



## Angie Estrada - Teacher of the Year



Angie Estrada has been chosen as the Gulfport School District Teacher of the Year. Angie has been teaching 23 years as a ninth grade Algebra and Transition to Algebra teacher at Gulfport High School. She is involved in the novice teacher mentor program, is a Beta Club sponsor, and the coordinator for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Mathathon. She has a B.S. Degree in Education from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master's Degree in Education from William Carey College. While in the Gulfport School District, she has also taught at Gulfport Central Middle School, West Elementary, and Twenty-Eighth Elementary. Previous awards include Gulfport High School Teacher of the Year, Gulfport High School Teacher of the Quarter, and Gulfport Central Middle School Teacher of the Year. She is married to Ed Moleski, and has one son, Evan Moleski.

## Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss

To help celebrate "Read Across America Day", several schools in the Gulfport School District participated in this event by celebrating Dr. Seuss's Birthday. Several elementary principals dressed up to commemorate this special day. Principal Lydia Leggett of Central Elementary dressed up as the "Cat in the Hat" and Principal Kenny Hudson of Pass Road Elementary dressed up as "Thing 1" and Assistant Principal Nikki Witherspoon dressed up as "Thing 2", as they went around the school to read favorite Dr. Seuss stories to their students.





## Bayou View Middle School Receives Blue Ribbon Nomination



Mayor Brent Warr and Principal Dr. Jerry Morgan



New Banner

The Gulfport School District is proud to announce that Bayou View Middle School has been chosen by The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) as a state nominee for the national Blue Ribbon Award! Qualification is based on school achievement results as determined by the Mississippi Accountability Model.

The official announcement was made Tuesday night by Gulfport School Superintendent Glen East and School Board President David Mauffray. A second semester Open House was called for February 19th. The announcement was kept a secret from all staff members and parents. All were surprised by the news! Special presentations were made by Congressman Gene Taylor, Mayor Brent Warr, and members of the Gulfport School Board. Mayor Warr is also a Bayou View parent.

Bayou View Middle School is currently ranked number nine in the state overall on the Student Performance Index. The school is ranked seventh in algebra. Dr. Jerry "J.J." Morgan, Ph.D. has been the principal of the school for the past four years. He recognized present administrators Bryan Caldwell and Lea Bellon as well as previous teachers, students and administrators who contributed to this banner day for B.V.M.S. It is a tribute to the staff and our children that they maintained a level of excellence in the years following Hurricane Katrina. The nomination is based on five years of school performance data. Bayou View Middle School has maintained a Level 5 Superior Performance Rating since the inception of school accreditation.

## Bayou View Elementary Historical Person Wax Museum

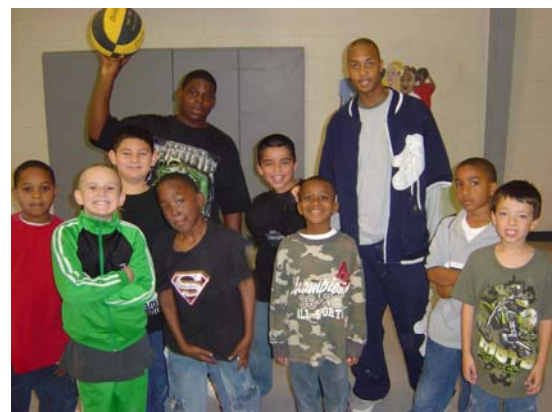
At Bayou View Elementary School, second grade students portrayed important people from history and spent the day telling visitors about their historical person "wax museum style." Visitors were able to push a button on each figure's hand to hear a short monologue about that historical person. Visitors were entertained by great figures from the past such as Benjamin Franklin, Martin Luther King, Jr, and Elvis as well as current people in history such as Neil Armstrong, Mia Hamm, and George and Laura Bush.



## Pass Road Elementary Saturday Fun / Fitness Day

On Saturday February 16<sup>th</sup>, student's who exhibited outstanding behavior, attitude, leadership, and academics were treated to a day of fun and fitness at Pass Road Elementary School.

Coach Dodson, Mrs. Rudolph, and Mrs. McCartney were on hand to play basketball, dodge ball, dance, run, and other activities with the 65 lucky students who attended. This was an invitation only event with each teacher awarding their deserving students based on the above mentioned criteria.



## National Junior Beta Club

The National Beta Club recognizes The National Beta Club Senate and authorized the institution of the Junior Division of the National Beta Club on July 22, 1961.

