

Communicator

Information for the Grenada School District Community

September 27, 2021

Communication



Superintendent's Message Dr. David Daigneault

Whenever I get a chance to visit the schools in our district, I always enjoy walking the halls and seeing what the teachers are up to. I recently visited three teachers who are among the best of the best in our district. These teachers' students routinely post high marks, and in a typical year, when we're not fighting the pandemic, they collectively produce 100 students who earn perfect scores on their year-end state assessment tests.

I was interested to hear how these three instructors approach their work, and I found a common thread among their teaching philosophies.

What's the secret? Communication.

Whether it's their communication with administrators, fellow teachers, and most definitely students, these teachers told me that developing relationships was the key to their success.

Seventh grade math teacher Emily Hatcher described her entire philosophy: students first.

Math is secondary, she confessed. First, it's the kids. If you put them first, get to know them, care about them, and love them, they will make great strides. She lets them talk, and she listens to what they have to say. She asks questions, and whoever is working a different way, she invites them to explain their method. Often, the students learn from each other. And she lets them make mistakes. It's okay to be wrong, she says, because mistakes are the best learning opportunities.

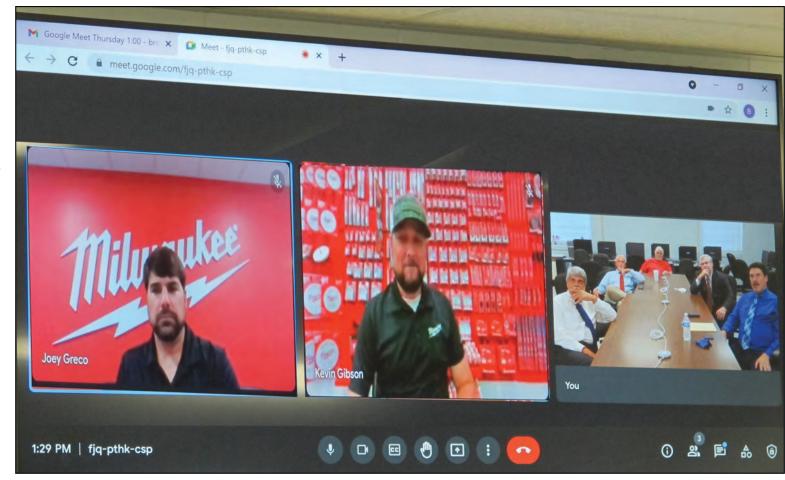
"You can teach math to anybody," Mrs. Hatcher said. "But I feel like it has to come from a place of love and service. From the heart."

Leigh Ann Melton teaches 8th grade math. She's been working with Mrs. Hatcher for many years and said they have a similar philosophy.

Mrs. Melton works hard to build a community in her classroom. Her first goal, at the start of each year, is to know her students and to build a rapport with them. Whether it's waiting by the door to welcome them into class or just being with them and talking with them, building a relationship with her students is critical to earning their trust. "They have to know that I know that they can do this," she said. "I come in here excited every day. And when they walk in here, they get excited too."

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Rogers Opens New 'Zoom Room' at Grenada Career and Technical Center



Milwaukee Tool representatives (I to r) Joey Greco and Kevin Gibson were the first to engage in a virtual meeting at the Grenada Career and Technical Center's Zoom Room. Representing Grenada School District were (clockwise I to r) Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault, consultants Don Hardin, Gerald Simmons, and Mike Mulvihill, with GCTC Director Barry Rogers.

By Jamie Kornegay GSD Reporter

After nearly two years of pandemic precautions, Barry Rogers, director of the Grenada Career and Technical Center, was looking for ways to make up for a lack of experiential learning due to social distancing.

Prior to the pandemic, students benefited from visits to local businesses that offered a first-hand look at how local industry operated. "We started to lose touch with some of our business partners," Rogers said. "Because of COVID, they couldn't come here, and we couldn't go there."

Then Rogers found a way to reconnect with those partners and develop new opportunities that will last well beyond the pandemic.

With funding from Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief (ESSER) through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Rogers was able to design and install a video

conferencing center.

Known as "the Zoom Room," the new conference center has a large 75 inch television screen and computer hub to facilitate face-to-face Google Meet calls between GCTC classes and business leaders willing to share their expertise.

"From a safety aspect, it's the best way to communicate with industry right now," Rogers said.

In addition to the largescreen television, the conference room is outfitted with a 4K camera, external speaker bars, and microphone pods that extend down the length of a boardroom table and allow twoway communication with the guest instructor.

