentucky is a public co-educational university in Lexington, Kentucky.

## **University System of GA**

*TABLE: 59*

[www.usg.edu](http://www.usg.edu)

The University System of Georgia (USG) is a part of the community in each of Georgia's 159 counties and provides services across the state. The USG is composed of 26 higher education institutions including four research

universities, four comprehensive universities, nine state universities and nine state colleges. It also includes the Georgia Public Library Service, which encompasses approximately 389 facilities within the 61 library systems throughout the State of Georgia.

### **University System of Georgia eCampus**

*TABLE: 60*

[ecampus.usg.edu](http://ecampus.usg.edu)

eCampus is a service unit of the University System of Georgia that partners with USG institutions to provide quality, affordable, high-demand, post-secondary online degrees and credentials that address the workplace needs of Georgia and beyond.

### **U.S. ARMY ROTC**

*TABLE: 63 and 64*

[www.goarmy.com/rotc/find-schools](http://www.goarmy.com/rotc/find-schools)

College Army ROTC: College scholarships and leader training. Learn about opportunities for college-bound students to pursue a professional career as an Army Officer.

### **VirtualJobShadow.com/VJSJunior.com**

*TABLE: 7*

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

VirtualJobShadow.com is a comprehensive, multimedia college and career exploration resource that prepares students for success in life. Our engaging video content gives students an up-close look at real people in real careers. The platform is loaded with many skill-building tools, including lesson plans, career assessments and a resume builder.

### **WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students)**

*TABLE: 65*

<http://dadsofgreatstudents.com>

WATCH D.O.G.S. is one of the nation's largest and most respected school-based, family, and community engagement, organizations in the country. Each school year hundreds of thousands of fathers and father-figures make a positive impact on millions of children by volunteering millions of hours in their local schools through this amazing one-of-a-kind program.

### **Wells Fargo Education Financial Services**

*TABLE: 8*

[www.wellsfargo.com/student](http://www.wellsfargo.com/student)

When it comes to financing your education, be sure to look at all of your options — including grants, scholarships, and loans from all sources — and make careful comparisons among all of your choices. If you determine that a private student loan is right for you, Wells Fargo provides loans to help meet the needs of nearly every student.

### **Wyatt the Wonder Dog Books**

*TABLE: 13*

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

Wyatt the Wonder Dog may not have super powers, but he's super excited to tell you stories of his many adventures. Wyatt wonders about so very many things. Together with his Author, Lynne Watts, they empower children to become successful problem solvers. They provide educators and Grandmas alike with books, lesson plans, and helpful advice.

### **YouScience**

*TABLE: 12*

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

The YouScience Profile gives you hope, direction, and expands your vision of opportunities. Unlike interest tests of old, YouScience uses fun, engaging "brain games" to capture real measures of aptitudes (natural abilities most important to career choice). YouScience then translates your talents into real world high demand careers.

### **Youth Villages, Inc.**

*TABLE: 33*

[www.youthvillages.org](http://www.youthvillages.org)

Youth Villages is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to helping emotionally and behaviorally troubled children and their families live successfully.

### **YouthLight, Inc.**

*TABLE: 17 and 18*

YouthLight is an educational publishing company dedicated to providing counselors, educators and other professionals with useful materials to help maximize their effectiveness with youth. YouthLight provides exciting books, interactive lessons, games and other products relating to topics such as Relational Aggression, Self-Regulation, Social Skills, Biblio-Guidance and other Developmental Counseling Tools.



# Spotlight on Exhibits

All conference attendees are invited and encouraged to take time to visit the exhibit hall to meet, talk with and explore our wonderful exhibitors. Our exhibitors contribute so much to our conference! Visiting the exhibit hall is a great opportunity to visit with, thank and network with our exhibitors, obtain great educational and counseling materials, learn about new programs, resources, and services.

## Exhibit Hall Shenanigans



### **Breakout Game Competition:**

During Spotlight for Exhibitors, we will be holding a competition for the fastest “breakout” time. Sign up your team at the Breakout tables (must be a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 people). The team with the fastest time at the end of the conference will be awarded prizes during the closing luncheon. There will be a limited number of time slots, first come first served! Breakout EDU is an interactive, problem-solving game that requires teamwork and mental speed!



### **Seed packet exchange:**

Each exhibitor will receive five flower seed packets. As attendees visit the exhibit booths, the exhibitor will decide who receives each packet by how many questions they ask, the type of questions they ask, or any other qualifying behavior that they deem to be appropriate. Each flower packet can be traded in for a “prize” at our registration desk.

**Find the Flower hunt:** There will be five flowering plants hidden around the exhibit hall- look closely, they could be camouflaged! If you find a plant and can identify the name, you get to keep it!

**Vote for your favorite exhibitor:** Using our GSCA conference app, please vote for your favorite exhibit booth!



**Be a part of our GSCA Mural:** Add to our mural by “Planting Seeds for Student Success”. Leave a lasting impact on the conference by letting us know how you are going to plant seeds for your student’s success after attending the conference. Look for the mural in Exhibit Hall A.

# 2nd Annual Technical College Cornucopia

In our ongoing effort in improving opportunities during our annual conference for our attendees, GSCA has continued with the Technical College Cornucopia which will be held in the Exhibit hall. Fifteen of the Georgia Technical Colleges (TCSG) will be showcasing and highlighting some of their programs. TCSG ensures companies have the skilled workers needed to build and maintain a competitive advantage.

The 23 colleges of the Technical College System of Georgia offer affordable education and excellent training in more than 600 certificate, diploma and two-year associate degree programs – the specialized knowledge employer’s demand. Responding to the needs of today’s companies is the first priority of Georgia’s technical colleges. TCSG colleges offer world-class programs related to the six industries that have been identified as essential to keeping Georgia competitive in the global economy: aerospace, healthcare, life sciences including biotechnology, agribusiness, energy and the environment, and logistics and transportation.

The Cornucopia will be a great opportunity to explore, and learn about a great variety of career options for your students. We all want our students to leave high school with strong academic skills, an awareness of the career fields that interest them and the work ready skills necessary to be successful. This year’s Expo will be an excellent opportunity for school counselors to learn valuable knowledge and insight as you work with your students plan for their careers.

## Tips for Networking With Exhibitors:

- ◆ Be sure to stop and talk with exhibitors. **They appreciate the conversation!**
- ◆ Please don’t interrupt exhibitors when they are speaking with other conference attendees.
- ◆ Try to visit each and every exhibition. Their support helps to ensure we can keep conference fees low.
- ◆ Depending on your level of engagement, each vendor will determine if the vendor will offer you a seed packet to be traded in for a “prize” at our registration desk.

### Exhibit Hall Hours

*Visit the exhibit areas located in Exhibit Hall A.*

Wednesday, November 7

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Thursday, November 8

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Friday, November 9

8:30 am - 10:30 am





# Wednesday, November 7

## Agenda at a Glance

**8:00 am - 9:00 am**

Pre-Conference Registration Only (*located at Marriott Prefunction*)

**8:30 am – 11:30 am**

Pre-Conference Sessions (*located at the Marriott*)

**12:00 pm - 3:30 pm**

Registration Desk Hours (*located at Centreplex / Exhibit Hall A*)

**12:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

Pre-Conference Sessions (*located at the Marriott*)

**1:00 pm – 2:15 pm**

Concurrent Sessions I

**1:00 pm – 3:30 pm**

Exhibit Hall Open

**2:15 pm – 3:00 pm**

Newcomers' Session (*located at Centreplex*)

**2:30 pm – 3:15 pm**

Spotlight on Exhibits

Meet and Greet the Candidates

**3:30 pm – 5:30 pm**

Opening Session with Jon Gordon - "The Seed" (*located at Centreplex*)

**5:30 pm – 6:30 pm**

President's Reception (*located at Centreplex*)

**7:30 pm - 9:30 pm**

Optional Ticket Event (*pre-registration required*) -

**Art Night with Macon Masterpieces** (*located at the Marriott*)

(*limited to the first 50 people who pre-register to attend*)

# Wednesday Conference Schedule

**8:00 am - 9:00 am**    **Registration for  
Pre-Conference Sessions Only**  
*Prefunction at Marriott*

**8:30 am - 11:30 am**    **Pre-Conferences**  
*(pre-registration required)*

Session 1 - **“Building and Maintaining a Quality  
SEL Program”**  
*Sha Wortman and Kristan Riedinger*  
**Magnolia A**

Session 2 - **“The 21st annual BOOK-A-HOLICS  
ANONYMOUS: Using Children’s Literature in  
Your School Counseling Program”**  
*Nancy Jones*  
**Magnolia B**

Session 3 - **“Technology”**  
*Erin Mason*  
**Magnolia D**

Session 4 - **“Code of Ethics”**  
*Dr. Karla Sapp*  
**Grand Salon A**

Session 5 - **Preparing the Careers of the Future:  
School Counselors Lead the Way!**  
*Angela Cleveland, Catherine Roberts, and Christy Conley*  
**Grand Salon B**

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm    **Pre-Conference Continued**

Session 4 - **“Code of Ethics”** (cont.)  
*Dr. Karla Sapp*  
**Grand Salon A**

Session 5 - **Preparing the Careers of the Future:  
School Counselors Lead the Way!**  
*Angela Cleveland, Catherine Roberts, and Christy Conley*  
**Grand Salon B**

Session 6 - **“Trauma 101 in Schools”**  
*Debra Ross, CWTC*  
**Magnolia D**

**12:00 pm - 3:30 pm**    **Registration Desk Open**  
*Exhibit Hall A*

**1:00 pm - 3:30 pm**    **Exhibit Hall Open**  
*Exhibit Hall A*

**1:00 pm – 2:15 pm**  
**Concurrent Sessions I**

**Emotional Dysregulation in Anxiety: Strategies for  
Helping Students So They Can Go Back to Class**

*Presenters: Katherine S. Adams, PhD, Valdosta State University;  
Jennifer M. Branscome, PhD, Valdosta State University*

*Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary*

**Location: Room 303**

Students who are unable to effectively regulate emotions associated with anxiety and stress may have difficulty making it through the regular school day. This program describes emotional dysregulation and offers practical strategies to help students recognize, monitor, and manage their emotions in a healthy way. Easily implemented mindfulness and relaxation techniques are provided to help dysregulated students return to a calm state so that they can go back to class.

