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NEWS RELEASE  
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For Immediate Release

**ECSD News – Announcements and Upcoming Events**  
*May 25 – Jun 4, 2016*

**Announcements:**

**FLA’s Top STEM Students:** The Fla. Department of Education announced this year’s Sunshine State Scholars, eleventh-grade students who excel in science, technology, engineering and/or mathematics (STEM). The student selected to represent Escambia County is Carla Gabriela Dias from Pensacola High School. Congratulations Carla!

**Cox Hero Award Ceremony on YouTube:** This year’s Cox Inspirational Student Hero Awards Ceremony is available for viewing on YouTube at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hj\\_sQ7QZcBw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hj_sQ7QZcBw)

**Lowes Grant to Weis Innovation Center:** C.A. Weis’ Innovation Center staff want to share that they received a grant from the Lowes Toolbox for Education Program for \$5050. The grant, entitled Dreammakers, provided funds for the school to use to outfit their Makerspace with tools and materials. Students are learning how to safely use a variety of tools to express themselves creatively. Thank you, Lowes for all your company does to support ECSD students.

**2016 Battle of the Books Results:** On May 14, 2016, the Fifth Annual Battle of the Books was held at Booker T. Washington High School. Four hundred students in 3rd through 12th grades on 84 teams participated in this year’s battle. Students answered five rounds of eight questions on books they have been reading all year. Parents and families attended the reading celebration awards ceremony which was held after the battles. We want to acknowledge all teams for their hard work and dedication in preparing for Battle of the Books. All readers are champions! Thanks go to all of the coaches, proctors, those who scored each round, parents and event coordinators!! The top three teams for each level of the competition are listed below:

**3rd Grade** -- 1<sup>st</sup> place: Bellview Elementary (Trudy Laird, coach), 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Pleasant Grove Elementary (Allison Schultheis, coach), 3<sup>rd</sup> place: McArthur Elementary (Terry Burrill, coach)

**4th Grade** -- 1<sup>st</sup> place: Lipscomb Elementary (Melissa Dorsett, coach), 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Pleasant Grove Elementary (Cheyenne Forbes, coach), 3<sup>rd</sup> place: McArthur Elementary (Terry Burrill, coach) & Longleaf Elementary \*tie (Kim Hauck, coach)

**5th Grade** – 1<sup>st</sup> place: Hellen Caro Elementary (Steve Sublett, coach), 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Pleasant Grove Elementary (Annette Casey, coach), 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Oakcrest Elementary (Michelle Lingo, coach)

**Middle School Top Three** -- 1<sup>st</sup> place: Bailey Middle School (Team B) (Roberta D. Wetzel, coach), 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Brown Barge Middle School (Team A) & Brown Barge Middle School (Team B) \*tie (Susan Ingram, coach), 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Bailey Middle School (Team A) (Roberta D. Wetzel, coach)

**High School** -- 1<sup>st</sup> place: Northview (Alison Robinson, coach), 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Escambia (Alicia Bell, coach), 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Tate (Mitzi Allen, coach)

**Summer Reading suggestions:** The new SSYRA lists for 2016-2017 can be found at:

Junior program: <http://www.floridamediaed.org/ssyra-jr.html>

For grades 3-5 and middle school can be found at: <http://www.floridamediaed.org/ssyra.html>

For high school readers can be found: <http://www.floridamediaed.org/florida-teens-read.html>

**Ransom Academic Team Update:** The following students traveled to Atlanta, May 6-8, to compete for the first time in the 2016 Middle School National Championship Tournament (MSNCT): Maggie Brown, Team Captain, 7th grade; Braden Boutwell, 8th grade; Ravyn Brown, 8th grade; Chris Espy, 8th grade; Natalie Holt, 8th grade; and Elizabeth McConnell, 8th grade. These students played on teams which finished in the top 15% of all teams at tournaments throughout the year. Alternates were players new to the team, who participated in Nationals to gain experience. They were: Katie-Rose Haley, 7th grade; Emmalei Miller, 6th grade; and Lili Rollins, 7th grade. The teams report that the competition was stiff and they played teams from as far away as Oklahoma and New Hampshire. They learned that many of the top teams have been competing since elementary school. After the Friday evening scrimmages (practice rounds), they were thrilled during the preliminary rounds on Saturday to enjoy a win before lunch and another one in the afternoon! Two of their players finished in the top 200 among nearly 900 students nationwide! Focused teamwork allowed Ransom to finish ahead of several more experienced teams. Summer practices are in the works - with veteran players ready to help get the team ready for next year. Congratulations to all!

## **Upcoming Events:**

### **Montclair Elementary School's Humpty Dumpty Challenge**

**May 25, 9:00 a.m.**

Montclair Elementary School's 5th graders will be using their engineering and team work skills to create a container that will help Humpty Dumpty (a raw egg), survive a fall from a Gulf Power bucket truck onto the concrete parking lot. The event, which will take place on May 25, is a culminating activity for their month long, school wide STEM initiative. Kindergarten students as well, will be experimenting with Humpty in their classrooms and predicting which materials will protect him from a fall. They are excited to be spectators and cheer the 5th graders on!

