

Instructions for Preparing for Careers

Part Six
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As juniors begin to plan for next year's courses, consideration should be given to the option of enrolling in dual enrollment classes. Dual enrollment classes enable GHS students to take classes from Holmes Community College on the GHS campus to earn high school and college credit simultaneously during the regular school day. This program provides the opportunity for advanced high school students to earn college credit prior to graduation from high school. Upon completion of each dual enrollment course, the student will receive the appropriate number of college credits as listed in the Holmes Community College Bulletin.

There are several advantages of dual enrollment, in addition to the obvious advantage of gathering college credits and GHS credits at the same time. Dual enrollment gives students an idea of what full-time college coursework will be like before he/she leaves the comfort and support of home. Studies have also shown that students who participate in dual-enrollment programs are more likely to

get a college degree. However, students considering the option of dual enrollment should remember that these classes are college level courses and more rigorous in content. The class grades will be applied to the college transcript and will permanently remain.

The per credit hour cost of our dual enrollment program is far less than what the student will pay once in college. GHS dual enrollment costs approximately \$100 per class per semester and is paid to Holmes upon registration. GHS is currently offering dual enrollment for the classes of English I and II, College Algebra, and American Literature I and II. GHS requirements for entering dual enrollment include:

- must be classified as a senior
- have at least 10 credits
- have an overall GPA of 85 or higher
- must have passes at least 5 credits from the previous year
- have no major disciplinary infractions

GMS Hosts Angel Tree Project



Photo by Lisa Holland

(l to r) Meg Lorensen, Lacy Walker, and Andrea Edwards deliver Angel Tree gifts. Grenada Middle School hosted its annual Angel Tree Project in December. GMS Principal Lyle Williams said, "We would like to thank everyone for the continued support of this extraordinary effort in making Christmas a special occasion for students in the Grenada School District. It is amazing to see the love and support of Grenada Middle School giving back to the community." GMS would like to extend a special thank you to GMS staff and students, Continue Care, BancorpSouth, GHS Softball, Junior Auxiliary, and the Grenada School District Counselors.



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AmeriCorps Member of the Month

By Gwen Woodson
AmeriCorps Director

"Making a difference in my community and becoming a role model is my goal in life," says Shay Hardiman, a full-time AmeriCorps member. The Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program (GSDAP) focuses on tutoring Grenada School District K-8 students in math and reading. Placed at the Grenada Upper Elementary School, Hardiman is committed to doing her best as a Team Leader and tutoring her students.

The Grenada School District has hosted AmeriCorps members for the last eight years in the role of tutors. The GSDAP member is principally responsible for tutoring over 40 students during the school year. There are 1,015 students involved in the tutoring program.

"My experience in AmeriCorps started out to be a little overwhelming, but has become a rewarding experience. I love to see the smiles on my students' faces, knowing that I can make a difference. Their smiles really get my morning started well. It is amazing how greeting them with a "good morning" and "have a great day" means so much to them. AmeriCorps members are the first and last faces that students see each day. The students have taught me some valuable lessons, inspiring me to want more out of life and to be an even better person. Knowing that I bring so much joy to my students means the world to me. I don't do this for a show, likes, or comments, but I do it because I love what I do. I love helping others and being dedicated to the children."

Hardiman also enjoys serving at the Food Pantry once a month, participating in Chamber of Commerce projects, and serving at the Boys and Girls Club. "I love what I do, 'Getting Things Done', said Hardiman.

According to the GSDAP Program Director Gwen Woodson, "Hardiman is



a 2nd year member who was selected as a 2015-2016 team leader because she understood the goals and objectives of the Program and was willing to take on the challenge. Shay takes helping the students very seriously, and puts all she has into helping her students improve academically. I am so proud of her and how she has blossomed while serving as a member of our Program. She will be truly missed when she completes her term."

In exchange for a year of service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award of \$5,730 that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Upon completion of her second term, Hardiman will earn over \$11,000 to further her education at Delta State University.

For more information about the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program, contact Program Director Gwen Woodson, at gwoodson@grenadak12.com. For more information about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.gov.

Guest Composer Assists 21st Century Skills Students



Jerome Gilmer, (left) a professional composer and recording artist from Denver, Colorado, assists 21st Century after school student Jazmine Travis in creating an original composition. Jazmine and other classmates from Podcasting and Photoshop each had a turn in creating a track of music which Gilmer then combined into an original score. Gilmer encouraged students to express themselves through music and not be concerned about other's opinions, but only work to please yourself.