**3R’s of Counseling . . . Rebuild, Reform,  
Restorative Justice in Schools**

*Presenters: Sheketha Blankenship, PhD, LPC, NCC, Atlanta Public  
Schools; Tamila Jackson-Whitaker, Ed.S, Atlanta Public Schools*

*Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary*

**Location: Room 306**

Restorative justice is an emerging approach in school counseling. As an alternative to punitive methods, restorative justice represents an attempt to reform school discipline and improve relationships among stakeholders. The purpose of the presentation is to provide an overview of restorative justice in schools, benefits of restoring relationships that have been damaged, and implementation of restorative approaches to transform student behavior and build healthy school communities.

**Creating Meaningful and Sustainable  
Partnerships through Counseling Advisory**

*Presenter: Donna M. Jones, Sol C. Johnson High School*

*Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary*

**Location: Room 308**

Calling all Elementary, Middle and High School Counselors! Does your plate appear full? Does it seem as though there’s no room for another task? Of course it does! Creating a counseling advisory committee can assist your school counseling program in more ways than one. Having the ability to share ideas with professionals/stakeholders who possess a myriad of perspectives can be positively overwhelming and rewarding for your school to include teachers, students, parents and administrators alike.



# Wednesday Conference Schedule

## **Spreading Our Advocacy Seeds for Greater Impact**

*Presenters: Gail Smith, Retired; Jennifer Diaz, Gwinnett County Schools; Matthew Gambill, Capitol Hill Strategies*

Audience: All

### **Location: Room 309**

Advocating for our profession means actively and consistently promoting school counseling to all stakeholders in order to increase access to comprehensive school counseling programs for all students. This can sometimes seem to be an insurmountable task above and beyond our job descriptions. Come join us to learn what advocacy actually looks like and how to contribute at the local, community, state and national level. Legislative initiatives from the previous and the upcoming session will be discussed so that you can be informed about issues affecting our students. You will walk away from this session armed with the knowledge and confidence to be more involved and make a greater impact as a school counselor.

## **Cultivating Community by Teaching How to Love Your People: A Different Way to PBIS**

*Presenter: Rebecca Burkhart, Savannah Chatham Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent

### **Location: Room 310**

Could the culture at your school be improved? Do you want more teacher buy-in with your school counseling program? Have you ever thought “there’s got to be a better way to track behavior data?” Love Your People is way of implementing PBIS in a whole-child fashion, allowing everyone to embrace each other’s uniqueness. It’s a mindset shift, encouraging feedback in a kind and loving manner, teaching model behaviors to students and fostering collaboration in a more effective manner, uniting everyone, no matter their role at school.

## **Creating a Positive Climate: The School Counselor’s Role in Crisis Prevention and Intervention**

*Presenters: Angel Hall, VSU Graduate Student; Ciera McKinnon, VSU Graduate Student; Cameron Aurandt, VSU Graduate Student*

Audience: Elementary Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 312**

Have you been impacted by a crisis in your school during your time as a school counselor? Are you prepared for when a school crisis happens at your school? Today, we are seeing school crisis on the media more and more. As school counselors, we must know our roles in the prevention and intervention of crisis at our schools. In this presentation, we will discuss the creation of a crisis intervention plan and what types of interventions can be implemented following crisis. Participants will be given a checklist that can be used to evaluate their crisis plans at their school.

## **Supervision as a Developmental Relationship: Helping Supervisees Promote Self-Efficacy, Autonomy, Leadership, and Responsibility**

*Presenter: TeShaunda Hannor-Walker, Liberty University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 324**

Supervisors building a trusting relationship with supervisees is an important role of supervision. The Supervisor-supervisee relationship should be developmental, safe for self-exploration, and transformational (Johnson, Skinner, & Kaskow, 2014). Often supervisees participate in practicum and internship with personal and professional issues that can make supervising them a little more challenging. This workshop is designed to help supervisors better identify and work through supervisee confidence and competence issues without jeopardizing the supervisor-supervisee relationship.

## **How to Use Google in Your Comprehensive School Counseling Program**

*Presenters: Jessica Evans, Dr. Valerie Jackson, Melissa Smith, Ashley Allen, Traci Bennett, Holly Hamlin – Monroe County Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Ballroom A**

This session will show how counselors can use Google products to make all aspects of a comprehensive school counseling program easier to manage. Counselors from all grade spans will explain what products work best in their setting and how technology can aid in improving the student/counselor relationship.

## **Cultivation a Vertical Village**

*Presenter: Whitney Adams, Forsyth County Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Ballroom B**

This presentation will highlight how North Forsyth High School addresses academic, personal, social and emotional, as well as college and career needs of students through a comprehensive high school transition program. Information on transition activities, program structure, student leadership, and K-12 vertical alignment will be provided. This session is filled with strategies to increase community engagement, strengthen student leadership, and cultivate an environment that promotes positives connections amongst students, staff, parents, schools, and community stakeholders.

# Wednesday Conference Schedule

## **Breaking Down Barriers Impeding Academic Achievement by Identifying and Using Data**

*Presenter: Keli Carter, Atlanta Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Ballroom C**

If you're looking for more insight on how to identify and use data to improve academic achievement, this presentation is for you. This session will look at the three types of data with emphasis on why outcome data is so important to our profession and Redesigning School Counseling, an online system that provides counselors with the tools they need to develop a locally appropriate, data-driven and accountable school counseling program that promotes student success.

## **How GATRACS (Georgia Transfer Articulation Cooperative Services) Can Help You Provide Guidance to Dual Enrollment and AP Students**

*Presenter: Daphne Blackmon, Regents University*

Audience: Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor, Post-secondary/Admission

### **Location: Ballroom E**

How much time do you spend looking for the test scores a student needs to receive college credit for AP, IB, etc.? Are your dual enrollment students preparing for the next step after high school, planning toward a college degree? Do you want to be more effective and efficient in helping these students? GATRACS can help you provide the information needed to students helping them make the best decisions toward obtaining a college degree.

## **Engage Me!**

*Presenters: Teshia Dula, EdS; Rosemary Aschoff, EdS; Lisa Jacson; Marjorie Shans – Gwinnett Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle

### **Location: Room 313**

Do you find that students interact more with their phone or smart device than the lessons that you want to teach them? Do you want to engage students in Small Groups, Advisement, and Classroom Lessons? As Educators, we all know that hands on learning experiences are more likely to engage students and boost comprehension! Participants will leave Engage Me! with tools that will help spark student's critical thinking, encourage communication, develop collaboration, and ignite engagement!

## **Building a Culture of Goal-Setting and Academic Success**

*Presenters: Beth P. Mines, LPC, Wells Elementary School; Dr. Stacy Carr*

Audience: Elementary

### **Location: Magnolia A**

Ready-Set-GOAL! is an original program to teach and promote goal-setting toward academic achievement, and has been integral to our school culture for eight years. Recently, the program was at the center of a doctoral dissertation, and was specifically used to close a reading gap for third graders. The session will combine information about the program with original research and data about its benefits. Take aways include an outline of the program, lesson plans, and promotional suggestions.

## **#CHICAS: The Use of Participatory Action Research Methodology with Middle Schoolers to Cultivate Future Scholars**

*Presenter: Natalie Edirmanasinghe, Gwinnett County Public Schools*

Audience: Middle, Secondary Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Magnolia B**

Participatory Action Research (PAR) is a research method where those affected by the problem are the ones who conduct the research. It can be used to teach students how to investigate issues in their own community and use their voice for solutions. The audience will learn about the #CHICAS and how they use PAR to learn more about the needs of Latinas at their school. Benefits of PAR use with underserved populations will be discussed.

## **A Dose of Reality: How to Organize a School Reality Fair**

*Presenter: Diana Virgil, EdS, South Effingham Middle School*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Magnolia C**

Don't we all wish our students could have a "dose of reality" sometimes? The reality fair is an interactive event that allows students to make a career choice, have a starting salary based upon their current cumulative GPA, establish a budget, and pay for basic monthly expenses/wants as if they were an adult. Participants will learn how to establish their own fair to help boost career and academic development in their school.

### **1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Exhibits Open**

*Exhibit Hall A*

### **2:15 pm - 3:00 pm Newcomers Session**

*Ballroom D*

### **2:30 pm - 3:15 pm Spotlights on Exhibits and Meet and Greet with Candidates**

*Exhibit Hall A*

# Wednesday Conference Schedule

**3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**    **Opening Session with Jon Gordon “The Seed”**

**Agenda**

**Call to Order**

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

**Posting of Colors**

**National Anthem**

*Silver City Elementary School  
Choir*

**Recognition of our Titanium Sponsor**

*U.S. Army ROTC*

**Entertainment**

*Silver City Elementary School  
Choir / “This is Me!”*

**Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

**Elections**

*Tinisha Parker, Immediate Past  
President*

**Advocacy Update**

*Gail Smith, Jennifer Diaz,  
Matthew Gambill*

**Special Presentations**

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

**Service Project**

*Michelle Stevens, Service Project Chair*

**Introduction of Speaker**

*Sloane Molloy, Conference Co-  
Chair*

**Keynote Address**

*Jon Gordon*

**Closing Remarks**

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

**Announcements**



This presentation is the answer to the challenges faced by leaders of organizations across a variety of industries. How do you keep your people committed and passionate about the work they do and the organization they do it for? The research shows that people are most energized and engaged when they are using their strengths for a bigger purpose beyond themselves. Thus, in this thought provoking and engaging talk, Jon Gordon shares the significance of this research and the essential principles to help you, your team and organization work with more passion and purpose. If you are ready to plant yourself where you are, make a difference and inspire your colleagues/employees/customers with your performance then this talk is for you and your team.

Jon Gordon’s best-selling books and talks have inspired readers and audiences around the world. His principles have been put to the test by numerous Fortune 500 companies, professional and college sports teams, school districts, hospitals, and non-profits. He is the author of 15 books including 5 best-sellers: *The Energy Bus*, *The Carpenter*, *Training Camp*, *You Win in the Locker Room First* and *The Power of Positive Leadership*. Jon and his tips have been featured on *The Today Show*, CNN, CNBC, *The Golf Channel*, Fox and Friends and in numerous magazines and newspapers. His clients include The Los Angeles Dodgers, The Atlanta Falcons, Campbell Soup, Dell, Publix, Southwest Airlines, LA Clippers, Miami Heat, Pittsburgh Pirates, BB&T Bank, Clemson Football, Northwestern Mutual, Bayer, West Point Academy and more.

Jon is a graduate of Cornell University and holds a Masters in Teaching from Emory University. He and his training/consulting company are passionate about developing positive leaders, organizations and teams.

