

# 2011

## 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Carson Middle School  
Greene County High School  
Greensboro Elementary School  
February 2011

### Writing Workshops Pay Dividends

With new Georgia Performance Standards came a new way of assessing Georgia's students on the high school writing test. In contrast to evaluating organization, style, conventions and sentence formation the new rubric would score ideas, organization, style, and conventions. Ideas would be valued.

In order to support Dreamers in their goal to graduate high school and enter the college of their choice, Dreamers attended a two-week summer workshop where they wrote practice essays, brainstormed ideas, and practiced using a timeline to support the planning, drafting, revising, and editing of a writing sample that would determine if and when they graduated high school.

While writing college entrance essays stresses most students, Dreamers will gain the upper hand as they continue to write untimed essays discussing personal experiences which have either been a significant part of their life or has made a profound impact upon them. Dreamers continue to revisit the writing process using an established timeline for planning, drafting, revising, and editing the final essay.



Students look for rich words that support paragraph development using evidence based on documented facts.



### Field Trip to Fernbank Spurs Science Interest



The BEST group takes a picture at the foot of the Giants of the Mesozoic, a permanent Fernbank exhibition recreating the largest unearthed dinosaurs in the world

21st Century fieldtrips to science and mathematics exhibits may account for increased interest in the study of what general learners consider the most challenging studies. A recent GCHS survey revealed that 63% of our students prefer the study of science and math over language arts and social studies. Visits to exhibits

such as the Fernbank Museum of Natural History brings alive a different sense with each encounter.

In late winter, 21st Century students again experienced the thrill of another Fernbank main exhibit. Water, a vital element set the pace for adventure as "Water: H<sub>2</sub>O = Life," opened with a "curtain" of illuminated vapor. Lasers, mirrors, and acoustics mingled with water as the museum's presentation of **Sensing Nature** playfully demonstrated the interactivity of human senses in the interpretation of visual and audible cues. Students were able to watch interpretations lead to false perceptions.

Later in the exhibition, just before students met the "green screen" used for live TV weather reporting, a tornado formed right before their eyes.

On a walking tour, curved concrete walls allowed whispering from across the room repeating the experience of our forefathers who listened in the Whispering Chamber off the D. C. Capitol Rotunda.



#### COMING EVENTS

National College Fair  
Atlanta—February 13th

Food Distribution  
GCHS—February 19th

Beyond School Hours-Staff  
Conference—February 23-26

Georgia College and State  
University Campus Visit  
On Site—April 7th

Saturday Sessions  
Feb. 26th; March 5th, 26th;  
April 16th; May 7th, & 14th

Summer Session June 1st--30th

An'rique  
makes a  
giant soap  
bubble



Newly  
formed  
dinosaurs  
make a  
perfect  
picture





# 21st Century Community Learning Centers

## After-School Sessions Yields Honor Roll Status



Taking advantage of after school opportunities affords students extra time to complete assignments with the best resources available and permits the guidance of experts in the field. Classroom

teachers and highly qualified tutors are always available. With extra effort comes the opportunity to make academic honor roll and the opportunity to take the extra step of meeting and exceeding expectations in gaining entrance into the post secondary school of students' choice.

## Excerpts from Dear Project HIP...

*When I heard some of the stories. . .  
I instantly thought of a lifetime movie.*



I want to thank Project HIP for coming to tell their stories. The men told our group about how their lives were changed with one bad decision. It will make me really think before I make any decisions. The main thing that stuck with me is you should listen to the ones that really care about you— your parents and teachers, instead of your friends. Your family will be with you through the good and the bad but your friends will not. As soon as you end up in jail, they will be nowhere to be found.

Talking to teens and telling your testimonies really gets to the soul. When I heard some of the stories, I instantly thought of a lifetime movie. The difference was that these stories were REAL. It wasn't something someone wrote in a script. I could hear the pain in everyone's voice. I could hear the sincerity and the fear for us. I need to surround myself with positive people.

## 21st Century Student Leaders Take GCHS to the WWW



With Ms. Christie James at the helm and Mrs. Verley Dotson assisting, student leaders such as Tia, Erin, and Kayla have raised the bar in broadcast journalism.

These students support the main student staff as they write, direct, produce, and televise the WTIG morning news show. The show is live and each day the directors add or define a new dimension that makes the show better. There is always an element of surprise. The idea is to

keep our students and staff listening to morning announcements and perhaps even get in on the act. During Black History month the WTIG staff included community and student guests as part of the GCHS tribute to our Black History celebration. Look for us on the web at <http://www.ghsa.tv/greene> and enjoy.



**21<sup>st</sup> Century welcomes** not only new teachers from outside the area but also those who graduated from GCHS and have returned to give back to their home community. Katy Wells, a 2006 GCHS graduate and a 2010 Berry College graduate enjoys working with students who either need remediation, acceleration, or enrichment. At Berry College Katy received her B.A. degree in history (African Studies emphasis) and a minor in art. Katie's day-time job with Chick-fil-A gives her the opportunity to explore career development, job skills, and social skills with students as they study.