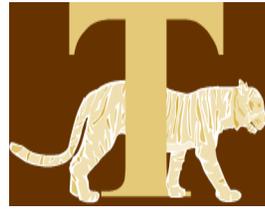


Evans County Schools, Department of Student Services Presents



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*News parents can use!*

## Evans C.A.F.E. October 18 at 3:30 in the CHS Cafeteria

Join with fellow parents, staff and community members to develop and enhance opportunities to support our students! The first thing to explain about the

C.A.F.E. is that members do not meet to eat as the word 'café' suggests. C.A.F.E. stands for a Circle of Addults Focused on Education. Our Evans

C.A.F.E. motto is Pride in Evans: Read-Lead-Succeed. Those words sum up the focus of the participants. **Read:**

during the 2017-18 school year, the Evans C.A.F.E. worked together to support the March Book Madness and The

Literacy Bus to encourage reading. **Lead:** For the last two years, the C.A.F.E. members have worked together to

host the Back to School Bash which provides back to school supplies,

resource information and fellowship as students prepare for a new school

year. **Succeed:** The C.A.F.E. supports college and career readiness

activities such as, mock interviews and college and career fairs to equip

students with skills and information for success. This year, the C.A.F.E.

will work to expand these and other opportunities. Parents are vital to this

process. Come and join us at the table and share your ideas to shape the

work this year! If you cannot join us on Thursday, October 18th, please

save the date for Thursday, December 6th at 3:30 PM. in the CHS cafeteria.

Additional C.A.F.E. information can be found on the Evans County

Schools website at the C.A.F.E. tab. or contact Amanda Locke -739.3993.



Evans C.A.F.E. Logo



Back to School Bash 2018

Volume XIV Issue 1

October 2018

*Be sure to check the Evans County School website: [www.evans.k12.ga.us](http://www.evans.k12.ga.us) for reminders and a district wide calendar of events !*

**If you have a smartphone, please sign up for the free Evans County Schools App to stay informed on the latest news and events in our schools!**

**Check out the Evans County Schools Facebook page!**

*Parents, please be sure that the schools have your current contact information so you can receive important notifications!*

### What Difference Can a Day Make?

I am a big fan of calendars. They remind me of people and events that are important to me as I note the birthdays, anniversaries, holidays and appointments. Highlighted dates give a chance to think about things we might miss in our busy lives. For instance, did you know **September 6th** was **National Read a Book Day**? If you have a high school senior planning to attend college, it is good to note that as of **October 1st** you can begin the financial aid process.(FAFSA)

**Hispanic Heritage Month** was just celebrated from **September 15th to October 15th**. 10 years ago, the National Council of Teachers of English established the **National Day of Writing** which falls on is **October 20-#Why I Write**. The

NTCE reminds us that writing gives everyone a voice. Every day is an opportunity to make a difference and there is a day for that: **Make a Difference Day is Saturday, October 27th**. November features **National Parent Involvement**

**Month, Education Week, and National Apply to College Day**. CHS will celebrate on **November 16th** with seniors completing a college application. **December 5th** is **National Volunteer Day**; volunteering is a skill valued for college and career readiness. I hope you will mark your calendars and celebrate the days that can make a difference to you!

**Feedback, comments, and questions are welcomed!**  
Send to Amanda Locke,  
Parent Mentor  
[alocke@evans.k12.ga.us](mailto:alocke@evans.k12.ga.us)



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

## Fall 2018 - Athletes, Volunteers and Families

### Shine the Light of Champions

While the Fall Games were held earlier than usual, in September instead of November, the event was marked with tradition from the Parade of Athletes at CES to the reciting of the Athletes Oath. Champion teamwork was on display at the Clubhouse as teams of 4 competed in bowling for gold, silver, and bronze medals. Back in the CHS Gym, CHS student volunteers were on hand to assist with Bocce and Basketball skills. On October 5th, athletes, families, and volunteers decorated an entry for the Homecoming Parade. Thank you to everyone who walked, rode, or cheered from the sidewalks!



CHS homecoming Parade 2018

### GVRA and GHSHT Team Up to Provide Pre-employment Training

The soft skill for October is Teamwork. Ms. Betty Whitaker, CTAE coordinator at CHS, highlights a soft skill each month as a way to educate students on skills that employers value in the workplace. Students with an IEP or 504 plan have resources that are dedicated to their questions or concerns as they consider future employment. The Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) teams with the schools and vendors, such as, Georgia High School High Tech (GHSHT) to provide pre-employment training to students. Trainings may include presentations on work related skills, as well as, field trips to industries, colleges and universities. With parent and student permission, the GVRA career specialist may be invited to a student's IEP meeting to discuss ways GVRA may be able to assist the student with transition goals. Please contact your child's case manager or the parent mentor for more information.

### Spotlight: The GaDOE Parent Survey

What is important to you as a parent of a student with an IEP? Communication? Resource information? Being part of the decision making process? The Georgia Department of Education offers parents a 10 statement survey to provide feedback to the district and the state. (See the screenshot below)

7. I am considered an equal partner with teachers and other professionals in planning and making decisions about my child's program.
8. Teachers ensure that I have fully understood the Procedural Safeguards [federal rules that protect the rights of parents] and my options if I disagree with a decision by the school.
9. My child's evaluation report and other written information are written in terms I understand.
10. At the IEP meeting, we discussed accommodations and modifications that my child would need.
11. The school communicates regularly with me regarding my child's progress on IEP goals.
12. Teachers are available to speak with me.
13. The school offers parents a variety of ways to communicate with teachers.
14. Teachers respect my cultural heritage and show sensitivity to the needs of students with disabilities and their families.
15. The school gives parents the help they may need to play an active role in their child's education.
16. The school provides information on agencies that can assist my child in grade level transitions and/or transitions to post school settings.

How can parents relate to these questions? For instance, do you use the parent preparation sheet and ASPIRE information to prepare for IEP meetings? Those are tools to equip you to make the most of your child's IEP meeting and that relates to questions 7 and 10. Did you attend the Back to School Bash on July 28th, which featured a variety of community resources including Easter Seals and Georgia High School High Tech? Did you tune in to the virtual Transition Resource Fair on September 20th with presentations from Parent to Parent and Eagle Academy? Those are 2 examples of ways schools collaborate to bring resource information to parents which relates to questions 15 and 16. Did you know parents can be part of the planning of these events? The Back to School Bash is planned by the Evans C.A.F.E. a group of parents, school staff and community members. Share your questions and suggestions with your child's school or Amanda Locke 739.3993. Together we can partner and play an active role in our children's education!