**5:30 pm - 6:30 pm**    **President’s Reception**

**7:30 pm - 9:30 pm**    **Optional Ticket Event  
Art Night with Macon  
Masterpieces** *(limited to the  
first 50 people who pre-register to attend)  
Grand Salon*



# GSCA Recognizes Our 21-30 Year Counselors

Alicia Adams-Dunn	Clayton County School District	Julie Jordan	Glynn Academy
Christy Armstrong	Duncan Creek Elementary School	Mary Leigh King	Fickett Elementary School
Rosemary Aschoff	Hull Middle School	Leslie Kollasch	Inman Elementary School
Charles Barnes	Wadsworth Magnet School for High Achievers	Michael Law	Valdosta High School
Judith Barrington	New Mountain Hill Elementary School	Kathy Lovett	Fitzgerald High School
Donna Barrow	Glynn Academy	Kimberly Mays	Dug Gap Elementary School
Jeff Bennett	Cherokee County School District	Shirley McCullough	Atlanta Public School District
Shaketha Blakenship	Grady High School	LaTonia McDaniels	Sarah Smith Elementary School
Andrea Bottchen	Putnam County Primary School	Lori McNease	Brantley County High School
Francene Breakfield	Rockdale County High School	Tabitha McRae	Dodge County High School
Jenni Briggs	Kemp Elementary School	Holly McShane	Habersham Central High School
Michele Brown	Knight Elementary School	Rod Metcalf	Woodstock Middle School
Sandra Brown	Rock Springs Elementary School	Claire Murphy	Sope Creek Elementary School
Geraldine Bryant	Dowell Elementary School	Lara Norris	Rutland High School
Susan Carman	North Hart Elementary School	Vivian Omari	Cedar Grove Middle School
Mignon Carter	East Coweta Middle School	LeAnn Owens	South Hall Middle School
Linda Charrette		Sally Page	Riverwood International Charter School
Julia Chibbaro		Maret Paschal	Gwinnett County School District
Rhonda Collins	Canby Lane Elementary School	Kelly Paurowski	Gwinnett County School District
Sheila Compitello	Mirror Lake Elementary School	Angela Perry	Benefield Elementary School
Tonya Corbett	Forsyth Central High School	Paulette Rameau	Carver High School (Muscogee)
Gregory Craig	Kennedy Road Middle School	Donna Ratliff	E.T. Booth Middle School
Stacey Cross	Lincoln Elem. Magnet School	Teresa Reigosa	South Forsyth High School
Shannon Crosslin		Mandy Ruddell	Cobb County School District-Ford
Amie Cumming	Newton County School District	Cindy Sabula	Taylor Road Middle School
Suzette Daniel	Baggett Elementary School	Teresa Sirmans	
Loretta Davis	Brumby Elementary School	Barbara Smith	DeKalb County School District
Beth DeLaPerriere	Hall County School District	Beverly Smith	Fort Valley Middle School
Beulah Evans	Center Elementary School	Catherine Stapleton	Harlem Middle School
Tracy Fields	Lost Mountain Middle School	Beverly Stewart	Bibb County Board of Education
Jennifer Frederick	Sope Creek Elementary	Renee Strickland	Wauka Mountain Elementary School
Ray Fussell	Atkinson County High School	Leslie Styles	
Machelle Garland	Jordan Hill Road Elementary School	Tami Summers	Fannin County Middle School
Claudette Gillespie	Hart County High School	Amy Taylor	Oak Hill Middle School
Tracey Grayson	Dekalb County School District	Sheryl Tennyson	Peach County School District
Mary Griner	Bethlehem Elementary School	Kimberly Tepker	Duluth High School
Maria Grovner	Atlanta Public Schools	Dianne Thompson	City Schools of Decatur
K. Ellen Hagan	Retired	Alice Gay Trantum	Brookwood Elementary School
Leslie Hamilton	Silver City Elementary School	Aundra Vaughn	Glynn Academy
Steven Harbin	Clayton County Alternative Virtual Academy	Elisa Vaught	Chapel Hill Elementary School (Douglas)
Glenda Hayes	Newton County School System	Angela Votsis	
Kristi Hess	Perry Middle School	Amie Walsh	Shiloh Middle School
Karen Hewatt	Fitzgerald High School	LaVerne Ware	Renfroe Middle School
Lisa Johnson	Lake City Elementary School	Jolli Weaver	Lithia Springs High School
Whigham		Corlissa Wilson	Bay Springs Middle School
Jennifer Jones	East Coweta High School	Karen Wilson	
Nancy Jones	Wesleyan School	Omar Wray	Douglas County School District
Tony Jones	Crawford Long Middle School	Robin Zorn	Mason Elementary School

# GSCA Recognizes Our 30-Plus Year Counselors

Terry Allen  
Sandra Armour  
Rose Brock  
Camille DeLucia  
Dianne Floyd  
Crystal Giddings  
Karen Griffith  
Patricia Harris

Annistown Elementary School  
Riverbend Elementary School  
  
Clark Atlanta University  
University of Georgia  
International Studies Elementary  
Charter School

Virginia Lacy  
Barbara Mahon  
Betty McBride  
Joanne Newby  
Gail Smith  
Martha Stephens  
Barbara Strickland  
Lena Travis  
Kimberly Wheeler

Trickum Middle School

Cobb County School District  
Terrell High School  
Retired  
DeKalb County School District  
Marietta Middle School

Wayne Huey  
Sherry Ingram

## 2018-2019 GSCA Service Project



When children receive a diagnosis of cancer, the entire family is impacted. In addition to the patient receiving treatment, the parents are stretched thin and siblings take a backseat. The additional stress of the financial impact leads to tension and discouragement.

Blue Skies is a ministry that offers weeklong beach retreats to lift give families a brief respite from the world of childhood cancer.

The mission of Blue Skies is allow families living through the challenges of pediatric cancer a time for the children who are sick will laugh and play and feel “normal” again; that siblings, who often compete with cancer, will feel cherished and get to have uninterrupted family fun; that moms and dads will grow strong and begin lifelong friendships with others through meeting with other parents to share their journey.

These domestic mission trips are staffed by compassionate volunteers who take care of daily chores such as cooking and cleaning while providing fun activities so that our guests can focus on each other and fun times together.

Like so many, we pray for the day when there is no more childhood cancer, but UNTIL THEN... there's Blue Skies.

For more information, please visit [www.blueskiesministries.org](http://www.blueskiesministries.org)

# Thursday, November 8

## Agenda at a Glance

**7:00 am – 8:00 am**

Army Boot Camp

**7:30 am - 8:30 am**

Continental Breakfast

**8:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Registration Desk Hours

**8:30 am – 9:45 am**

Concurrent Sessions II

**8:30 am – 4:00 pm**

Exhibit Hall Hours

**10:00 am – 11:00 am**

Membership Assembly

**11:15 am – 12:30 pm**

Concurrent Sessions III

**12:30 pm – 1:30 pm**

Lunch Break on Your Own

**1:30 pm – 2:45 pm**

Concurrent Sessions IV

**2:45 pm – 3:30 pm**

Spotlight on Exhibits

Meet and Greet the Candidates

**3:30 pm – 4:45 pm**

Concurrent Sessions V

**5:30 pm – 7:00 pm**

Leadership Team and PPAC Dinner (*invitation only*)

**9:00 pm – 11:00 pm**

PROBE Party (*Off-Site Event / Transportation Provided / Leaving from the Marriott lobby*)



**7:00 am - 8:00 am**    **Army Boot Camp**  
*Brought to you by the Army ROTC*  
**Meet in the Hotel Lobby**

**7:30 am - 8:30 am**    **Continental Breakfast**  
*Exhibit Hall A*

**8:00 am - 4:00 pm**    **Registration Desk Open**  
*Exhibit Hall A*

**8:00 am - 4:00 pm**    **Exhibit Hall Open**  
*Exhibit Hall A*

**8:30 am – 9:45 am**  
**Concurrent Sessions II**

**Whatever It Takes: Wrap Around Services for Student Success**

*Presenters: Dianne Acuna Thompson, City Schools of Decatur; Tamika Mickens, EdS, City Schools of Decatur; Raquel Jones M.Ed., City Schools of Decatur; Dr. Ken Jackson, Decatur HS, UGA*

Audience: All

**Location: Ballroom A**

At Decatur HS our mindset is Whatever It Takes! Come learn how The Decatur Student Center was created by using data and student voice to identify & meet student needs beyond the classroom through community collaboration, university partnerships and innovative programming to provide wrap around services for all students.

**Data, Data, Data! Making Data Informed Decisions for Your School Counseling Program Using Technology Tools**

*Presenter: Nichol Shelton Webb, Pates Creek Elementary*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

**Location: Ballroom B**

Are you getting questions about the effectiveness of your school counseling program? Whether you are analyzing process and/or perception data, utilizing technology tools can be a great asset to any school counselor. If you are looking for tools that help you engage students, clarify your role, improve your services offered to students, and track their individual achievement, you're in luck! If you can't wait to be presented with tools to help you work more efficiently and provide you with immediate data, then join this session and get ready to make data-informed decisions about your school counseling program!

**Black Students Matter: Changing the Narrative**

*Presenter: Dr. Cedric Cooks, LPC, NCC, NCSC – Gwinnett County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

**Location: Ballroom C**

We have read and heard the grim statistics that surround the educational experience of African American students, particularly that of males. The achievement gap that continues to exist among African American students has created a sense of urgency among educators to incorporate social justice principles into their everyday practice as a means to eradicate educational inequalities. Changing the educational narrative of African American students requires increased cultural competence, lowered discipline infractions and family/community involvement.

**Tips for Supporting Undocumented Students Through the High School to Post-Secondary Process**

*Presenters: Dr. Tamika Hibbert, Atlanta Public Schools; Keala Edwards-Cooper, Atlanta Public Schools*

Audience: Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor; Post-secondary/Admissions

**Location: Ballroom DE**

The goal of this session is to provide information to Professional School Counselors, Counselor Educators, Supervisors, Counseling Students, College Advisors and Educators concerning the various strategies that can be applied to assist undocumented high school students through the post-secondary process. Participants will receive information regarding the associated ethical approaches and legal policies.

**Motivational Interviewing (MI): A Beneficial Skill for School Counselors**

*Presenters: Dr. Robert Rice, Georgia State University; Navina Vemuri, Fulton County Public Schools; Sarah Connelly, Cobb County Public Schools; Alan Pendrick, Forsyth County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

**Location: Grand Salon**

Motivational Interviewing (MI): A Beneficial Skill for School Counselors. In this session, attendees will discover the benefits of Motivational Interviewing (MI) applications for school counselors who face resistant students, ambivalent parents and challenging teachers. MI skills for supporting positive change will be exhibited in this experiential presentation. Presenters will explain aspects of MI, demonstrate MI in action, and discuss effective usage in the school setting. Resources for using and learning MI will be provided.

