

# Excellence in Thought, Word, Deed, and Character

## Let's Do It in 2010



Principal and  
Chief Learning Officer  
Dr. Morcease J. Beasley

Greetings Parents and Students,

Happy New Year to all. It is my desire that all of you have a wonderfully prosperous, peaceful, safe, and healthy New Year in 2010. As we make tremendous progress at Columbia High School, we are encouraged by the improvements that our students continue to make. Yes, we are observing improvements in all areas. Please make plans to attend the February 18th PTSA meeting at 7 p.m. to hear the Chief Learning Officer's *State of the School Address*. This will be a time for you to hear about the tremendous progress being made at Columbia High School. We are well on our way to becoming the highest performing school in DeKalb County and in the State of Georgia. We have goals and we have implemented strategies. Our strategies are being consistently monitored and improved upon as we expect our students to learn at higher levels. Your support and feedback are always valued and appreciated.

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Parents, I encourage all of you to take time weekly to review your child's academic and attendance progress on the Parent Portal. You may visit the school's website to find the appropriate links to the Parent Portal. Additionally, please encourage your child(ren) to participate in the Principal's Book of the Month. In January we are reading Og Mandino's book, *The Greatest Salesmen in the World*. In February and March, we will be reading Stedman Graham's book, *Teens Can Make it Happen*. We read all Principal's of the Month Books during 3rd block classes.

We have begun our school-wide GHSGT initiative titled, "**Let's Do It**" as voted upon by the Junior Class. All students are expected to complete GHSGT practice problems using their GHSGT journals provided in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th blocks daily. Additionally, junior students are expected to maintain an accountability log which includes a conference with the Principal to share how they are prepared to pass the GHSGT the very first time. More will be shared during our February PTSA meeting. We thank all of you for your tremendous support as we rise toward higher levels of EXCELLENCE.

Sincerely,

Dr. Morcease J. Beasley

## Important Information for 2nd Semester

Parents, please review the new Counseling and Discipline Assignments and contact the appropriate person when needed.

Remember, our protocol is as follows:

1st Level –Teacher or Counselor

2nd Level-Assistant Principal

3rd Level-Principal



### **Counseling**

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*College is For You if  
You Are For College*

9th Grade

Mr. Evans

10th Grade

Mr. Grier

11th Grade

Dr. Elder

12th Grade

Mrs. Jackson-Jones

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### **Discipline**

9th Grade

Ms. Moss

10th-11th Grade

Dr. Duncan

12th Grade

Ms. Neill

### **Instruction**

Mrs. Benford

### **Attendance**

Dr. Petrus

### **Testing and Assessment**

Ms. Neill



## Important School Information

### Bell Schedule

#### **Block One**

8:10 am—9:41 am

#### *Class Change*

9:41 am—9:48 am

#### **Block Two**

9:48 am—11:19 am

#### *Class Change*

11:19 am—11:26 am

#### **Block Three**

11:26 am—1:27 pm

#### **Lunch Schedule**

11:26 am—11:51 am A Lunch

11:58 am Tardy Bell/Dismiss for B lunch

11:58 am—12:23 pm B Lunch

12:30 pm Tardy Bell/Dismiss for C Lunch

12:30 pm—12:55 pm C Lunch

1:02 pm Tardy Bell/Dismiss for D Lunch

1:02 pm—1:27 pm D Lunch

#### *Class Change*

1:27 pm—1:34 pm

#### **Block Four**

1:34 pm—3:10 pm

#### **Tutorial Times**

3:20 pm—3:45 pm

## Important Dates 2009-2010

### Progress Report Dates

Jan. 8, 2010 (Report Cards)

Feb. 10, 2010

Mar. 17, 2010

Apr. 26, 2010

May 28, 2010 (Report Cards)

### Parent-Teacher Conference Nights

4:30 pm—6:30 pm

Thurs. Feb. 11, 2010

Thurs. Apr. 29, 2010

### Final Exams

2nd Semester

May 17 & 19 (Senior Exams)

May 20 & 21 (Underclassmen)

### GHS GT

Georgia High School Writing Test

Feb. 24-Feb. 25 (Make-Up)

March 22-26 (Juniors/Make-up)

July 14 (Make-Up)

### AP Exams

Advanced Placement Exams

May 3—May 14, 2010

### ACT Testing Dates

Feb. 6, 2009

Apr. 10, 2010

June 12, 2010

### SAT Testing Dates

Jan. 23, 2010

Mar. 13, 2010

May 1, 2010

June 5, 2010

Get more information at

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

### PTSA Meeting Dates

7:00 pm/Cafeteria

Thurs. Feb. 18, 2010

Thurs. Mar. 18, 2010

Thurs. Apr. 15, 2010

### School Council Meeting Dates

Jan. 20, 2010 @ 10 am

Feb. 17 @ 5 p.m.