This new organization was officially named the "National Junior Beta Club" and was established to function organizationally as a separate division of the National Beta Club Program.

The membership of the National Junior Beta Club was originally composed of students from the sixth grade to ninth grade. In the summer of 1988, the Board of Directors approved the addition of the fifth grade.

The National Beta Club Senate approved the organization of the Junior Beta division to provide an incentive program of scholastic and character excellence for students in their formative years.

On August 17, 1961, the first Junior Beta Club chapter was chartered at Millsap Junior High School, Millsap, Texas. The objective of the National Junior Beta Club is to reward scholastic, leadership, and service achievements among the members of a school's student body. Academic achievement promotes character, develops leadership skills, encourages service involvement, and provides technological advantages to students in grades 5 - 12.

The National Beta Club stresses Leadership, Achievement, Service, and Character. Our Beta Club members are learning to lead while serving others.

The purpose of the National Beta Club shall be to promote the ideals of character, service and leadership among elementary and secondary school students, to reward meritorious achievement and to encourage and assist students in continuing their education after high school.



West Elementary Beta Pictured top from left to right

Anna Swigris, Zachery Bettinger, Luther Banks, Zedric Smith, Miranda Harvey, Madelynn Halterlein, Taliyah Ramey, Lesley Parsons, Riane Ragno, Jonathan Nance, Mark Rogers

Bottom row

Chani Cleveland, Zakiya Hardnett, Deja Simms, Vivian HoNguyen, Alexis Jones, Garrett Nash, Ambria Karlson, Kih'Ari Evers, Alexander Acevedo

## Gulfport High Spanish I Students Perform Puppet Show for Gulfport Central Middle School

Mrs. Kim Bowlin's Spanish I class from Gulfport High visited Gulfport Central Middle School on February 15<sup>th</sup> to perform a Spanish play using hand-made puppets for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish class.

The purpose of this activity was to enhance the students' listening and understanding skills of the Spanish language as well as promote the continuation of learning Spanish throughout their high school years. "I really enjoyed performing for the middle school students because we used words hoping they would understand and the puppets seemed to make it more interesting," said a Spanish I student from Gulfport High. "They seemed to be really interested in our dialogues and we could tell they were paying attention when we spoke in Spanish," remarked a Spanish I student.

Since Hurricane Katrina, the Spanish-speaking population on the Gulf Coast has increased, so learning Spanish has become very beneficial for situations with non-English speakers. There are many Latino-owned "tiendas" which prove that the population has settled here and will continue to increase. Many students with after-school jobs find themselves using the Spanish learned in class to assist Spanish-speakers as well as helping them to translate reading material.

In Mrs. Bowlin's class, the students are exposed to the various types of Spanish dialects, music, food, dancing, authentic materials, and the cultures of the many Spanish-speaking countries. Learning Spanish, or any foreign language, is very beneficial and has been proven to help increase student grades in their other academic classes. "Knowing a second language helps cross the gap between different cultures by becoming aware of another culture besides their own," said Mrs. Bowlin, "and I hope to continue the immersion of the Spanish language and culture within our own students and community for years to come."

Photo 1- left to right: Sydney Kitch, Julia Macintosh, Amayrany DeLaCruz  
Photo 2- 6th grade students and Gulfport High School Spanish I students together



## West Elementary Celebrates Black History Month



The students at West Elementary celebrated Black History month by participating in school wide activities.

The kindergarten students pictured are:  
Deon Drake, Nia Miskel, Khayla Casey, Ja'Marion Jackson, Da'Jimine Willis, Jacoby Broadnax.

## State Champion Girl's Soccer Team



That picture was taken February 25th after a School Board meeting in which the 2007-2008 Lady Admirals' soccer team was presented certificates of appreciation and achievement by the Gulfport School District school board. All Gulfport High School Administrators were in attendance and our Superintendent and Athletic Director facilitated the bestowing of awards. The team won a record 20 games en route to the first ever championship title won by a Gulfport High soccer team (or Coast 4a or 5a team...girls or boys). The team finished the season ranked third in the state with multiple players receiving individual honors. 33 girls poured their heart and soul into the program, and eight seniors led their team through a history-making season...capping it off with a decisive victory over Madison Central in the State Championship game.