**Under Pressure**

*Presenter: Laura Spencer LPC, Gwinnett County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

**Location: Magnolia A**

How much is too much and what can we as counselors

# Thursday Conference Schedule

do to support our students and parents? Join Ivy Creek Elementary School Counselors and former Mill Creek High School student/current UGA student as we delve into the varying ways students from elementary through college face pressures and what we as professional counselors can do to help.

## **Standards and Guidelines for Georgia's Work-Based Learning Programs**

*Presenter: Dwayne Hobbs, Georgia Department of Education*

Audience: Secondary

### **Location: Magnolia B**

This session is designed for high school counselors who want to understand the standards, guidelines, operating procedures, and requirements for the WBL program. Successes will be shared along with statistics and current challenges. Find out how you can help make the program in your school be the best it can be.

## **Growing Your College Going Culture: Understanding the 21st Century College Admission Climate**

*Presenters: Christy Conley, Oconee County Public Schools; Brandi Smith, Marietta Public Schools*

Audience: Secondary, Post-secondary/Admissions

### **Location: Magnolia CD**

This will be an interactive session that will provide audience members with perspectives and advice from counselors in a public high school setting and college admission representatives. The discussion will focus on college admissions in the 21st century. Attendees will walk away with tangible "takeaways" that can be implemented in their school setting and craft their best practices for the college admissions process.

## **A Red Carpet Walk in the Academic, P/S and Career Domains**

*Presenters: Merrill Baxley, Jennifer Diaz, Ginny Wages, Robin Zorn – Gwinnett County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle

### **Location: Room 303**

You have analyzed your school's data, created SMART goals, and presented them to your stakeholders, now what? This practical, engaging, and FUN session will feature activities, children's literature, props, and ideas to support your program goals in the three domains. Come learn about Mindfulness, STEM and Project Based Learning Activities, Academic Coaching, Study Skills, Attendance Incentives, Career Weeks, PBIS, and more. These ideas can be used in small groups, core curriculum lessons, or developed into your school counseling comprehensive program.

## **Creating Connections: A School-Wide Initiative to Connect and Engage All Students**

*Presenter: Laura Ross, Gwinnett County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 306**

As educators we know that connecting with students is essential to their overall success. Research and literature supports the importance of school connectedness. So, how do we make these connections with all students? Discover how one staff uses a school-wide initiative of simple strategies, support programs, and intentional conversations to focus on making teacher-student connections and engaging ALL students.

## **The Impact of Poverty on Student Achievement & Steps to Overcome Barriers**

*Presenter: Sarah Kitchens, Liberty University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 308**

This presentation focuses on the impact of poverty on student achievement and steps school counselors can take to help student's living in poverty to overcome barriers.

## **BRIDGE-ing the Bill with YouScience (Part 1 of 2)**

*Presenters: Myesha Davis, Cobb County Public Schools; Dawn Mann, Georgia Department of Education*

Audience: Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 309**

Senate Bill 401 requires that all students in grades eight through twelve take an aptitude assessment. Participants will learn how YouScience satisfies the career interest and career aptitude requirements of the BRIDGE Bill. Additionally, presenters will cover available reports, YouScience implementation strategies, and options to leverage the YouScience results.

## **My Mind Matters: Implementing Programming to "Stop the Stigma and Start the Conversation"**

*Presenter: Tonya Dedeaux, Woodward Academy, and McKenzie Lawson, Woodward Academy*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 310**

School counselors recognize that there is often a stigma that surrounds mental health issues as well as how that stigma is a hindrance to so many students as they seek support and assistance. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about ways to "stop

# Thursday Conference Schedule

the stigma and start the conversation” about mental health awareness through student-lead, school-wide programming.

## **Best Practices for Elementary to Middle School Small Group Transition Work**

*Presenter: Ruth Blackstock, Mercer University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle

### **Location: Room 312**

Transition from one level of school to another is a critical time for all students but especially those who are at risk for one reason or another. Small groups can help address this anxiety by methodically examining the different challenges brought by the change, the similarities in education that will continue, and the skills that will help them most to embrace the change and growth.

## **Mindfulness with Judeo-Christian Student Populations**

*Presenter: Richard Cleveland, PhD, LPC, NCC, ACS – Georgia Southern University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 324**

Despite research regarding clinical effectiveness and increased societal acceptance, students adhering to a Judeo-Christian worldview may be hesitant to engage in mindfulness-based interventions due to perceptions of mindfulness as a strictly Buddhist practice. This session explores a secularized conceptualization of mindfulness and then incorporates a Judeo-Christian framework for framing mindfulness-based interventions.

10:00 am - 11:00 am Membership Assembly  
*Ballroom A*

### **Agenda**

Call to Order

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

Voting Procedures

*Sloane Molloy, Parliamentarian*

Approval of Agenda

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

Approval of the 2017  
Membership Assembly Minutes

*Kathryn Sadowski, Secretary*

Treasurer’s Report & 2018-2019 Budget

*Catherine Roberts, Treasurer*

Nominations and Elections

*Tinisha Parker, Immediate Past President*

Discussion of Conference Sites  
& Ways to Enhance Conference

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

Advocacy and Public Policy

*Gail Smith & Jennifer Diaz, Advocacy Co-Chairs*

## **GSCA Elections Timeline:**

As there are no contested races in this year’s election, voting on the slate of candidates will be conducted at Membership Assembly.



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## Membership Assembly Rules:

The Membership Assembly shall be composed of all eligible voting members present at annual conference business meeting. The Membership Assembly is the highest legislative body of the Association and its functions shall be as follows:

- To initiate action governing the programs and policies of the Association
- To take action on recommendations from the Governing Board
- To act on reports of the standing committees, special committees, and others who are responsible to the Membership Assembly
- To exercise other functions which are not in conflict with the Bylaws as may be necessary or desirable in the best interest of the Association

**NOTE: ANY NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE 2018 MEMBERSHIP ASSEMBLY MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO PRESIDENT LESLIE HAMILTON PRIOR TO MEMBERSHIP ASSEMBLY.**

Members wishing to submit new business may leave a copy explaining their business at the GSCA Registration Desk addressed to President Leslie Hamilton no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 7, 2018.

Elections: Voting for the 2019-2020 elected officials will be done online via the GSCA web site at [www.gaschoolcounselor.org](http://www.gaschoolcounselor.org). Members will receive an email with additional information on casting their ballot. You will be allowed to cast only one ballot. Let your voice be heard!

### **11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions III**

#### **School Counselor & Mental Health Provider Collaboration**

*Presenters: Alexandra Huguelet, Cobb County Public Schools; Leigh Gobel, Pathways Transition Programs*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent

#### **Location: Ballroom A**

Our students have increasing mental health needs and as school counselors, we cannot do it all on our own. The need for collaboration is immense. Come learn how one school counselor joined forces with an outside mental health provider to meet student mental health needs during the school day. The school counselor and outside therapist will present how they built a one-on-one counseling program to increase students served from 2 to 125 – a 6,150% increase – in just two years.

#### **Preparing for Careers of the Future: School Counselors Lead the Way!**

*Presenters: Angela Cleveland, National Center for Women & Information Technology; Dr. Catherine Roberts, Clayton County*

*Public Schools; Christy Conley, Oconee County Public Schools; Sean Myers*

Audience: All

#### **Location: Ballroom B**

Georgia has nearly 21,182 open computing jobs (4.2x the state average demand rate); more than 70% of STEM careers require computer science. The arts, media and creative services—and even many middle-skills jobs—now run on computer science! The Information Age is driving rapid changes that make computer science literacy essential for every student. You are uniquely positioned to build awareness of pathways where computer science is the key to unlocking a world of opportunities.

#### **Diversity Consciousness: Are you Awake?**

*Presenter: Chon Hester, Henry County Public Schools*

Audience: All

#### **Location: Ballroom C**

Are you awake? Are you fully consciousness regarding diversity? This session will provide interactive strategies, skills building, and dynamic activities to increase attendees' diversity consciousness. Attendees will enhance their knowledge of how to examine and completely

# Thursday Conference Schedule

understand the relationship between success and diversity consciousness. This session will enhance the attendees' knowledge of building relationships and understanding, respecting, and valuing diversity.

## **Mental Health Curriculums in the School Setting**

*Presenters: Lauren Hodges, Savannah Arts Academy; Dr. Dawn Hadley, Savannah Arts Academy*

Audience: Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Ballroom DE**

Counselors want to learn the impact of Mental Health Curriculums in the school setting on mental health knowledge and attitudes towards mental health issues. Academic and social pressures have caused a rise in mental health issues and highlight the need to teach mental health awareness at the high school level introducing techniques to facilitate the development of social-emotional wellness, such as stress management and resilience.

## **Restorative Practice: A Counselor's Point of View**

*Presenters: Moya Pope, MEd, NCC, Jefferson County Public Schools; Monica Pace, EdS*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent; Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Grand Salon**

The International Institute for Restorative Practices has defined Restorative Practice as "an emerging social science that studies how to strengthen relationships between individuals as well as social connections within communities". As counselors, we already know the importance of fostering positive, healthy school climates and helping students learn from their mistakes. This session will give counselors tools to assist their teachers and parents learn more about Restorative Practice and use it in their classrooms and homes.

## **Novice School Counselor Level of Self-Efficacy in Child Abuse Reporting**

*Presenters: Lacey Ricks, University of West Georgia; Malti Tuttle, Auburn University; Christy Land, University of West Georgia; Julia Chibbaro, University of West Georgia*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/supervisor

### **Location: Magnolia A**

The process of child abuse reporting can be scary, confusing, and intimidating for novice school counselors; especially since reporting procedure vary by school district and the amount of training provided can be limited. This research study looks at novice school counselors' experiences with child abuse reporting in the southeastern

United States and provides recommendations for existing school counselors and policy changes.

## **High Schools and Technical Colleges; Partnering Together for Future Fairs**

*Presenters: Christi A. Runyan, Harrison County Public Schools; Christy McBride, Bremen City Schools; D'Lanna Mason, YouScience*

Audience: Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor, Post-secondary/Admissions

### **Location: Magnolia B**

Learn how two high schools are using YouScience with their students, best practices for implementation and an update on the launch of Snapshot, the middle school assessment for YouScience. Meeting BRIDGE Bill with YouScience will also be discussed.

### **GSCA MISSION STATEMENT**

The Georgia School Counselor Association represents, promotes, and enhances professional school counseling in Georgia to create improved outcomes for all students.