Mar. 17, 2010 @ 5 pm

### Title I Parent Meeting Information at 5 p.m.

Location: Cafeteria

Dinner Provided

Jan 20, 2010—Postponed

Feb. 18, 2010

### 2nd Semester Open House

January 12—Postponed

## Important School Information

### Junior Class Dues

2009-2010

Ms. Russell, Junior Sponsor

Email:

tialpha\_n\_russell@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

Cash or Money Orders only

Money Orders payable to:

Columbia High School

See Ms. Russell in Rm. 18 before or after school to pay your junior dues

\$130 w/o a yearbook

\$190 includes a yearbook

**Pay in full or in two installments**

1st installment \$95 due Oct. 6, 2009

2nd installment \$95 due Nov. 10, 2009

### Senior Class Dues

2009-2010

Ms. Walker, Senior Sponsor

Email:

starlin\_g\_walker@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

\$290 includes yearbook

Cash or Money Orders only

Money Orders payable to:

Columbia High School

See Ms. Walker in Rm. 18 before or after school to pay your senior dues

**Pay in full or in two installments**

1st installment \$145 due Sept. 30, 2009

2nd installment \$145 due Oct. 30, 2009

*Please email sponsors in advance if stopping by the school to pay dues.*

### Gap and Gown

\$40 Payable to Herff Jones

Ordering Sept. 10 @ 6pm

Cash or Money Order Only

## Important Numbers

Main Office

678-874-0802

Attendance Office

678-874-0819

Discipline Office

678-874-0820

Counseling Office

678-874-0832

## **2009-2010 Abbreviated Calendar**

### **January 2010**

5-Tuesday

Schools Re-open for Students

18-Monday-Holiday

Dr. M.L. King, Jr. Birthday Observance

### **February**

12-Friday-Holiday

Schools Closed/Administrative Offices

Open

15-Monday-Holiday

Schools/Administrative Offices Closed

### **April**

5-9 Monday—Friday

Spring Holidays

### **May**

21-Friday, Last Day of School



Are you the parent of a 9th or 10th Grade Student?

If so, the PTSA needs you!

PTSA needs officers to serve for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year.

Are you the parent of a graduating senior?

If so, the PTSA needs volunteers to serve!

Please contact the main office at (678) 874-0802

to leave your contact information.

Office hours are:

M-F

8:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.



## *Our Vision and Mission*

### ***Our Vision***

*Columbia High School Will be the Highest Performing High School in DeKalb County and the State of Georgia.*

### ***Our Mission***

*The mission of Columbia High School is to provide students with instruction that promotes higher level thinking skills, accountable, responsible behavior, and self-disciplined social skills, so that they are capable of meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing and increasing complex society.*

#### **Administration**

Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Principal and CLO  
Ms. Pamela Benford, Assistant Principal  
Ms. Jeanette Moss, Assistant Principal  
Ms. Cammie Neill, Assistant Principal  
Dr. Jerry Petrus, Assistant Principal  
Dr. Ellis Duncan, Assistant Principal

#### **Counseling Team**

Ms. Joanne Jackson-Jones, Head Counselor, 12th Grade  
Dr. Tiwana Elder, Counselor, 11th Grade  
Mr. Mark Grier, Counselor, 10th Grade  
Mr. Derrick Evans, Counselor, 9th Grade  
Ms. Monica Waterman, Graduation Coach  
Ms. Stephanie Griffin, Social Worker  
Ms. Jeaneen Miller, School Psychologist  
Ms. Vivian Storrs, Lead Teacher Special Education  
Ms. Toni Richardson, Speech Pathologist