See "Zoom"
Continued on page 2

Downtown Robotic Demo



(Photo left) Members of the GSD robotics team Pure Imagination showed off their creations at the Downtown Jubilee on Sat., Sept. 11. (L to r) Madeleine Stuvee, Misty Logan, Drew Dalton, and Jane Wicker demonstrated their competition robot, a robot from the 8th grade Project Lead the Way Automation and Robotics class, and BattleBots from the high school's Computer Science Principles class. (Photo right) Team member Drew Dalton (left) demonstrates one of the robots for her father, David Dalton.



GSD Show Choirs Perform at Grenada Jubilee



GHS Visions and GES 4-5 Pizzazz performed for the crowd during the recent Grenada Downtown Jubilee. Visions members (I to r) Jilli Dykes, Leah Briscoe, and Gabbie Willis.



Pizzazz members (back, I to r) Jonah Clark, Colton Smith, Levi Owen, (middle, I to r) Zaniah Smith, Macy Howell, Anna Austin, (front, I to r) Baby Booker, Catelyn Neathery, Brooklyn Hardiman, and Lilly Leggett.

"Zoom"

Continued from Page 1

"Ideally, we'll be able to communicate with companies not only in town but elsewhere in the United States and possibly internationally," said Rogers. "We can all be right there in the same room together."

To demonstrate the new Zoom Room set-up, Rogers invited GSD Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault, Administrative Academic Officer Lyle Williams, and consultants Mike Mulvihill, Don Hardin, and Gerald Simmons to speak virtually with two representatives from Milwaukee Tool, the power tool manufacturer that is currently preparing to open a new plant in Grenada. Milwaukee Tool's Joey Greco, plant manager in Greenwood, and Kevin Gibson, a carbide manufacturing manager, spoke with the gathering to discuss potential ways the two entities could work together.

"Obviously, for our students, it could be a way to show them what's involved in a top-level corporation like Milwaukee Tool," Rogers said. "And for them, it's great in-house training for workforce development."

In addition to the deluxe Zoom Room conference set-up, a smaller, portable unit was purchased with the grant money. Rogers plans to install a cart that can be taken outside of the classroom and into work spaces.

"I can see welding or carpentry classes being able to take their portable video conference cart into the shop and connect with experts and teachers elsewhere," Rogers said. "It's a way for students to receive training and have their work seen by people in manufacturing.

For the GCTC's culinary program, Rogers said a partnership with the Culinary Arts Institute chapter at the Mississippi University for Women in Columbus could be a fruitful partnership. "How great would it be to have high school students in our classroom kitchen watching and learning from students and teachers at one of the best culinary arts programs in the entire southeast?"

Rogers said the potential for the new Zoom Room is unlimited. The new conference room gives GCTC teachers a chance to broaden the classroom learning experience by providing front-line instruction, while showing students how to conduct meetings using state-of-the-art techniques and technology.

GSD Parent Resource Center 423 S. LINE STREET • 662-227-3370 ADULT EDUCATION CENTER/ ROOM 10 HOURS: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 and 2:00 - 5:00 p.m Friday: 8:00a.m. - 12:00p.m. Free Free computer printing Free access for school Free ACT financial Free FAFSA for school Practice related literacy application related items and help help items

GHS Class of 2021 Football Seniors



(front, I to r) Zaquarrius Cobbs, Jacob Chavis, Chris Booker, Jalyn Patterson, Tre Smith, Rashad Taylor, Joe Moss, Jahiem Shack, (back, I to r) Jaqoun Bledsoe, Sontero Coleman, Landon Trusty, Ty Kimble, Odarius Hill, Jordan Topps, Keithrick Stewart, Jakameon Perry, and Brent Jones.

Kidzeum's Life on the Farm





(Photo left) GES second graders (front, I to r) Gatlin Mabus, Lucy Hatcher, Peyton Johnson, Campbell Harrell, and Karlee Mitchell enjoyed a cow-milking demonstration with Lulu Leflore. The Women's Leadership Committee at Farm Bureau shared Lulu as part of their outreach program to promote Mississippi agriculture. Joining the students were (back row, I to r) Tange James and JoAnne Harris of Farm Bureau Women's Leadership, as well as Kidzeum teachers Melanie Williams, Tanganetta Moore, Jennifer Surrell, and Brittany Carpenter. (Photo right, I to r) Karter Mitchell, Leo Jones, Karlee Mitchell and Blakely Powell are second graders in Mrs. Walker's class who tried their hands at milking cows as part of the Kidzeum's "Life on the Farm" exhibit.