## GHS "WE THE PEOPLE" WON FIRST PLACE

My competition Accelerated Government class called We The People won first in Unit I and Unit VI. They were an awesome group. The students used contemporary and historical constitutional issues to compete in a simulated congressional hearing.

Here's more about it ([www.civiced.org](http://www.civiced.org)): The primary goal of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution are to promote civic competence and responsibility among the nation's elementary and secondary students. What makes the program so successful is the design of its instructional program, including its innovative culminating activity.

The instructional program enhances students understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy. At the same time, students discover the contemporary relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

The culminating activity is a simulated congressional hearing in which students "testify" before a panel of judges. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles and have opportunities to evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues.



## Pass Road Elementary Reviews for MS Science Exam

On Thursday, February 21, the Pass Road Elementary fifth grade students participated in a hands-on group session to review for the upcoming Mississippi Science exam. Mrs. Emma Stuart and Mrs. Mary Lee, from the Gulf Coast Consortium, set up six stations on simple machines, force, parts of a flower, and the skeletal system. It was a great experience for application of the objectives taught in science and the students loved it!

In first picture: Deja, Angel, Taylor, and Roosevelt



## Pass Road Elementary Superstar Contest Leaders

Pass Road Elementary School students who are leading the Annual Superstar Contest in Coach Dodson's Physical Fitness are as following: **5<sup>th</sup> Grade leaders:** 1.Eroni Gomes and Tatiana Brookins 2.Desmond Taylor 3. Taylor Cole 4.Mia Walton 5.Shalisa Hawthorne and 5.Joyce Isham 4th **Grade leaders:** 1.Nyah Duckworth 2.Joshua Savoy 3.Jared Craft 4.Jamacia Ball and 5.Quentella Johnson **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade leaders:** 1.Simeon Walker 2.Savanah Horne 3.Orlando Brown 4.Dakota Price and 5.Cameryn Fairley **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade leaders:** 1.Alivia Turner 2.Joseph Smith **1<sup>st</sup> Grade leaders:** 1.Kelsey Price 2.Jayden Drummond **K leaders:** 1.Khalil Davison 2.Zyrena Elias.

There are over 25 events that the testing includes for speed, agility, endurance, power, and cardiovascular capacity.



## Pass Road Elementary Visits MGCCC

On Friday, February 22, the Fifth Grade students from Pass Road Elementary visited the Jefferson Davis campus of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Students attended the musical, "Symphony Rocks!" performed by the Gulf Coast Youth Symphony and WINGS performers from Lynn Meadows Discovery Center. The musicians presented a history of rock and roll, using symphony instruments and interpretive dance. PRE students listened to the Jimmi Hendrix version of "The Star Spangled Banner" on the electric violin as well as symphonic performances of several different musical groups from Bill Haley and the Comets to the Beatles.



## Central Elementary "Donuts for Dads"

Dads at Central Elementary enjoyed breakfast with their kids and a glance at the newspaper as Central Elementary hosted "Donuts for Dad" on Friday, March 7th.



## Gulfport High School - Beta Club



The following Gulfport High School students were inducted into the Beta Club at a special ceremony on February 28.

Names are listed beginning with the bottom row-left to right:

ROW I: (Officers) Brad Lanier-Parliamentarian, Tevin Brown-Vice President, Michelle Ladner-President, Megan Baker-Historian, Jessi Ballard-Secretary, Amber Thomas-Treasurer

ROW II: Taylor Schilling, Blake Edwards, Chaleigh Grose, Kendall Stout, Margaret Bernheim, Morgan Wesson, William Jarrell, Ashanti Mitchell

LOWER ROW III (center): Kinsey Zarske, Tashira Spann-Wallace, Sydney Kitch, Ashley Peeples, Shelby Harriel, Ali Shenias

UPPER ROW III: Amanda Rogers, Katie Gunkel, Aaron Guerra, Lauryn Easterling, Jack Hanson, Brooke Caudill, James Polito, Christian Bruno, Erisse Peterson

ROW IV: Jacob Norman, Imran Mohiuddin, Savannah Stewart, Corey Simmons, Jacob Chambliss, Conner Schultz, John Heflin, Jacob Troutman, Nathan Powell, Brooke Caudill, Elliot Lensgraf, David Bertucci, Brian Almy

NOT PICTURED: Carey Gunn, Ria Floyd, Aubry Hays, Hallee Killeen, Ashley Rowland, Mary Wilson

