



### **Mark Your Calendars**

December 13: Fall Awards Celebration at 7:00 PM

December 18 - 20: Final Exams

December 21 - January 1: Winter Break

January 2: Student Holiday

January 3: 1st day of 2nd semester

### **Final Exams**

#### **Final Exam Schedule:**

- 12/14: 0 period exam
- 12/17: 0 period exam, 1st period exam (8-10:00 AM)
- 12/18: 2nd period exam (8-10:00), 3rd period exam (10:15-12:15)
- 12/19: 4th period exam (8-10:00), 5th period exam (10:15-12:15)
- 12/20: 6th period exam (8-10:00), 7th period exam (10:15-12:15)



#### **Important Information about December 18 - 20:**

- School ends each day at 12:15.
- Free breakfast to all students will still be served each morning.
- No lunch will be served. Chick-fil-A biscuits will be sold during the break between exams each day.
- No exams can be given early.
- No checkouts during final exams.
- We have morning buses, but no afternoon buses; please make arrangements to pick up your child.
- Students can purchase a daily parking pass for \$2/day in the Attendance Office.
- Please check the portal to see if you have any overdue books or printing fees. You can return books and pay fees in the SRC. You can also pay fees online through MyPaymentsPlus.

- January 2nd is the make up day for missed exams.

## Seniors - Important Reminder!

Scholastic Images Balfour will be at GSMST for the last time in 2018 on Wednesday, December 12th and you don't want to miss the chance to [order your letter jacket, class ring, and official Graduation Announcements](#) before the New Year!

Just bring a \$100 deposit for any order to the order table during your lunch and we'll walk you through all the rest! You can even pay your senior dues at this time!



Don't wait to capture the memories that will last a lifetime! You can visit our website at [www.gabalfour.com](http://www.gabalfour.com) to see all the information or call our office at 770-614-9353 with any questions!

## Awards Information

In regards to our upcoming Awards Night this Thursday, December 13, we hope the following information will be helpful:



### Honor Roll:

At the end of each semester, we post a list of Honor Roll students. These students have an average of all classes for that semester of a 90.0 or higher.

### Academic Letter:

In fall each year, we give Academic Letters to 10th-12th graders who have earned a 95.0 or higher GPA for the previous school year (the average of all classes for both semesters). These Academic Letters are given in a ceremony during the school day.

### Awards Night in the Fall:

At this ceremony, teachers honor students for hard work and good grades in specific classes. One winner is chosen for every 30 students taught in each course.

### Awards Night in the Spring:

At this ceremony, teachers choose one "Best All Around" student per grade per subject. We will also give many special Senior awards at this ceremony.

## 2018-19 Georgia Parent Survey

GSMST Parents, We humbly ask you to take a few minutes and complete [this survey from the Georgia Department of Education](#).



Thank you in advance for your valuable input.

## Need Gifts for the Holidays?

Visit the [GSMST School Store](#) today and order your spirit wear, school supplies, etc. online.

Orders can be picked up in the front office once they've arrived.



## GSMST's ECOS Club

GSMST's ECOS club will be collecting funds for an indoor hydroponic tower garden that will be shared between GSMST and Maxwell High School. The tower gardens will grow vegetables that will be used by the students in the culinary arts department at Maxwell and by GSMST's ECOS club to work with a local elementary school. Donate to this cause at [tinyurl.com/gmfoodgarden](http://tinyurl.com/gmfoodgarden) now through December 15 to add a "breath of fresh air" to our school!



## LOST & FOUND

Our Lost and Found boxes are starting to overflow! If students are missing any clothing items or lunch boxes/water bottles, please have them check the Lost & Found boxes next to the vending machines located in the cafeteria and in the lower lobby of the Tower.



Students should check in the Attendance Office for lost jewelry, calculators, phones, etc. At the end of the semester, all Lost/Found items not claimed are given to local charities.

## Junior Fellowship Experience

Attention 10th Grade Students and Parents

[Here](#) is preliminary information regarding GSMST's Junior Fellowship Experience. You will find brief information regarding JFE options and mandatory attendance dates for those interested in a summer internship. Please plan on attending the JFE Information Session on Curriculum Night on February 28th and be advised that Ms. D'Antonio is presently working with the current juniors through that time.



## Discovering STEM in Switzerland and Germany

GSMST's Summer Trip 2019

Interested in traveling to Switzerland and Germany? Consider [GSMST's Summer Trip 2019](#), where we'll visit one of Europe's most eco-friendly cities, experience precision German engineering firsthand with tours of the BMW factory and Siemens Forum, and ascend Mount Pilatus on the world's steepest railway. For more information, [contact Mr. Burse](#) and/or [click here](#).



## Yearbooks on Sale!

Yearbooks are now on sale at [balfour.com](http://balfour.com). Tribute ads for seniors only are also available for purchase. There is limited space for senior ads, so reserve your space soon at [balfour.com](http://balfour.com). Buy yours today!

# balfour

## Infinity Cafe

[Click here](#) for free and reduced lunch information. You can find what is on our menus [here](#). For information on the GCPS charge policy, please [click here](#).



## School Safety Improvements

In addition to the new sidewalk at the front of our school and modified car-rider procedures in the back of our school ([click here for additional information](#)), please see two more safety improvements that are in effect as of October 15:



**1) Visitor Management System** -- the exterior doors to GSMST are now regularly locked during normal school hours. Visitors, including parents dropping off items or checking out students, must "buzz in" at the front (right) door or the back (Attendance Office | right) door of the building.

**2) After-School Expectations** -- students who remain on campus after the normal car-rider, car-driver, and school bus dismissals will notice a new 3:15 PM bell ring each day. This bell is the signal to all students on campus that after-school supervision is required. The SRC is open and staffed until 4:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. In addition, many extra-curricular groups, teams, and activities meet on a pre-determined schedule. All students who remain on campus for meetings, practice, tutoring, service projects, or academic study, must be under the direct supervision of a staff member. We have several benches outside the back of the school for individual students who are awaiting a ride. However, as we approach the cool of winter, families will need to coordinate pick-ups to coincide with the end of specific supervised activities. As always, students are free to leave campus in the afternoon and walk to a convenient establishment off campus for pick-up there as well.

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STAY CONNECTED