### **GSCA BELIEF STATEMENTS**

*As members of GSCA, we believe:*

- All students, grades K – 12, deserve access to school counseling services
- The nature and substance of school counseling programs should be comprehensive, developmental, and continuous
- On-going enhancement of school counseling skills and knowledge to benefit children is essential
- All people have value and deserve respect and dignity
- Counseling services provided to students and schools should be data driven with appropriate accountability components
- All students should be taught skills that lead to developing competencies in the three areas of academic, career, and social.

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## **Planting the Seeds of Healthy Balance: A Presentation on Stress and Burnout for School Counselors to Present to Teachers at Their Schools**

*Presenters: Lee Grimes, Valdosta State University; Sasha Quarles, Liberty County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Magnolia CD**

School counselors are charged ethically with monitoring their level of stress to remain competent in the face of burnout. School counselors also are leaders in their schools and can be key players in building their teaching colleagues' awareness of stress and potential burnout. Attendees to this session will learn about teacher burnout and ways that school counselors can support teachers towards healthy balance. All attendees will receive the presentation used for presentation at their schools.

## **Education Rights 101**

*Presenter: Tim Schwartz*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 303**

An experienced special education attorney provides an overview of special education law, including the new Supreme Court decision in Endrew F. Using example conversations, this presentation will break down how federal law applies in common situations, including evaluation, plan drafting, school discipline, and least restrictive environment. In short, this presentation will provide you a checklist on what it takes for special education services to be procedurally and substantively compliant with the law.

## **What is Tapping & How Can I Use it to Help My Student Regulate Their Emotions**

*Presenters: Elizabeth Butler, Gwinnett Public Schools; Melissa Olson LCSW*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary; Independent; Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 306**

EFT Tapping is a simple, self-administered method of emotional regulation. Tapping is taught at all levels, from simple playful versions for young children, to more sophisticated versions for adults. Research supports Tapping's effectiveness for anxiety, phobia, trauma, physical discomfort and more. Use Tapping to help your students self-soothe, to help yourself with self-care, and to share with anyone who needs help calming, containing or regulating their emotions. You will leave this session with the skills to use Tapping right away!

## **Emotional Abuse: Advocating for the Voiceless Student**

*Presenters: L. Nicole Ayers, Mercer University; Karen D. Rowland, PhD, LPC, NCC, Mercer University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle

### **Location: Room 308**

The emotional abuse and neglect of children has profound impacts on school success and wellbeing across the lifespan. This session will offer suggestions for advocating for voiceless children in your school who may be impacted by emotional abuse. School counselors are poised to assist in ensuring positive outcomes for children who are abused. Participants will gain a holistic knowledge of the academic implications of emotional abuse, warning signs, and tools to advocate for students.

## **BRIDGE-ing the Bill with YouScience (Part 2 of 2)**

*Presenters: Myesha Davis, Cobb County Public Schools; Dawn Mann, Georgia Department of Education*

Audience: Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 309**

Senate Bill 401 requires that all students in grades eight through twelve take an aptitude assessment. Participants will learn how YouScience satisfies the career interest and career aptitude requirements of the BRIDGE Bill. Additionally, presenters will cover available reports, YouScience implementation strategies, and options to leverage the YouScience results.

## **Handling Crucial Conversations Through Effective Communication**

*Presenter: Lynne Watts, Ed.S*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 310**

Learn about personality style and communication that empowers counselors, staff and parents to speak a common language encouraging leadership traits, working in their strengths and growth mindset. DISCover your own personality style and how to create a winning environment at your school. Recognize the secret fuel and communication tips for personality. This session is highly interactive and fun! Includes a template for re-delivering a similar program at your school.

## **The Professional School Counselor as an Active Participant of the Response to Intervention (RTI) Process**

*Presenter: Dr. Annette H. Patmon, Muscogee County School District*

Audience: Elementary Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 312**

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Professional School Counselors work collaboratively with many stakeholders to provide a Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) for at-risk students. Response to Intervention (RTI) is a tiered system of support that identifies and assists students at-risk for school failure. This session will explore the role of the professional school counselor as an active participant of the RTI process.

## **Education Deserts**

**Presenter: Randy Blackmon, Ed.D, University System of Georgia**

Audience: Secondary

**Location: Room 324**

Online dual enrollment offers opportunity for students who cannot get to a campus for face-to-face courses. University System of Georgia eCore provides core college courses available through 21 public colleges and universities in Georgia. Last year over 2,500 eCore courses were taken for dual credit with a historical ABC rate of 91% or 9 out of 10 students earning college credits. Tuition is funded by Georgia Dual Enrollment program.

**12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch On Your Own**

**1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
Concurrent Sessions IV**

## **Implementation of Peer Mediator Programs: An Intervention to Promote Emotional Intelligence**

*Presenter: Benton, Boone*

Audience:

**Location: Ballroom A**

Conflict is a natural part of life for all people. Conflict resolution skills learned through peer mediation is a powerful and effective way to promote and increase emotional intelligence among middle school and high school students – a social/emotional period of time when these skills are needed the most! This presentation will give YOU the tools to develop a peer mediation program, train your student mediators, implement the intervention, and track program effectiveness.

## **Fostering Bounce in Students**

*Presenter: Scarlett C. Brown, Valdosta City Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

**Location: Ballroom B**

Many students are exposed to traumatic events that often affect learning and/or behavior. More information and specialized strategies are needed to meet the needs of students in today's schools. This session will provide an

overview of the impact of trauma on development, specifically on the brain and learning. In addition, counselors will be equipped with help and hope for fostering bounce and learn strategies to equip students with the skills to succeed.

## **A Transgender Student Case Study: Creating Support Systems for a School Community**

*Presenters: Kirstin Moffet, The Walker School; Megan Nellen, Confluence Educational Consulting, LLC*

Audience: Elementary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

**Location: Ballroom C**

Participants will hear how an elementary school leadership team in an independent school in Cobb County worked alongside a family with a transgender child and developed a structure to serve transgender children in the school community. Kristin Moffett and Megan Nellen will address the language created, strategies used, and educational opportunities provided to assist the student (and members of the student/parent/teacher/community) as our preschool student transitioned from a boy to living life as a girl.

## **The College Board: Seven Immediate Ways to Initiate Opportunities for Georgia Students**

**Presenter: Brandi Sabb, The College Board**

Audience: Secondary

**Location: Ballroom DE**

School counselors play a vital role in both helping students make the connection between academic success and postsecondary planning as well as ensuring school success towards the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). In this session, participants will explore best practices and resources to maximize college and career readiness through the latest innovations and changes to the SAT Suite of Assessments (SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10 and PSAT 8/9).

## **Getting to the Heart of the Matter: How to get Students to Lower Their Guard and Be Real About What is Keeping Them From Success**

*Presenters: Jennifer Bywaters, Georgia Connections Academy; Sara Tran, Georgia Connections Academy*

Audience: Secondary, Independent

Location: Grand Salon

Struggling students are often difficult to reach. They often appear lazy, defiant, and defensive when they are actually frustrated, overwhelmed, and feeling helpless, unintelligent, and alone. They build walls to hide the real issues. We will discuss how to include teachers, administrators and parents to break through these walls



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and help them overcome their struggles. You will leave with handouts with strategies to implement in your school.

## **Combating Burnout in Rural School Counselors**

*Presenters: Crystal Holt, Grady County Public Schools; Brittany DePlato, Grady County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Magnolia A**

Rural school counselors face many challenges due to their varying roles, responsibilities, and geographical locations. However, school counselors also have the unique opportunity to be change agents in their schools and communities. One factor that must be addressed in order to see the desired success and advocacy is combating the potential for burnout in rural school counselors. Come hear some strategies, suggestions, struggles, and successes!

## **Career Leadership Begins in Elementary School**

*Presenters: Lakisha Bonner, Fayette County Public Schools; Maria Sherrod, Fayette County Public Schools; Amanda McCann, Striven Media, LLC*

Audience: Elementary, Middle

### **Location: Magnolia B**

In elementary school students begin to adopt beliefs about themselves that can define their education and experiences. During those years, there is a huge opportunity to help children and parents become more aware of what can be accomplished at an early age to help a child become prepared for the real world because they are the leaders for tomorrow. Therefore, it is critically important to help our leaders recognize their potential as early as possible.

## **Using the Georgia Career Information System (GCIS) Reports, Tracking, and Counselor Companion**

*Presenter: Markita Grant, Georgia State University*

Audience: Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Magnolia CD**

Attend this session to learn about the resources available within the Georgia Career Information System (GCIS) and GCIS administration tools. GCIS is a college and career-readiness online program. GCIS provides current, comprehensive information and is proud to be a statewide resource managed by the Georgia Career Information Center at Georgia State University. GCIS is available to EVERY public middle and high school in the state of Georgia at no cost.

## **Conflict Resolution: Methods to Successfully Resolve Conflict with Students, teachers, and Parents**

*Presenters Ashley Chennault, Lisa Miller, Grace Pniewski, Chasity Williams – Centennial Academy*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 303**

Do your students struggle to mediate conflict before it escalates? Do you need more tools in your toolbox to mediate conflicts with colleagues and parents? If so, join us in learning about specific methods to proactively minimize conflict before it becomes problematic and reactively manage existing conflict in a positive and effective way.

## **Boys to Men: Counseling Adolescent Males in 21st Century Schools**

*Presenters: Michael Keim, University of West Georgia; Julie Chibbaro, University of West Georgia*

Audience Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 306**

Today adolescent male students face additional challenges on the road to adulthood than previous generations, such as internet technology use/abuse. Based on current research and practical experience in both public and all-male private school settings, this presentation will identify major developmental challenges, present effective counseling approaches, and discuss strategies in small groups to promote healthy growth of male students.

## **Growing in Coping Skills . . . Managing Student Stress & Anxiety**

*Presenter: Barbara Truluck, M.Ed, NCC, Cobb County Public Schools*

Audience: Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 308**

The impact of the stress and anxiety epidemic among students is felt in all areas of the school experience. It interferes with learning for students who struggle with staying in class while feeling highly stressed. This small group responsive intervention helps students who were experiencing high stress levels and school anxiety. The purpose is to work with students who need extra support to acquire skills necessary to reduce anxiety and help build resiliency.

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## **How to Bridge Data and Technology in Your Counseling Program for the 21st Century**

*Presenter: Fabion Vicks, Bibb County School District*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 309**

The job of a professional school counselor has evolved over the last 10 years to where we are a proactive position. Our position is looked at as a person who stands in the gap for students with needs assessment data & integration within the three domains. Professional school counselors should have the tools to integrate various forms into their comprehensive program to help meet the needs of students more effectively.