POC: Kristen Danley, Montclair Elementary School, 850-595-6969.

### **Last Day of School for Students**

**May 26, dismissal times will vary**

### **Memorial Day Holiday**

**All schools and office will be closed**

**Last Day of School for Teachers  
May 31**

**Backpackprojectusa.com Spirit Night**

**Jun 1, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

All three local Sonny's locations will be having Spirit Night to support the IB students' efforts to raise funds again this year to help the ECSD Maintenance Dept. fill Friday snack packs for local children. Tell your server when you place your order that you are supporting backpackprojectusa.com. Sonny's will donate 25% of your total to the project. This works for dine-in, drive-thru and/or carry out orders.

POC: Scott Stillman, 850-595-0135, Laura Brewer 850-595-1500, ext. 245.

**GRADUATION CEREMONIES**

**All high ECSD high school ceremonies will be LIVE streamed. The link will be on the Families' page on the District's web page. The feed will start 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. The ceremony will be available for viewing later on the District's YouTube page.**

**Graduation Ceremony for Graduates from GSTC, Virtual Academy and Judy Andrews  
May 24, 6:00 p.m.**

The 2016 Graduation ceremony for the George Stone Technical Center, Escambia Virtual Academy, & Judy Andrews (Second Chance) graduates will be held in the Auditorium at Pensacola High School, May 24, at 6:00 p.m.

**Graduation Ceremony for Escambia Westgate  
May 25, 9:00 a.m.**

Escambia Westgate's Graduation Ceremony will be held at Escambia Westgate.  
POC: If families have any questions, contact the school at 850-494-5700.

**High School Graduations at the Bay Center  
May 27**

Tate High School – 11:00 a.m.

West Florida High School – 2:30 p.m.

Pine Forest High School – 6:00 p.m.

**Northview High School Graduation  
May 28, 4:00 p.m.**

Their ceremony will be held at Northview High.

**High School Graduations at the Bay Center  
May 31**

Escambia High School – 11:00 a.m.

Pensacola High School – 2:30 p.m.

Booker T. Washington High School – 6:00 p.m.

## **Reminders**

### ***Now Available - Online Registration for New Students –***

Now available on the ECSD Homepage – [ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com](http://ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com) – there is a link to the new “Online Student Registration” page – [ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/focus/enrollment](http://ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/focus/enrollment). ECSD asks everyone who meets a family new to Escambia County to please tell them to go to our homepage as soon as they can, go to this link and start the process to register their children in their neighborhood school. There is also a link to a form that will allow users to enter a street address to find out which elementary, middle and high school serves their new location. They will still need to go to the school with birth certificates, proof of residency (such as a utility bill), and school physical/shot records, but starting the “paperwork” online will streamline the process and shorten their visit. Any questions should be directed to your closest school or the School Choice Office at 850-469-5580.

**Kindergarten Registration:** Parents whose child will be 5 on or before Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> should visit their neighborhood elementary school to register their student for Kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year. ***This can also be started with NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM!!!!*** They will still need to bring their child’s birth certificate, immunization record, and a completed school physical form, and proof of residency (utility bill, rent receipt, etc.) to the school - ***but using the new online option will streamline your whole visit!!!*** If they have any questions, they should call their neighborhood school. If they are not sure which school to call, they can go to the district’s home page. Open the Quick Links list and then the link to Find Your School. They then enter a street name to find out which school to call. Back on the Homepage, there is also a link to a list of all of the ECSD schools that can be used to get contact information or to go to the school’s homepage.

**Up Date All Contact Information:** Everyone is asked to help spread the word that all families need to keep their address and contact information as up-to-date as possible with their students’ schools. Not only is this information critical if your student has an emergency or takes ill, but this information is also used to keep bus routes up-to-date and allows the transportation department to have the ability to contact homes if there will be a delay in the bus schedule. Your help is greatly appreciated. ***When parents go by the school, the staff can print out the information currently in the computer and then the parent simply annotates what needs to be changed!***

**Title I PreK/VPK Office –** Please share the news that parents of children who will be 4 on or before Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, may want to visit the Title I PreK staff for assistance with their application for their State VPK Certificate of Eligibility, or to enroll their student (after receiving the COE from the State) in an ECSD Title I VPK program for the fall of 2016.

Media queries about any event listed on this release should be directed to Kim Stefansson, at 850-469-6219 or [kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us).

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Go to Escambia Schools Public Relations on [www.facebook.com/ecsd.public](http://www.facebook.com/ecsd.public) to see pictures of recent events.

Visit ECSD’s web page at [www.escambiaschools.org](http://www.escambiaschools.org)