By Jamie Kornegay GSD Reporter

You can't milk a cow in class, but students at Grenada Elementary's Red Top got a hands-on lesson during the Kidzeum's new "Life on the Farm" exhibit.

Kidzeum Director Melanie Williams said the milking simulator, Lulu Leflore, is on loan from the Women's Leadership Committee at Farm Bureau. The group advocates for agriculture across the state,

• M.A. in Teaching

• M.A. and Ed.D. in Higher Ed. • M.Ed. in Early Childhood Ed.

• Ed.S. in Counselor Education

including educational resources and programs.

This exhibit, the first in a series of three visits, focused on dairy farming. Students learned about dairy products such as milk and cheese and sampled the famous Edam cheese from Mississippi State. They even enjoyed samples of ice cream and butter, which they helped make in the Kidzeum kitchen.

"They learned about cows, what they eat, and the difference between Hol-

steins and Jerseys," said Williams. "They learned that the fertilizer used on the farm came from the manure, which really captured their imagination."

In Kidz Tech, the science and technology portion of the Kidzeum, younger students in pre-K and kindergarten built their own farms from Legos, while students in first through third grades wrote stories in a comic-strip fashion on iPads.

Red Top students will have the opportunity to visit the Kidzeum for two more sessions in the farm exhibit. The current visit is focused on Mississippi agriculture. Students learn about the state's top commodities, including cotton, corn, soybeans, and catfish. The exhibit will conclude later this fall with a focus on the children's book Charlotte's Web.

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For more information, contact Associate Director Jessica Coker-Hughes

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by phone at (662) 227-2348 or by e-mail at jlcoker3@olemiss.edu

2021 GHS Homecoming Court



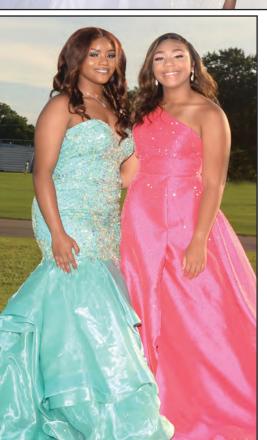
(back, I to r)
GHS Principal Emily
Tindall, father of the 2021
Homecoming Queen
Eddie Davis, 2021 Homecoming Queen Autumn
Honey Davis, GSD Superintendent Dr. David
Daigneault, 2020 Homecoming Queen Kayla
Herrington, (front, I to r) Children of the Court
Ryder Collins and Sawyer
Grace Spencer



(Photo left)
Senior Maids
Nykia Johnson,
Alexis Triplett,
Takiya Hemphill,
and Autumn Honey
Davis

(Photo right)
Children of the Court
Ryder Collins and
Sawyer Grace
Spencer









(Photos left to right)
Freshmen Maids
Gabbie Willis
and Naima Reed

Sophomore Maids Kylee Hudgens and Harlee Williams

Junior Maids Markeeria Purnell and Kayla Robinson

GSD HomecomingWeek 2021



Abbi Baker and Case Smith



Wyatt Snyder and Haygen Austin



Jakayla Kee



Grace Blair, Cameron Quinn, and Rebecca Howell



Aubrey Davis and Jordan Hill



Makynleigh Chandler, Mariyah Harbin, and Jazae Booker



Ryder Collins

(Photo right)

and Layla Spires



CJ Armstrong



Duncan Pitcock



Maddiyson Steward



Sally and Esta Minchew



Loden Marter



Mary Clayton Logan, Laura Jane Moss, and Anna Ferguson



Akera Jones, and Lauren Harges



Luke Mattox, Eli Black, Jacob Chavis, Barrett Stanford, Hayden Hobbs, McCarron Clausel, and R.J. Merriman



David Crawford, Josh Miller, and Bryce Stegall



Harrell's Metal Works Donates Awning for Pre-K Entrance





By Jamie Kornegay **GSD** Reporter

A local structural fabrication firm has stepped up to help keep Grenada School District's youngest students dry during morning and afternoon pick-ups.

Harrell Metal Works of Grenada built and donated the awning for a new covered walkway leading into the pre-K entrance at Grenada Elementary's Red Top building.

Principal Cole Surrell said the donation is a great enhancement to the pick-up and drop-off routine. "It takes a little more time getting preschoolers

out of their car seats in the morning and harnessed back in each afternoon," Surrell said. "On rainy days, it can really be a mess out there."