## **Snap School Counseling: Students in the Age of Social Media**

*Presenter: Dr. Karen D. Rowland, Mercer University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 310**

Social networking is constantly evolving. With real-time photo and video sharing becoming the big trend that school age students are constantly using. Students are using the virtual world to communicate with one another through Snapchat, Instagram, WhatsApp, Tumblr, Musical.ly, to name a few. This workshop will explore the popular sites that today's students are flocking to, the reasons for doing so, and how school counselors can be prepared to effectively work with students who use or misuse social media.

## **Planting Seeds for Our Future School Counselors**

*Presenter: Cameron Aurandt, Valdosta State University*

Audience: Graduate Students, Independent, Post-secondary/Admissions

### **Location: Room 312**

You are reaching the end of your master's program with high hopes for what the future has to offer. You are ready to be a school counselor but what do you do next? What will it be like during your first year as a school counselor on your own? This session will provide graduate students with the opportunity to ask a panel of school counselors about the application process, hiring process, and what to expect in their first couple of years as a school counselor. Graduate students will also be given the chance to talk with other students about their experiences as they begin their journey as a school counselor.

## **Bring Back the Fun**

*Presenters: Jenni Briggs, Cobb County Public Schools; Michelle Stevens, Cobb County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary

### **Location: Room 324**

Are you tired of the same old, same old lessons? "Uh oh! I have group today!" Does this sound familiar? Do you want to bring some excitement to your school counseling program? Then, we have some ideas to share with you! We will present a handful of engaging core curriculum lessons, some creative as well as productive small group ideas, and a few other fresh components to take your program from "ho-hum" to "SO-FUN!"

## **2:30 pm - 3:15 pm     Spotlights on Exhibits and Meet and Greet with Candidates**

*Exhibit Hall A*

## **3:30 p.m., - 4:45 p.m. Concurrent Sessions V**

## **A K-12 Approach to College and Career Readiness**

*Presenters: Maria Grovner, Atlanta Public Schools; Sonya Wright, Atlanta Public Schools; Rebecca Ginsberg, Atlanta Public Schools; Rachel Kaney, Drew Charter School; Anita Ragland, Atlanta Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Ballroom A**

School counselors have a vital role regarding college and career readiness. Come on a college and career journey with the school counselors in Atlanta Public Schools to learn about their approach in implementing a comprehensive K-12 college and career plan, with a seamless transition from level to level. Counselors from all levels will present information and resources on how their efforts have helped meet the district's mission of every student graduating college and career ready.

## **From Chaos to Calm . . . A Roadmap to Self-Regulation**

*Presenters Rhonda K. Harris, LMSW; Jessica M. Thompson, Ed.S*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Ballroom B**

Behavior is the way our students talk to us. Within the school setting we have been taught to look at behavior as attention seeking, escaping or manipulation. In this presentation, we will dig deeper and examine an

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innovative approach based on a new understanding of the brain. We will share theories, practices and frameworks that best facilitate how to implement interventions within a three-tiered model.

## **Growing a Garden of Graduates – How One School Raised Their Graduation Rate by 22% in Seven Years**

*Presenters: Amy Short, Fulton County Schools; Lauren Butler, Fulton County Schools*

Audience: Secondary

Location: Ballroom C

Graduation rates are always in the news but what programs happen behind the scenes to positively impact scores? Come learn how 1 high school raised their graduation rate to over 90% by effectively implementing programs for student success. Participants will walk away with resources for improving their school's graduation rate, including program specific details, resources for better leveraging school personnel support, how school counselors can directly impact student achievement, and tips for advocating with administration.

## **The Scholarship Quest**

*Presenter: Lauren Peavler, Discover Student Loans*

Audience: Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Ballroom DE**

During this presentation, attendees will learn about college funding resources, such as scholarships, grants, and other forms of financial aid. The presentation will help keep high school counselors invested in the process of supporting their student's scholarship initiatives. In addition, the presentation will also inform counselors on how to encourage students to build and personalize a Scholarship Portfolio and turn it into their own strategic marketing tool.

## **Cultivating a Caring Culture**

*Presenters: Dr. Natalie Looney, Kimberly Blackshear, Pam Griswell, Yunilda Nunez*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent

### **Location: Grand Salon**

Counselors have the ability to be change agents in their schools. They can help facilitate a caring culture where students, faculty, and families feel they are valued members of the school community. This session will explore how counselors can leverage their knowledge and expertise of ASCA Mindsets and emotional intelligence to help facilitate a positive culture. Participants will use a culture framework to examine and establish best practices for their school setting.

## **More Than Just a Powerpoint: Incorporating Engaging Technology Tools in High School Core Curriculum Lessons**

*Presenter: Crystal Jordan, M.Ed, NCC, Gwinnett County Public Schools*

Audience: Secondary

### **Location: Magnolia A**

From Kahoot and Poll Everywhere to Padlet and Remind, attendees will walk away with ways to incorporate teen friendly technology into their core curriculum lessons for a more engaging and impactful session. Live demonstrations of the ease of use will take place.

## **Academic Student Led Teams and School Counselors: Taking Conferences to the Next Level**

*Presenters: Jennifer Collins, Forsyth County Public Schools; Debbie Smith, Forsyth County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary

### **Location: Magnolia B**

Academic Student Led Teams are a great way for students to show leadership and ownership of their learning. School Counselors are an essential part of students' success. Learn how an elementary school and school counselor took Parent/Teacher Conferences to the next level through social emotional strategies, lessons, and goals. Attendees will learn about the ASLT process and the counselor's role. They will also receive lesson ideas and examples to take with them.

## **Learning to be a Leader: Lessons that Empower Students**

*Presenters: Lynne Watts, Wyatt Wonder Dog Series*

Audience: Elementary

### **Location: Magnolia CD**

Every student can develop their leadership qualities. Through this interactive training, learn a series of lessons that incorporate the Seven Leadership Traits identified by Stephen Covey. For each leadership trait a sample lesson plan, books to use, plans for evaluation and follow-up as well as activities to use will be included.

## **What Does it Mean to Advocate for LGBT+ Students in an Educational Setting?**

*Presenters: Stefanie Hassing, Augusta University; Denise Lenares-Soloman, Ph.D, Augusta University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 303**

This presentation is aimed to provide school personnel and educators information regarding the increased risks and needs for the LGBT+ population between the ages of 10-19 and how to address them. These include

# Thursday Conference Schedule

suicide awareness and prevention, drug use, Safe Zone environment training, advocacy steps that can be done within the classroom and the school, as well as state laws and regulations regarding sexual orientation protections called “safe schools laws”.

## **Reinforcing Executive Functioning Skills as a Means of Increasing Academic Achievement**

*Presenter: Andre Prospere, Gwinnett County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 306**

Applying executive functioning skills is a viable means of developing strong character traits in students. It also supports a holistic goal of overall achievement. This presentation will focus on how introducing and reinforcing these skills in P12 students through a group counseling intervention can help bolster academic achievement. Handouts containing more specific information will be provided.

## **College Admission Testing – What Counselors Need to Know**

*Presenter: Patty Montague, Marist School*

Audience: Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 308**

Counselors are always looking for creative and free ways to support students and families in the college admissions process. With testing being important both for admission and for financial aid and scholarships, finding free tools that can help students prepare and boost their scores are important. This session will highlight the similarities and differences between the ACT and SAT, and provide resources that counselors can share with students.

## **Access, Progress, Complete! USG Resources and Initiatives for Student Success**

*Presenter: Sarah Wenham, University System of Georgia*

Audience: Secondary, Counselor Educator/Supervisor, Post-secondary/Admissions

### **Location: Room 309**

Researching postsecondary opportunities can be an overwhelming task for some high school students. School counselors play a crucial role in helping students understand and navigate their options. Join this session to learn more about the University System of Georgia (USG) and the resources available to help students make informed choices. This session will also highlight some of the exciting and innovative USG initiatives that support student success and completion as they begin their postsecondary experience.

## **Department of Juvenile Justice School System – Building a Better Future**

*Presenter: Zane Shelfer, EdS, LPC, NCC, NCSS*

Audience: Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 310**

If you have ever wondered what happens when a student enters the Department of Juvenile Justice School System, this presentation is for you. Come learn how the Department of Juvenile Justice School System is working to build a better future for students while they are enrolled. An overview of the agency and school system will be provided. In addition, information about programs, graduation, reentry, and transition into and out of the system will be discussed.

## **Junior College and Career Project**

*Presenters: Hope Huey, Fayette County Public Schools; LeeAnn Bleknaf*

Audience: Secondary

### **Location: Room 312**

A complete five day lesson plan targeting the Bridge Bill requirement for 11th graders. Our presentation will cover career researching, college researching, college application process, college admissions essay, academic resume and documentation used for the Bridge Bill requirement. We will be using Naviance as our tool for research. We also use an internet program called “Blackboard” to provide students with needed documents or information and we also make use of the Google Drive and Forms.

## **Incorporating Community Languages in the School Counseling Program**

*Presenters: Christina Cotsakis Cordon, Jackson County School System; Morgan Zwicker Jones, Clarke County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent

### **Location: Room 324**

Have you ever wanted to include languages other than English in your counseling program, but were unsure how? This session will discuss how school counselors can identify languages present in the school community and intentionally incorporate these languages into the school counseling program in both dual-language immersion (DLI) and traditional classrooms, even if the counselor does not speak each language.

## **5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Leadership Team / PPAC Dinner**

*(Invitation Only)*

Magnolia CD



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# PROBE

Party

Transportation Provided:

Meet in front of the  
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Compliments of:

Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority

Thursday, November 8, 2018

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

*transportation starting at 8:45 pm*

Piedmont Brewery and Kitchen

Macon, GA

Dance to the Sounds from



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& KITCHEN**

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# Friday, November 9

## Agenda at a Glance

**7:00 am – 8:00 am**

Wake Up with Yoga

**8:00 am – 9:00 am**

Registration Desk Hours

**8:30 am - 10:30 am**

Exhibit Hall Open

**8:30 am – 9:45 am**

Concurrent Sessions VI

**9:00 am - 1:30 pm**

Information Desk and CEU / PLU Drop Off

**10:00 am – 11:00 am**

Region Networking and Education Sessions

**11:15 am – 1:30 pm**

Awards Luncheon and Closing Session and Panel with Ellen Kahn

# Friday Conference Schedule

7:00 am - 7:30 am

**Wake Up with Yoga**  
*Magnolia D*

8:00 am - 9:00 am

**Registration Desk  
Open**  
*Exhibit Hall A*

8:30 am - 10:30 pm

**Exhibit Hall Open**  
*Exhibit Hall A*

## 8:30 am – 9:45 am Concurrent Sessions VI

### **Restorative Practices in Action**

*Presenters: Kelli Beechler, Cobb County Public Schools ; Jeri Bryant, Cobb County Public Schools; Maxine Miller, Cobb County Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle

#### **Location: Ballroom A**

Learn how Dowell Elementary School implemented Restorative Practices to address school climate, discipline referrals and staff morale. You will learn the research that supports Restorative Practices and how to determine if your school could benefit from implementing this evidence based program. You'll walk away with access to materials to share with stakeholders as well as simple and effective practices you can do on a daily basis to make your school more restorative.

