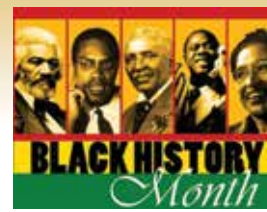


February 2015



Conceive it,
Believe it,
Achieve it



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 MIS Progress Reports	5 MHS Pageant 6pm-7:30pm Wilcox Auditorium MMS Progress Reports	6 MES Birthday Table	7
8	9	10 MHS 4 1/2 Week Exams	11 MHS Sophomore Class Ring Orders 11am-1pm MIS/MMS Hoops for Heart MES PTO Father/Daughter & Mother/Son Valentine Dance 6:30am-9am MHS 4 1/2 Week Exams	12 Holiday for Students Professional Learning	13 School Holiday	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 President's Day School Holiday	17 Board Workshop 8:00	18	19 Board Meeting 4:30	20	21
22	23 MES School Council 12pm-1pm	24 MMS Spring Sports Pictures	25	26	27	28

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System

The Georgia Department of Education will implement a new testing system, the Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) during the 2014-2015 academic year. The new system will replace both the CRCT and the EOCT.

Georgia Milestones will be aligned to the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS) and will require more from students than the CRCT and EOCT it replaces, in order to better prepare students for college and career and to provide a more realistic picture of academic progress. A major benefit of the new system is that it is one consistent testing program across grades 3-12, whereas previously students took a series of individual tests.

"The increased expectations for student learning reflected in Georgia Milestones may mean initially lower scores than the previous years' CRCT or EOCT scores. That is to be expected and should bring Georgia's tests in line with other indicators of how our students are performing," State School Superintendent Dr. John Barge said.

"We need to know that students are being prepared, not at a minimum-competency level but with rigorous, relevant education, to enter college, the workforce or the military at a level that makes them competitive with students from other states," Dr. Barge said.

The new testing system will include open-ended questions to better gauge students' content mastery. With some exceptions for special education students with specific testing accommodations, Georgia Milestones will be administered entirely online by the fifth year of implementation, compared to 35 percent online administration of the EOCT in 2013-2014.