

NEWS RELEASE

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Class of 2007

Largest-ever class maintains high standards

An annual report on Gwinnett County Public Schools' graduating seniors shows that, as of April, more than 8,000 students were on track to graduate from GCPS' 16 high schools in graduation exercises in late May.

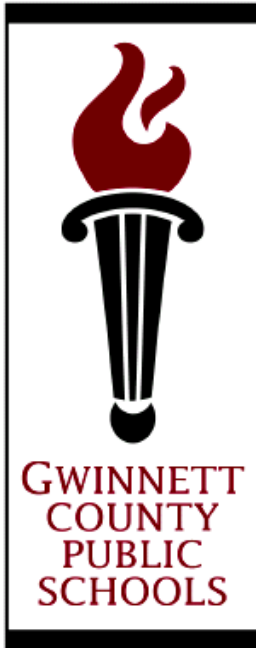
The Class of 2007 continues a GCPS tradition with the vast majority of graduates headed for college in the fall. About **88 percent of expected 2007 graduates report plans to attend college or postsecondary school.**

To date, graduating seniors have been offered **more than \$71 million in academic, athletic, and military scholarships.** Nearly two-thirds of that amount-- \$43.8 million-- comes from academic scholarships. This amount does not include awards under the HOPE Scholarship Program.

"I applaud this year's senior class on their achievements and wish them well in the future," says **J. Alvin Wilbanks**, CEO/Superintendent for Gwinnett County Public Schools. "In our largest-ever class, nearly nine out of every 10 students plan to continue their education at the postsecondary level. Individually and collectively, they've set a high standard in terms of academic, extracurricular, and athletic awards.

"As a community that values education we take pride in their accomplishments. I congratulate the students, but I also tip my hat to their parents, their teachers, and the many others who may have supported them academically through the years."

So far, GCPS student athletes earned more than \$22.7 million in athletic scholarships. Additionally, **16 students reported receiving military appointments**, totaling more than \$4.5 million. (Those appointments include eight to the U.S. Air



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Class of 2007 set to graduate

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Force Academy, four to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, two to the U.S. Naval Academy, and one each to the Marine Military and U.S. Coast Guard academies.)

Schools anticipate **more than 1,500 students**— approximately 19 percent of the class— will walk across the stage as **Honor Graduates**, graduating with an average of 90 or better. About two percent of the class is jointly enrolled in college and high school. And, **more than a third of seniors took Advanced Placement (AP) courses this school year, taking a total of 7,000 AP courses.**

Based on April standings, Collins Hill High reports the largest graduating class with 756 seniors, followed by Brookwood High with 739 graduates.

The list of valedictorians and salutatorians and the graduation schedule follow.

—*more*—

**Class of 2007:
Top students
named**

With Gwinnett County Public Schools' Class of 2007 just days away from graduation, top students at GCPS' high schools are preparing their speeches. Here are the 2007 valedictorians and salutatorians for Gwinnett County:

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<i>School</i>	<i>Valedictorian</i>	<i>Salutatorian</i>	<i>No. of Honor Grads</i>	<i>No. of Potential Grads</i>
Berkmar	Tuong- Vy Nguyen Ngo	Jonathan Walker	36	429
Brookwood	Rosaline Tio	Elliott Coor	158	739
Central Gwinnett	Zorana Mrsic	Julie Longo	75	439
Collins Hill	Bijal Vashi	Katarina Dass	119	756
Dacula	Kathryn "Katy" Wright	Sarah Azizi	59	403
Duluth	Steven Lau	Gloria Lu	112	421
Grayson	Mark Johnson	Luke Christensen	103	574
Meadowcreek	Elinor Willis	Tamanna Ahmed	40	329
Mill Creek	Bethany Ullrich	Sifat Al-Jannat Ahmad	100	602
Norcross	Justin Chang	Justin Edward	97	465
North Gwinnett	Ji Young Park	Tiffany Wagner	144	550
Parkview	Cathy Vu	Stephanie Wang	150	582
Peachtree Ridge	Eric Wang	Xuan Vuong	190	658
Phoenix	N/A	N/A	N/A	175
Shiloh	Shree Jariwala	Julia Pugh	61	450
South Gwinnett	Calley Mersmann	Kathleen "Allie" McCullen	61	503

—more—

**Class of 2007:
Graduation
exercises
planned**

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Following are dates and times for graduation exercises at GCPS' 14 high schools:

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Phoenix High Gwinnett Arena 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Berkmar High Berkmar Stadium 7 p.m.

Central Gwinnett High Central Gwinnett Stadium 7 p.m.

Collins Hill High Gwinnett Arena 7 p.m.

Brookwood High Brookwood Stadium 7:30 p.m.

Parkview High Parkview Stadium 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Grayson High Gwinnett Arena 10 a.m.

Peachtree Ridge High Gwinnett Arena 2:30 p.m.

South Gwinnett High Gwinnett Arena 7 p.m.

Mill Creek High Mill Creek Stadium 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 25, 2007

Duluth High Gwinnett Arena 10 a.m.

North Gwinnett High Gwinnett Arena 2:30 p.m.

Dacula High Gwinnett Arena 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 26, 2007

Meadowcreek High Gwinnett Arena 10 a.m.

Norcross High Gwinnett Arena 2:30 p.m.

Shiloh High Gwinnett Arena 7 p.m.

Questions about the Senior Report should be directed to **Galen Reavis**, lead counselor, at (770) 277-4488. Questions about valedictorians, salutatorians, or graduation exercises should be directed to **the high school**.