### **Why School Counselors Should be Ready to Discuss 13 Reasons Why**

*Presenters: Lauren Hodges, Savannah Arts Academy; Dawn Hadley, Savannah Arts Academy*

Audience: Middle, Secondary, Counselor Educator/ Supervisor

#### **Location: Ballroom B**

13 Reasons Why became an overnight sensation when Netflix picked it up for a TV series. The series deals with difficult topics (teen suicide, bullying, rape, alcohol and drugs), and left schools scrambling to support students who had read or witnessed these topics where blame was no longer faceless. ASCA has provided support for the school community and families. As school counselors, this provides a good opportunity to bridge the gap between home and school.

### **Non-Suicidal Self Injury: School Counselors CAN Help**

*Presenters Robert Rice, Georgia State University; Marianna Sullivan, St. Paul Public Schools*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

#### **Location: Ballroom C**

Academic and social emotional success can be challenging for some students and there is an increase in students who engage in self-harming behaviors. Research shows that 14% to 35% of adolescents (ages 14-22) and 8% of children (ages 7 to 16) engage in non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) behaviors. Presenters will offer research based interventions and strategies you can use today for helping students of all ages who engage in NSSI find safer coping strategies for success.

### **Weird Science: The REAL Deal About Adolescent Brain Development**

*Presenter: Kim Jackson-Allen, Ed.D, Savannah Chatham County Public Schools*

Audience: Middle, Secondary, Post-secondary/Admissions

#### **Location: Ballroom DE**

Have you ever wondered what was going on in an adolescent's head or what an adolescent was thinking? If you work with adolescents, then the answer is probably a resounding yes. Believe it or not, there is a reason why adolescents differ from adults in the way they behave, solve problems, and make decisions. This engaging presentation will offer a detailed overview of how we can better understand adolescents and how we interact with them.

### **Treatment Beyond the Clinic: Advocating for Mental Wellness in Schools**

*Presenters: Nadiya Boyce Rose, University of West Georgia; Melissa R Mecadon-Mann, University of West Georgia*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent

#### **Location: Grand Salon**

For many students, obtaining mental health counseling services is not possible due to cost, transportation, and documentation/residency concerns. School counselors are often faced with the reality of addressing clinical issues at school in addition to their normal day-to-day responsibilities. This presentation will provide multiple tools and research-based interventions that can be used to plant seeds and foster growth with elementary, middle, and high school students who experience anxiety, depression, and behavioral issues.

# Friday Conference Schedule

## **Consultation in School Counseling: Class Project Informs ASCA Model Implementation**

*Presenters: Denise Lenares-Solomon, Ph.D., Augusta University; Jamie Lewis-Cox, MS, LPC, Augusta University; Georgia M. Pritchard, Med, LPC, NCC, Augusta University; Allegra Renee Boddy, Med, LPC, NCC, Augusta University; Margaux H. Brown, Ph.D., NCC, Augusta University; Sonya Weaver, Richmond County School System*

Audience: Secondary

### **Location: Magnolia A**

EdS program candidates in the Augusta University Counselor Education Program consulted with a local school to develop a data-driven program modeled after the American School Counseling Association National Model. Students analyzed data, highlighted strengths, problem areas, and made recommendations.

## **Three Keys for Overcoming Resistance to Change**

*Presenter: Peter Vajda, Ph.D., Mercy College*

Audience: All

### **Location: Magnolia B**

So much of what stands in the way of successful, sustainable change in the academic and counseling world are the perceptions, rationalizations, justifications, excuses and stories we've created (as children) that keep us locked in old habits and patterns as administrators, educators and counselors. In this presentation Dr. Peter Vajda shares his knowledge, experience and training of how and why we resist change. Participants explore and share their experiences with resistance to change, and discuss what's holding them back. Together we look at the underlying cause of our resistance. Peter then provides valuable insights, practical exercises and powerful tools to support participants to accept, engage and embrace change from a place of equanimity, serenity and inner peace in their lives at work (and at home, at play and in relationship).

## **Intellect and Emotion in School Counseling Ethical Decision-Making Models**

*Presenter: Morgan E. Kiper Riechel, Ph.D., Mercer University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Magnolia CD**

ASCA's Ethical Standards includes a 9-step process for ethical decision-making, the first of which is to "define the problem emotionally and intellectually." Many ignore this important dual step, focusing primarily on the intellectual examination of issues at expense of the counselor's emotional response, which can be a barometer in decision-making. This session will discuss research in decision-making and provide additional resources for school counselors to consider both the "emotional" AND "intellectual" aspect to ethical decision-making.

## **Starbucks to Prison Pipeline: Examining the Complex Systems that Contribute to our Outcomes**

*Presenter: John Nwosu, Garrett Middle School*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 303**

A coffee shop is the last place many would expect to experience discrimination. The reality is that bias is extensive, pervasive, and persistent. Whether in a classroom or coffee shop, complex systems of implicit bias contribute to people being treated differently for identical behaviors. In this experiential session participants will explore 1.) updates in multicultural/social justice counseling competencies, 2.) the relationship between implicit bias and inequality, 3.) complex systems, and 4.) tools for increasing equity.

## **LGBTQ Case Studies and What to Do: Counseling, and School-Wide Support Strategies**

*Presenter: Ken Jackson, Decatur Public Schools*

Audience: Middle, Secondary, Independent, Counselor Educator/Supervisor

### **Location: Room 306**

Counselors are called upon to support all students—including LGBTQ students. School counselors are fundamentally more aware, competent, and knowledgeable. But is there more? This program goes beyond the 101 level and explores how we make decisions, and how this looks in real life. Participants will explore a decision making framework and then apply them to real life scenarios. Bring your challenges and situations as we work together to explore possible counselor responses.

## **Autism Spectrum Disorders: Essentials for School Counselors**

*Presenters: Jennifer Branscome, Ph.D., Valdosta State University; Katharine Adams, Ph.D., Valdosta State University*

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary

### **Location: Room 308**

In this session, an overview of autism spectrum disorder will be provided including diagnosis, etiology, signs, and symptoms. Additionally, best practices and interventions for working with autism spectrum disorder in the PreK – 12 setting will be discussed.

## **An Ecological Approach to Fostering Successful High School Transition Through a Sustainable Peer Mentoring Program**

*Presenter: Ariel Gordon, Ed.S., University of Georgia*

Audience: Middle, Secondary



**Location: Room 309**

Designed through an ecological lens, this longitudinal intervention prepares eighth grade students for a successful and meaningful high school experience. Eighth grade students participate in a Spring Book Drop, a Summer Transition Camp, and a Peer Mentoring Program that runs throughout 9th grade. This program fosters engagement, builds teacher and peer relationships, improves literacy, reduces stigma, and increases student confidence. Additionally, ninth grade students display improved grades and increased enrollment in Advanced and AP courses.

**Teach-nology: Using Technology to Teach****Engaging Lessons**

*Presenters: Maria Sherrod, Fayette County Schools; Genise Adams*

Audience: Elementary, Middle

**Location: Room 310**

Our students are inundated with technology. How can we get and keep their attention? By infusing technology into our lessons . . . of course! We will show you how we have used program such as Nearpod, Kahoot, ClassFlow and Google Applications to liven up your lessons.

**Cultural Competency Advocates: Evaluating Foreign Transcripts for Immigrants and Refugees**

*Presenter: Phoenicia L. Grant, Dekalb County School District*

Audience: Secondary, Post-secondary/Admissions

**Location: Room 312**

This practice-oriented presentation provides counselors with a foreign transcript evaluation toolkit for working with immigrant and refugee students. When transfer credit is awarded for foreign transcripts, a graduation pathway is forged. Students can bridge past knowledge with present expectations and concentrate on courses needed for graduation. The transcript evaluation framework presented operates within a framework of school and district policies, state laws and regulations and professional ethics standards.

**encourageME – Building Positive Friendship Skills in Students**

*Presenter: Avery Bradley, Girls Scouts*

Audience: Elementary

**Location: Room 324**

In our society, there is a growing deficit of interpersonal skills necessary for creating and maintaining strong, life-long relationships. Designed for the Girl Scout Gold Award, the encourageME program utilizes lessons, discussions, and engaging activities to teach older elementary school students these valuable friendship skills. This presentation, given by the Girl Scout behind it all, shares the incredible impact of the program and how it can easily be used within the classroom.

**10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Region Networking and Education**

Region 1 – Room 310

Region 2 – Room 308

Region 3 – Room 306

Region 4 – Room 309

Region 5 – Room 312

Region 6 – Room 313

Region 7 – Room 324

**10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Retired Counselors Meeting Room 303****11:15 am - 1:30 pm Awards Luncheon and Closing Session and Panel with Ellen Kahn**

*Ballroom A-C*

**Welcoming Remarks**

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

**Recognition of Our Titanium Sponsor - TCSG****Awards Celebration**

*Alexandra Huguelet and Myesha Davis*

**Keynote Speaker**

*Ellen Kahn*

**Invitation to 2019 Annual Conference**

*Maria Grovner, President-Elect*

**Prizes****Closing Remarks**

*Leslie Hamilton, President*

## Closing Session Speaker Ellen Kahn



As you know, LGBTQ youth continue to face significant obstacles at home, in school, and in the broader community. It is essential to remove any barriers that exist between LGBTQ students and the critically important role of the school counselor, whether the student's need is tied to mental health and well-being, or to a

career or educational aspiration. The role of the school counselor in creating LGBTQ-inclusive schools is among the most influential in K-12 education. In this session, we will shine light on the everyday lived experiences of LGBTQ youth including key findings from the latest CDC Youth Risk Behavior Assessment and HRC Foundation's groundbreaking survey.

Following Ellen's presentation, she will moderate a panel for further exploration and discussion, including a parent of a transgender child, an LGBTQ-affirming school counselor, and an LGBTQ high school student. This panel will help bring to life some of the concrete strategies for supporting students and helping to create a more welcoming school environment.

