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Gwinnett schools celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month encouraging Hispanic parental involvement

This week kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 15). As part of the nationwide celebration, many Gwinnett schools organize special learning activities for students and parents. Parents and guardians are invited to learn about their child’s school, and how they can become involved in their education. These parent information activities play an important role as they can be the first step to creating a collaborative learning partnership between school and home.

The following is a list of some of the events planned:

**Beaver Ridge Elementary -- October 11, 5:30 p.m.**

The Beaver Ridge Elementary celebration focuses on literacy. Each visiting parent will receive a “Reading and Writing with Your Child” booklet. During the program, they will learn strategies that parents can use at home to help their children with reading and writing. There will be a student play, and students also will participate in a parade with Latin American music.

**Berkeley Lake Elementary -- A month-long celebration**

Berkeley Lake Elementary students, teachers, and staff will learn about Latin American countries and famous Hispanic Americans. Posters will be on display throughout the school. Morning announcements will include facts about famous Hispanic Americans as well as the “Spanish Word of the Day.” Parents are invited to visit the school and read to students on September 28 and October 10. On October 5, Berkeley Lake teachers and staff will learn about Latin American cuisine with a visit from parents and community members who will share dishes from their native countries.

**Peachtree Elementary -- September 27, 6:00 p.m.**

Peachtree Elementary parents are invited to visit the school for “An Educational Overview,” an informative night to learn more about what their child is learning, promotion requirements, and classroom expectations. A speaker from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund will speak with parents about how it’s never too early to plan for higher education. The night will close with a family meal and a student performance.

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**Berkmar Middle**
Berkmar Middle launches a community partnership to help its Hispanic students plan for higher education. Working with The Boys and Girls Club of America and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Berkmar Middle is creating the program “My Future, My Choice, My Education.” Representatives from both organizations will work on a weekly basis with a group of eighth-grade Hispanic students to reinforce the message of achieving higher education. These sessions will provide information and support to help students navigate their way from middle school, to high school, to college and on to successful professional careers in the global economy.

**Frank N. Osborne Middle -- October 24, 7:00 p.m.**
This night will allow parents of Frank N. Osborne Middle students to learn about the school system’s curriculum, and the resources for parents at their school. They also will learn about how they can work with the school to enhance their child’s academic success.

**Summerour Middle -- October 5, 6:00 p.m.**
Parents of Summerour Middle students enrolled in the English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program will learn how the program works and what they can do at home to help their children. Parents also will enjoy a night of student performances while sharing different Latin American dishes that they will bring from home.

**Peachtree Ridge High -- A month-long celebration**
Peachtree Ridge High celebrates with significant moments in Hispanic American history. The school’s International Club, and the Spanish Club will organize different activities throughout the month. Students will learn about famous Hispanic Americans. Community members also will visit the school to be guest speakers for the day.

*News media representatives interested in visiting a school for these events should coordinate with the Department of Communication and Media Relations at 678-301-6020*