

GREENVILLE EARLY COLLEGE

From the Desk of Ms. Ford...

*Where did the time go? It seems just like yesterday we were starting the year with the newest group of 6th graders, and now we are quickly approaching the end of the year. Over the next several weeks, students will participate in required state testing at almost every level. It is important that students **finish strong!** Please encourage them to continue to give good effort in their academic coursework and practice methods that support vital test-taking strategies. Please help them by asking questions about their daily learning and ensuring they practice good eating and sleeping habits. Help them to remember that it is okay to take their time and try their best.*

In addition to information about upcoming testing, there is information in this issue that addresses several important topics regarding the end of the year and key information for preparing for 2018 – 2019. Next year will be a wonderful year of celebration for us as we celebrate the first graduating class of Greenville Early College.

We will have one final communication in May to help us finish out the school year, and a few summer reminders and information will be mailed home with report cards.

TESTING INFORMATION

Test Name	Testing Date	Students Tested
Middle School Testing		
SC PASS: Science	May 17, 2018	6 th and 8 th Grade Students
SC PASS: Social Studies	May 17, 2018	7 th Grade Students
SC Ready: ELA Writing	May 22, 2018	6 th , 7 th and 8 th Grade Students
SC Ready: ELA Reading	May 23, 2018	6 th , 7 th , and 8 th Grade Students
SC Ready: Mathematics	May 24, 2018	6 th , 7 th , and 8 th Grade Students
High School Testing		
English 1 Benchmark	April 30, 2018	Students enrolled in English 1
US History Benchmark	May 1, 2018	Students enrolled in US History
Algebra 1 Benchmark	May 2, 2018	Students enrolled in Algebra 1
English 1 EOCEP: Text Dependent Analysis	May 9, 2018	Students enrolled in English 1
Digital Multimedia Exam (Virtual Course)	May 11, 2018	Students enrolled in GCVS
Physical Education Exam (Virtual Course)	May 22, 2018	Students enrolled in GCVS
US History EOCEP	May 25, 2018	Students enrolled in US History
Algebra 1 EOCEO	May 29, 2018	Students enrolled in Algebra 1
English 1 EOCEP	May 30, 2018	Students enrolled in English 1
Spanish 1 (Virtual Course only)	May 31, 2018	Students enrolled in GCVS
HS Exams 1, 3	May 31, 2018	All HS students
HS Exams 2, 4	June 1, 2018	All HS students

April / May 2018

Enrollment and Transportation Forms

Each year Planning & Demographics uses student information to determine appropriate school enrollments for students. Since Greenville Early College is an invitation only program, students are still attached to a middle or high school within the county based on current student demographics. Each student is provided with a letter indicating their home school. Please complete the demographics and enrollment form included with this communication. Please return your students verification of enrollment form by **May 1, 2018**. It is important that we have a form for each student (even if you do not plan to return for 2018 – 2019) as several of our programs are based on student enrollment.

Additionally, please complete and return the transportation form included for 2018 – 2019. We are working to continue direct bussing services for students zoned for Tanglewood, Lakeview and Carolina High School. In order to ensure the accuracy of student bus routes we need enrollment and demographics information. Transportation plans to begin direct services for students beginning the first day of school.

Technology and Testing

Students must bring their computers to school on Wednesday, April 25th. Site testing coordinators will be preparing devices for testing by helping students update the testing icon on their screens. Testing icons must be updated prior to testing in order to ensure optimal performance on the date of all required tests.

All student technology will be collected and secured for inventory on Friday, May 11th. After May 11th we will continue learning in a low-tech way. This is done to ensure that all technology is ready for state testing.

Finish Strong Campaign

Communities in Schools in conjunction with GEC is sponsoring a Finish Strong Campaign for students. Each week, students will be presented with a challenge to complete that helps them to engage in the school experience. The purpose of each weekly challenge is to reconnect students to the learning environment in a way

that positively supports learning and appropriate student behavior. As students participate, they earn opportunities to receive prizes and gifts.

Week 1: Faculty Scavenger Hunt

Week 2: Read to Succeed

Week 3: Positivity – pass it on...

Week 4: Spirit Week

Week 5: Academic Trivia

Curriculum Nights

Rising 9th Grade Parent Night

April 23, 2018 University Center Auditorium @ 6:30pm

Audience: Current 8th grade parents

The purpose of Rising 9th Grade Parent Night is to reintroduce parents to the focus of Greenville Early College high school program. We will discuss important topics like graduation requirements, college admission requirements and course selections for 2018 – 2019. Parents will also learn how students can access college courses or career center opportunities at Greenville Early College. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend so that they can have all of the information required to make good decisions for their students.