Surrell said on particularly wet mornings, teachers would have to change clothes after pick-up duty.

"I wanted it to be the safest pick-up possible, and this is it," Surrell said. "It's so much more efficient, and it looks good too."

Haley Harrell, the estimator with Harrell Metal Works, noticed the need for an awning and walkway at the preschool drop-off when her two children attended the program. "I just hated seeing those

teachers and all those little ones getting wet on stormy mornings," Harrell said.

Her daughter, Randi Rae, was among the first students to complete the pre-K program. Her son, Parker, currently in kindergarten, has attended since he was three. "They've both done so well in the program," she said. "It really gave them a great foundation."

Harrell took the idea for a new awning to her father, the company's president, Randy Harrell. Her brother Hunter, who serves as vice-president, had a daughter, Harper, who attended pre-K at GSD as well. They both convinced their father it was a worthwhile project.

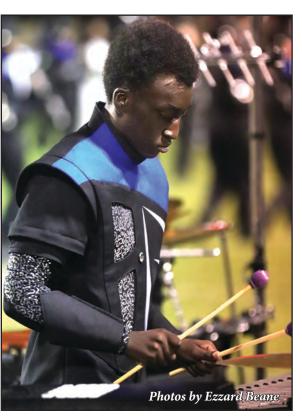
Harrell's Metal Works donated the steel and fabrication for the awning. They installed the new addition late this summer, and the school district's maintenance team oversaw the paving of the new driveway entrance.

"Harrell's did a great job tying the awning in with the building," said Surrell. "It looks like it's always been here."

Harrell says she was glad the company could help. "Those teachers deserve it," she said. "Especially after the last two

Hank Harrell's Metal Works for keeping us covered!

GHS Band Takes the Field





Grenada High School Band members (left) Ekeyvion Noel and Sidney Beane were among the marchers who hit the field for the first time this year in their new uniforms. The band donned the attire last year but only in a few performances due to the limited marching season. The band performed the first two movements from this year's competition show, Alchemy: Ordinary Becomes Extraordinary, during halftime at the homecoming football

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She said the students are more than just a number in the grade book. To her, each student is someone she's preparing for Algebra I next year. They're a kid she wants to see graduate in five years.

Pam Briscoe is the ELA specialist for 4th and 5th grade. She attributes her success to a strong working relationship with her principal, Carol Tharpe.

"Somebody once said of leadership, there must be somebody with vision and somebody to give it wings," Mrs. Briscoe said. "Mrs. Tharpe has a lot of trust and faith in the people around her to carry out her vision. That's a big part of leadership. Knowing the strengths around you and giving people room to grow. That's what helped me grow professionally."

When Mrs. Tharpe asked Mrs. Briscoe to start a book club at the Green Top, she trusted her to make it great. Mrs. Briscoe polled the students to find out what they were interested in reading, and when they met after

school, she allowed them ample time to interact. "Kids like to talk and collaborate," said Mrs. Briscoe. "We don't have a lot of time for that in the classroom each day. One thing that made the club so successful was the sharing of ideas."

Like Mrs. Hatcher and Mrs. Melton, Mrs. Briscoe has a child in Grenada School District. She said being involved in her daughter's extracurricular activities has helped her remain connected to the district as a whole. "You have to be invested in the classroom, but also know what our kids are doing outside of class."

This idea of communing with others — both establishing a classroom community and valuing open communication — has proved successful in these teachers' classrooms.

As Mrs. Briscoe told me, "You can't get better by yourself. You grow when you bring others in and your circle becomes larger."

College Preparation: Financial Aid



The price tag on today's four-year college education may be high enough to scare away even big spenders, but don't let rising tuitions discourage you from pursuing your dream of higher education. With some advanced planning and diligence, college can become an affordable pathway to a lucrative career.

You've probably heard that most college students depend on financial aid to pay for school. You've probably also heard horror stories from graduates who are haunted by student loan debt, even years after attending college.

So let's take a look at exactly what

financial aid means and how you can avoid being saddled with debt.

Financial aid is money applied toward college tuition. It can be awarded by the government, whether federal or state, as well as colleges and private lenders.

If it sounds too good to be true, be careful. Not all financial aid is free money. It can take the form of scholarships and grants, but it can also be a student loan with interest payments that begin to snowball if you're not able to actively pay down what you owe.

