

## College and Career Readiness Initiatives



Superintendent's Message  
**Dr. David Daigneault**

The Mississippi Department of Education is increasing the difficulty in instruction and testing, implementing a set of benchmarks entitled College and Career-Ready Standards. These criteria are designed to prepare students to be successful in college and the workforce and to ensure an understanding of expectations in reading, writing, language and math.

Part of this redesign is reflected in the restructuring of specific classes in the seventh, eighth, and ninth grades. Technology Foundations in the seventh grade, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) in the eighth grade, and Keystone in the ninth grade are three of the courses that have been redefined.

Although the implementation of these new classes is not required, GSD has been proactive in instituting these curricula. At Grenada Middle School, the exploration of technological processes is provided by the classes of Foundations of Technology and STEM. These courses prepare our middle school students with technology literacy and the workforce and academic skills necessary to compete in the global workforce. They study interpersonal and self-directional skills, input applications, databases, graphic and web design applications, networking, problem solving, decision-making, and technology operation. STEM is a workforce education course designed to prepare students for future academic and vocational options. STEM implements online and hands-on learning, applying scientific and mathematical skills to real world, industry-specific problems.

Keystone is a secondary curriculum framework implemented in the ninth grade that is organized to enable students to optimize career planning. Keystone is designed to instruct students about career possibilities and requirements and to enable them to develop a graduation strategy. Students receive guidance in investigating their own interests and aptitudes in relation to possible careers and methods for the development of a step-by-step plan to achieve their goals.

The GSD is committed to helping our students prepare for college careers and the workplace with redefined expectations in the classroom augmented by technology implementation. Our students are learning the skills and abilities demanded by the workforce of today and the future, with teaching methods that emphasize critical thinking, teamwork, and problem solving skills. Educating children with last century's techniques is no longer viable in the marketplace of the 21st century's global economy.

# GSD Students Walk the Red Carpet

By Galen Holley  
Staff Reporter

The stars were shining brightly on October 14, for the premiere of new fitness videos featuring Grenada School District students. *Move To Learn* was the marquee presentation that drew scores of onlookers and local stargazers to the campuses of Grenada Elementary and Upper Elementary schools.

Some 90 students in First, second, fourth and seventh grades were featured in the short video segments. They arrived Hollywood style in a pearl white limousine, made their way down a red carpet, waving to the crowd, were photographed, and took their seats inside the cafetorium for the screening.

The six-minute *Move To Learn* videos were produced in partnership with the Mississippi-based Bower Foundation and were designed to promote wellness as a means to improving academic performance. The Bower Foundation develops innovative strategies to improve the health of Mississippians, especially children.

The videos are a uniquely Mississippi product and even feature musicians from the Magnolia State. The star of the videos is Coach Larry Calhoun, a fitness instructor in the Clinton Public School District. Calhoun visited Grenada Upper Elementary last year, along with his colleague, Coach Terry Leigh Clayton, to get the ball rolling.

Since helping to produce the videos, Grenada students use them to get their blood pumping and for activities like inside recess.

Students and teachers at the premiere agreed that *Move To Learn* represents a step in the right direction for promoting wellness in the Grenada School District.

To learn more about *Move To Learn* and to see the GSD students in action, visit [www.movetolearnms.org](http://www.movetolearnms.org).



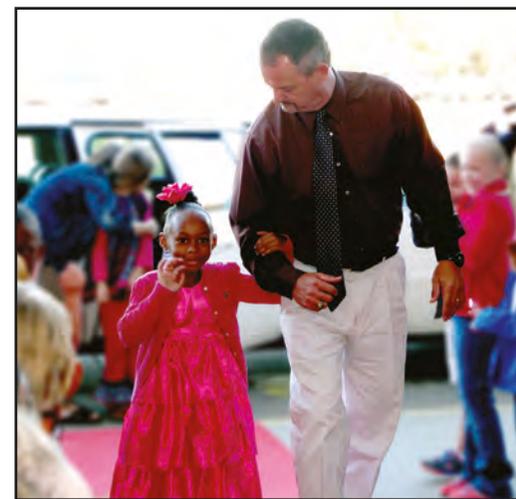
Aubrey Batson escorted by Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault



GHS Cheerleader Landon Hoover escorted Ronnie Willis



Kristian Bell escorted by GHS Assistant Principal Ezzard Beane



Zoe Beane escorted by GES 2-3 Principal Raleigh Wood



GHS Cheerleader Kiandra Kendrick escorted Jordan Armstrong



Mary Faith Vance escorted by GUES Principal Loren Harris

## GMS Students Selected for Honor Choir

GMS Choir members selected for the Elementary All State Honor Choir are (front l to r) Karmryn McCullough, Greenwood Easton, Sidney Claire Brown, (back l to r) Jakyla Reynolds, and Carrie Moorman. Students auditioned in Hernando, Mississippi, on October 17. GMS Choirs are under the direction of Gale S. Dorroh.



Photo by Anna Johnson