Ellen Kahn is the Director of the Children, Youth and Families Program at the Human Rights Campaign. In her role, Ellen provides national leadership and expertise in public education and advocacy efforts on behalf of LGBT youth and families. Ellen oversees a portfolio of highly successful projects that promote fair and inclusive policies and practices; All Children—All Families; Welcoming Schools; the HBCU Project, and Youth Well-Being, which includes the annual Time to Thrive conference. Ellen is sought out as an expert on topics related to LGBT youth and families, and frequently speaks at national and regional conferences and provides training and consultation for child welfare professionals, educators, and healthcare providers.

Prior to joining HRC, Ellen spent 12 years at the Whitman-Walker Health in various roles; Director of the Lesbian Services Program, Associate Director of LGBT Health Promotion, and as supervisor of a behavioral health program for people with HIV. While at Whitman-Walker Health, Ellen established "Choosing Children," a robust program for LGBT parents and prospective parents, including "Maybe Baby" groups, an annual "Parenting Day," and a range of support groups for LGBT parents.

Ellen was a founding Board member of Rainbow Families DC, the capital area's support and education organization for LGBT-headed families. She has facilitated "Maybe

Baby" groups for over 15 years and consults with dozens of prospective LGBT parents each year. Ellen received her B.S. from Temple University and her M.S.S. from the Bryn Mawr College School of Social Work and Social Research. Ellen is the proud mom of two fabulous daughters, ages 18 and 14, and lives in Silver Spring, MD.

## Panelists



Roddy Biggs is a proud LGBTQ advocate working to end bullying and suicide. When he came out as gay at age 12, he experienced bullying and a lack of support.

That did not cause Roddy to give up. He went on to lead his high school and college GSA, and worked with local organizations to facilitate numerous trainings on diversity and inclusion. Roddy now works to promote the message that life gets better, and it is important to never give up.



Heidi Miracle is the proud mom of a transgender daughter who is a senior in high school. Heidi and her family have faced challenges in their daughter's school over the past year which have contributed to their daughter relying more on virtual school. Heidi will share her story

and help to shed light on the ways in which school counselors are essential players in the well-being of transgender students.



Ken Jackson has worked in education for 33 years as a counselor, principal, and English teacher. He has led workshops/ seminars for local schools and national conferences in the area of diversity, specializing in LGBTQ work. He

is currently a school counselor at Decatur High School, Decatur, Georgia, and is an LPC (Licensed Professional Counselor) and CPCS (Certified Professional Counselor Supervisor). While he considers counseling to be the best job in the school, he has a deep appreciation for all the educators and community members who make up a vibrant professional learning community.

# Counties Comprising Regions

Region 1 - North West:  
Dade, Walker, Catoosa,  
Whitfield, Murray,  
Chattooga, Floyd,  
Bartow, Polk, Haralson,  
Carroll, Gordon, Fannin,  
Gilmer, Pickens

Region 2 - North East:  
Union, Towns,  
Rabun, Lumpkin,  
White, Habersham,  
Dawson, Hall, Banks,  
Stephens, Franklin,  
Jackson, Madison,  
Hart, Elbert, Clarke,  
Oconee, Oglethorpe,  
Wilkes, Lincoln, Barrow,  
Morgan, Greene,  
Taliaferro, Walton,  
Newton

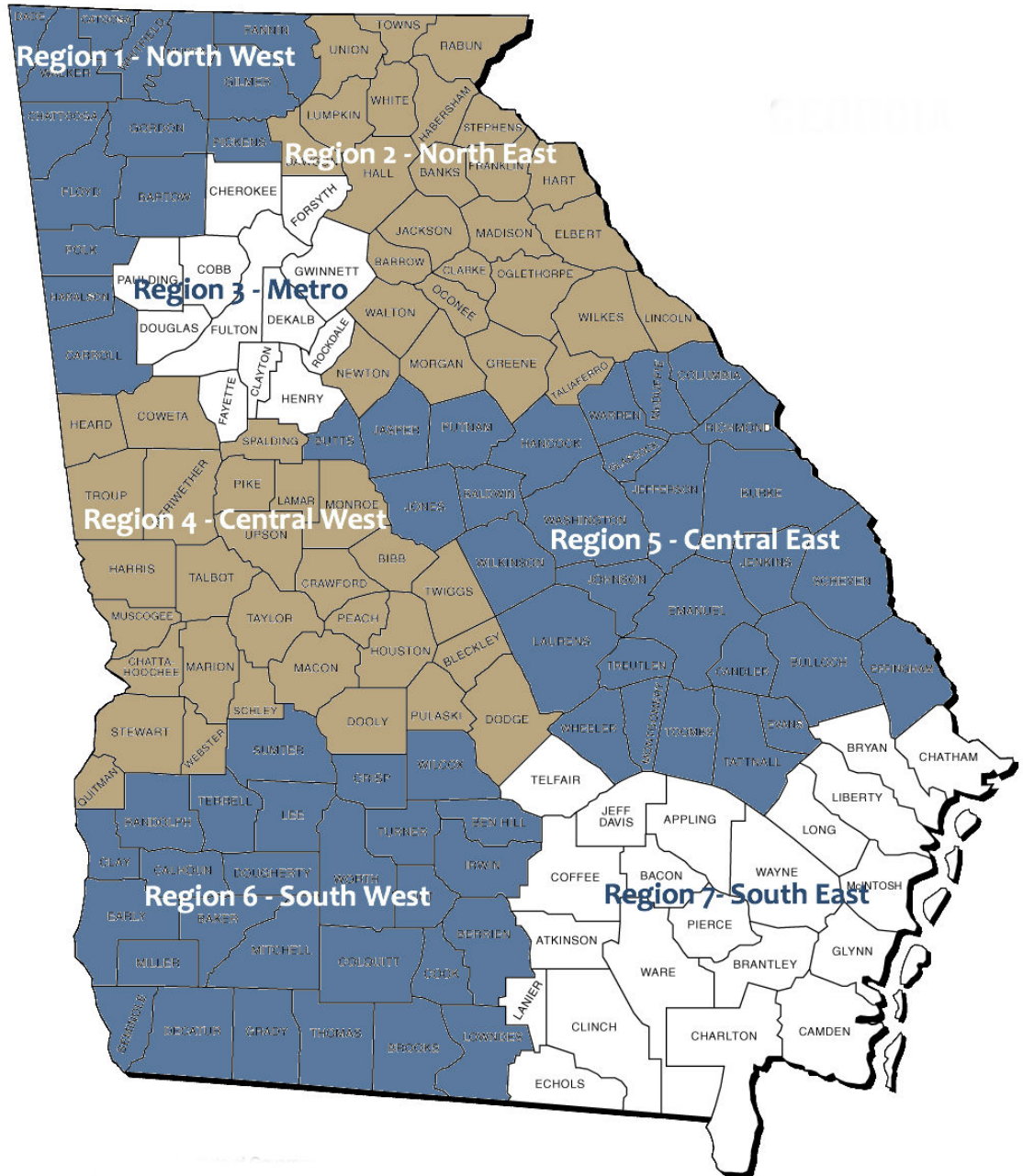
Region 3 - Metro:  
Fulton, Dekalb,  
Gwinnett, Cobb,  
Clayton, Douglas,  
Fayette, Henry,  
Cherokee, Forsyth,  
Paulding, Rockdale

Region 4 - Central West:  
Spalding,  
Heard, Coweta, Troup,  
Meriwether, Pike,  
Upson, Harris, Talbot,  
Taylor, Muscogee,  
Chattahoochee,  
Marion, Schley, Stewart,  
Webster, Quitman,  
Lamar, Monroe, Bibb,  
Crawford, Peach,  
Houston, Macon,  
Twiggs, Dooly, Bleckley,  
Pulaski, Dodge

Region 5 - Central East:  
Butts, Jasper, Putnam, Jones, Baldwin, Wilkinson, Hancock, Warren, McDuffie, Columbia, Richmond, Glascock, Jefferson, Washington, Burke, Jenkins, Johnson, Laurends, Treutlen, Emanuel, Wheeler, Montgomery, Toombs, Screven, Candler, Bullock, Effingham, Evans, Tattnall

Region 6 - South West:  
Sumter, Randolph, Terrell, Lee, Crisp, Turner, Worth, Dougherty, Calhoun, Clay, Tift, Early, Baker, Mitchell, Couquitt, Miller, Seminole, Decatur, Grady, Thomas, Wilcox, Ben Hill, Irwin, Berrien, Cook, Lowndes, Brooks

Region 7 - South East:  
Coffee, Bacon, Pierce, Atkinson, Echols, Clinch, Charlton, Brantley, Lanier, Ware, Telfair, Jeff Davis, Appling, Bryan, Chatham, Long, Liberty, McIntosh, Wayne, Glynn, Camden





# Professional Recognition Winners

## School Counselor of the Year

**LAURA ROSS**

*Five Forks Middle School  
Gwinnett County Public Schools*



## School Counselor of the Year Semi-Finalist

**SHERRY FERGUSON**

*Ferguson Elementary School  
Gwinnett County Public Schools*



## School Counselor of the Year Semi-Finalist

**BOBBY GUEH**

*Lanier High School  
Gwinnett County Public Schools*



## Counselor Educator of the Year **DR. LEE EDMONSON GRIMES**

*Associate Professor  
Valdosta State University*





# Professional Recognition Winners

## Lifetime Achievement Award

**KAREN GRIFFITH**

*Assistant Professor  
University of Georgia*



## Writer of the Year

**TESHIA DULA**

*Richard Hull Middle School  
Gwinnett County Public Schools*



## Emerging Leader Award

**JOHN NWOSU**

*Garrett Middle School  
Cobb County Public Schools*



## Advocate of the Year Award

**ANTHONY SMITH**

*Assistant Superintendent  
Gwinnett County Public Schools*



# Administrator of the Year Award

## **CHRISTINE DOUTHART**

*Five Forks Middle School  
Gwinnett County Public Schools*



# Business Partner Award

## **CHUCK LITTLE**

*Atlanta Electrical Contractors*



# Business Partner Award

## **MIKE KENIG**

*Holder Construction*



# 2018 RAMP Winners

Congratulations to the 12 schools from Georgia that have received Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) status for 2017. These schools have shown their commitment to a comprehensive, data driven school counseling program. This year 140 schools from 22 states will receive this designation. RAMP recipients will be honored at the awards dinner at the ASCA Annual Conference in Boston in July.

Crawford W. Long Middle School  
Ferguson Elementary School  
Georgia Connections Academy  
J.J. Daniell Middle School  
Lanier Middle School  
Liberty Middle School

M.H. Mason Elementary School  
McEachern High School  
Miller Elementary School  
Palmer Middle School  
Pebblebrook High School  
Shiloh Middle School

# Save the date...



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