Scholarships and grants are two types of financial aid that you don't have to

pay back. Grants are often based on a family's financial situation. Scholarships are based on academic or athletic performance and sometimes through affiliation with certain ethnic, religious, or professional groups.

Another option for financial aid you don't have to pay back is work-study. Though it's not offered at every school, this federal program matches students with part-time employment. Generally the jobs are on campus and related to your major. You may get a job working at the library or assisting in the biology lab. Sometimes the jobs are off-campus, generally in a community service position

One of the program's added benefits is work experience for students who may have never applied for a job or been interviewed by a prospective employer. Work-study employees earn wages like any employee. Money can be applied directly to your college debt or taken in the form of a paycheck to cover living expenses.

To see if you qualify for government and school-based financial aid — as well as finding out how much and which type of aid you're eligible for — you must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

You may need your parents help filling

out the FAFSA, as it requires your social security number, federal income tax returns, bank statements, and any other financial records that show income or investments. Apply online at studentaid. gov or if you need a paper copy mailed, call 800-4-FED-AID.

The online application is thorough, and while it may sound like a monumental task, it's easier to complete now that your family's tax data can be transferred from the IRS website. Many state governments and colleges also use this application when determining aid, so it's well worth the effort — especially if it helps you locate all eligible funding.

After your federal and state financial aid options are assessed, you may find the price tag still too high. At this point, you may wish to seek a student loan, whether through the government or a private lender. A student loan is just what it sounds like — borrowed money that must be paid back with interest. That means you'll pay a percentage above what you borrowed, one of the unavoidable costs of doing business.

See "Financial Aid" Continued on page 8

Walmart Save money. Live better. Sunday Saturday GHS: Football at Madison Central 7:00om GHS: Beauty Revue @ GHS Auditorium **October** GHS: Intramural Volleyball 8:00am - 1:00pm @ GHS Gym MHSAA Marching Festival-GHS Stadium, GHS Gym, GMS Gym, Band Field GHS: Volleyball vs Winona 5:00 & 6:00 5:00pm Band: Battery Percussion and Sectionals 3:40pm - 5:15pn Band: Full Band Rehearsal 3:40pm - 5:15pm GHS: Cheer Freshman and Varsity Practice 2:30pm - 4:30pm @ Armory GHS: Football vs. Murrah 7:00pm JV Football vs. Tupelo 5:30pm @ GHS Field Visions: Practice 4:00om - 7:00om @ Visions Classroo Band: Full Parent Meeting for Help with Marching Festival in Band Hall GMS: Football vs. Tupelo 5:30pm GHS: Cheer Freshman and Varsity Practice 2:30pm - 4:30pm @ Armory Rand: Full Rand Rehearsal 3:40nm - 5:15nm GHS: Football vs. Germantown (Wounded Warrior) 7:00pm GHS: Cheer Freshman and Varsity Practice 2:30pm - 4:30pm @ Armory 9th and TV Football vs. South Panola 5:30nm Band: Full Band Rehearsal 3:40pm - 5:15pm Band: Front Ensemble 3:40om - 5:15om GHS: Intramural Volleyball 8:00am - 1:00pm @ GHS Gym School Board Meeting 6:00pm GMS: Football at South Panola 5:30pm 23 Band: Full Band Rehearsal 3:40pm - 5:15pm GHS: Cheer Freshman and Varsity Practice 2:30pm - 4:30pm @ Armory Band: Full Band Rehearsal 3:40pm - 5:15pm GHS: Cheer Freshman and Varsity Practice 2:30pm - 4:30pm @ Armory GHS: Football vs. Clinton (Pink Out) 7:00pm Band: Marching Competition TBD GHS: Intramural Volleyball 8:00am - 1:00pm @ GHS Gym 9th and JV Football at Cleveland Central 5:30pm Band: Front Ensemble 3:40pm - 5:15pm GHS: Soccer at Columbus (VG/JVG/VB/JVB) 11:00 & 1:00 11:00am GMS: Baskethall vs. Yazoo City 5:00pm @ GMS Gym IV Soccer at Columbus JVG-12:15; JVB-2:15 12:15pm ACT Parent/Student Night 6:00pm @ GHS Gym GMS: Baskethall at Calhoun City Tourney 5:00pm 30 GHS: Cheer Freshman and Varsity Practice 2:30nm - 4:30nm @ Armory Band: Full Band Rehearsal 3:40pm - 5:15pm Band Night Make-Up Date Band: Full Band Rehearsal 3:40pm - 5:15pm SPED: MDE Training @ Communications Meeting Room GHS: Cheer Freshman and Varsity Practice 2:30pm - 4:30pm @ Armory GHS: Socrer at Oxford TBD Band: Front Ensemble 3:40pm - 5:15pm GHS: Football at Oxford 7:00pm GHS: Intramural Volleyball 8:00am - 1:00om @ GHS Gvm GMS: Basketball vs. Oxford 5:00pm @ GHS Gym GHS: Soccer at Lafayette (VG/JVG/VB) 5:00 & 7:45 5:00pm JV Soccer at Lafavette JVG 6:30pm