High School Parent Night

May 2, 2018 University Center Auditorium @ 6:30pm

Audience: Current 9th – 11th grade parents

The purpose of High School Parent Night is to share with parents the course offerings for 2018 – 2019. We will also address students' paths to college and/or career opportunities while in high school and the impact that this will have after graduation. While parents may have participated in their students' IGP, we encourage them to attend curriculum night so that they can also understand how their students' success impacts options for the future. Parents will be shown how to access online resources available through Greenville County Schools, as well as receive information about Career Centers and Greenville Tech course options. **Students that plan to enroll in Greenville Tech during 2018 – 2019 for dual enrollment courses will also be required to participate in a parent session with representatives from GTCC in order to begin classes in the fall or spring.**

Awards Day and Field Day



June 4th – Middle School students will have Awards Day. June 5th – will be an end of the year field day experience. More information including times will be provided in the next parent communication.

June 5th – High School students will have Awards Day. It will be followed by a yearbook and end of the year celebration. More information including times will be provided in the next parent communication.

Summer Opportunities

Launch Greenville

Launch Greenville is the result of a partnership between Greenville County Chamber of Commerce and Greenville County Schools to provide students with work-based learning experiences, internships, mentoring, workplace simulations, and apprenticeships to complement classroom-based study.

Internships take place during the summer (June–July), fall (October–December), or spring (February–April). Most summer internships last for 8 weeks, with full-time (40 hours) or part-time (20 hours) positions. Interns usually work between 10 and 20 hours per week during fall or spring semesters to accommodate their class schedule.

The Work-Based Learning Coordinators will match interns with opportunities based on the relevant courses taken and/or the student's expression of interest in a particular field or occupational area. Employers may elect to interview students for the internship or have the Work-Based Learning Coordinators match and assign students. Student interns are high school juniors and seniors ages 16 and older.

Current internship opportunities exist at the following businesses:

- The Greenville Drive
- Jordon Construction Company
- The Stroud Team
- Fuddruckers
- Greenville Tech Foundation
- Addison Homes
- Sandvik Coromant

For more information and an application check out <http://greenvillechamber.org/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=LaunchGVL&category=LaunchGVL>

Greenville County Job Fair

Greenville County Schools will host a Job Fair for bus drivers, bus aides, custodians, and food service operators on Tuesday, April 24th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Travelers Rest High School, 301 North Main Street, Travelers Rest (Directions). Salary ranges are:

Bus Driver \$14.33 – \$17.96

Bus Aide \$10.22 – \$15.58

Custodian \$10.55 – \$12.92

Food Services \$10.55 – \$12.92

GREAT BENEFITS, including health and dental, retirement, sick leave, and free life insurance, are available for employees who work 30 or more hours per week. Training is provided.

If you are interested in working at a job where you can make a difference in the quality of our community and receive great benefits, you are encouraged to attend this event.

GCS Progress Report eBook

Take a look at the new Greenville County Schools' 2018 Progress Report eBook. The Progress Report provides information for GCS stakeholders about all five goals areas: student achievement, personnel, environment, resources, and communications. Feature stories showcase employees and students, many with an accompanying video highlight. It can be accessed through the Greenville County Schools' website by visiting the homepage (www.greenville.k12.sc.us) and clicking on Essentials, then Stats, Plans, and Reports. The 2018 Progress Report is the first link under the title District Publications.

Student Calendars for 2018 – 2019

Calendars for 2018 – 2019 can now be accessed on the Greenville County website. Please click the calendar link on the left side of the main page for more information. Several changes including the first day of school and students holidays can be viewed.

April / May 2018

Greenville Early College Time Schedule

As a part of Greenville County Schools, GEC will follow the academic calendar for all students. In 2018 – 2019, students will have a different beginning and ending time. The purpose of this change is to ensure that all middle and high school students meet the academic seat time requirement for the state. This time change will also support our goal of remediating and accelerating students appropriately.

All students will be able to arrive as early as 7:45am. All classes for middle and high school students will begin promptly at 8:15am. All students that arrive to school after 8:15am are considered late and will miss valuable classroom instruction. All students will be dismissed at 3:15pm. Shuttle transportation will still be provided to students participating in athletics for Tanglewood, Lakeview and Carolina.

April 2018				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
23 Rising 9 th Grade Parent Night	24	25 Testing icon update	26	27
30 English 1 Benchmark	MAY 1 US History Benchmark	2 Algebra 1 Benchmark High School Parent Night	3 4 th Quarter Progress Reports	4 School Lunch Hero Day
7 Teacher Appreciation Week!	8	9 English 1 Text Dependent Analysis EOCEP	10 Last Day of Extended Day	11 Digital Multimedia Exam (Virtual only) Student Computers Due
14 Spirit Week	15	16	17 SC PASS: Science & Social Studies	18
21	22 PE Exam (Virtual) SC Ready Writing	23 SC Ready Reading	24 SC Ready Math	25 US History EOCEP
28 Memorial Day Holiday	29 Algebra 1 EOCEP GEC Family Fun Night	30 English 1 EOCEP	31 Spanish 1 Exam (Virtual only) HS EXAMS 1, 3	JUNE 1 HS EXAMS 2, 4
4 HS Make-up EXAMS (Principal approval required) MS Awards Day	5 HS Awards Day Field Day	6 LAST DAY of SCHOOL (Half Day for Students)	7	8