GCTC Health Science Class Receives Field Training

(Photo right) Licensed paramedic Raymond Liberto (top right) visited the Health Science classes of Grenada Career and Technical Center teacher Anise Shuffield to teach first-aid certification. During the three-day session, students learned how to splint arms and legs in the field, how to prepare a patient for transport, wound care, and first-aid procedures, including signs and symptoms of a stroke, heart attack, diabetic emergency, and poisoning. Among the students who will receive first-aid certification, along with clinical hours required for Health Science, are (I to r) Mackenzie Porter, Taylor Alldread, and Torie

Alldread.



GSD Procedure for Bus Changes



Often parents find it necessary to change a student's placement from one bus to another. A specific process is in place that is required to implement this change. Bus changes will not be accepted by phone. The process requires the following:

- 1. Parents must send the appropriate information to the student's teacher or take the info directly to the Transportation Department at 1823 Fairground Road. Information must include:
- -Name of student
- -Parent contact information
- Address of student destina-
- -Contact info at student destination
- -Dates of change (If a change applies for the entire year, one notice will suffice. However, if the change is temporary, a note must be sent for each day.)
- 2. Teachers will send the note to the school office to have the change logged on the bus change form.
- 3. The student will receive the yellow bus change form to present to the driver upon boarding the school bus.

Grenada School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, veteran status, or other characteristics protected by law in any of its policies, practices, procedures or program operation.

Grenada School District is an equal opportunity employer. For inquiries regarding this policy on discrimination contact: Title IX Coordinator, Mrs. Kim Ezell; ADA/504

Coordinator, Dr. Lyle Williams; Grenada School District, 253 S. Main,

Grenada, MS 38901; 662-226-1606

"Kidzeum"

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Williams said the kids are excited about hatching chickens, which they learned about in their first visit. "We currently have eggs in an incubator, which we placed in the front window," she said. "The kids can walk by each day and check on the progress before they hatch in a few weeks."

Future activities include learning about hydroponic gardening, stop-motion ani-

mation, and beekeeping, which includes an inspection of a bee's wings under a microscope.

"Mississippi, especially the Grenada area, is very rural," said Williams. "So we're trying to make sure our kids understand this part of our community while enhancing their classroom lessons."

"Financial Aid"

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Interest rates are important to consider. Private lenders will often charge you more than federal aid. Any way you cut it, the best plan is to set up a payment plan and treat your loan payments like any bill. The longer you wait to pay, the more it will cost in the long run.

One option you shouldn't ignore is to seek more scholarships. It will require dedicated research, but you should know there are billions of dollars in scholarships out there just waiting for you to apply. Dedicate yourself to the task as you would one of your classes, and you may find a surprising amount of aid waiting at the end.

Set up a new email account expressly for your scholarship hunt, and get to

work. Here are some useful websites that will match your strengths and interests with scholarships you didn't even know existed:

Scholarships (scholarships.com)

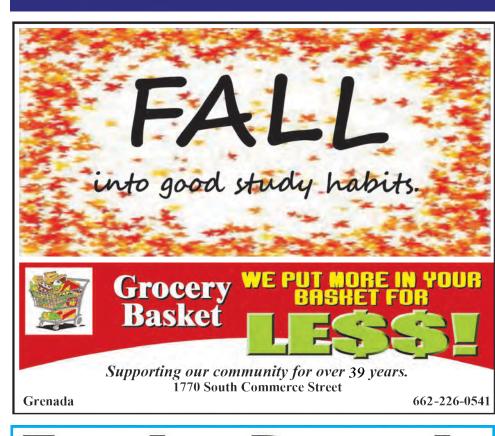
Fast Web (fastweb.com)

The College Board (bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

Broke Scholar (brokescholar.com)

Finally, don't be afraid to strive for expensive private universities. Sometimes they offer more financial aid. You may be just the student they're looking for, and they will often make it convenient for you to attend.

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