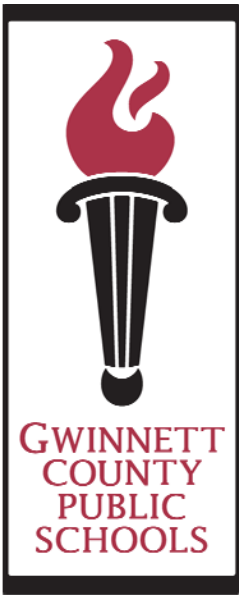


NEWS RELEASE



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437 Old Peachtree Road, NW
Suwanee, GA 30024-2978
678-301-6000
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 16, 2008

Contact: Communication and Media Relations, 678-301-6020

Gwinnett's Meadowcreek High hosts full day program for college readiness

Meadowcreek High will be the center for information on higher education as the Gwinnett school hosts "Steps for Success," a full day program to help Hispanic and Latino students and their parents prepare for college and make the best educational decisions. The program, open to all students, is organized by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) in partnership with Univision 34, WUVG TV, the locally owned and operated affiliate for the national Spanish language television network. Both organizations have teamed up with Gwinnett's Meadowcreek High as they make additional efforts to prepare students for higher education and beyond.

The daylong program is one of its kind, as it also includes special presentations for parents. In addition to an agenda full of college preparation sessions for middle and high school students, these work sessions are especially designed to guide the parent, a critical part to a student's bright future. "It is important for parents to 'Be There' when students are making a high school plan and planning for the future as a positive support system for their child," says **Bob Jackson**, Meadowcreek High's principal. "These decisions will have an impact on the rest of a student's life. Parents have a vested interest in making sure that these decisions are sound, present opportunities for success, and have long-term positive effects."

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund has invited about 11,000 Gwinnett students and their parents to take part in this college readiness opportunity. Students and parents who register ahead of time will learn from sessions such as how-to instruction on taking the SAT or ACT, information on the financial aid process, assistance in writing a personal statement (essay) for college applications and scholarships, and guidance in finding a college well-suited to the student's educational background and interests. In addition, representatives from about 20 different colleges and universities from around the Southeast will be present to answer questions.

The free event is scheduled for Saturday, October 25, 2008, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., at Meadowcreek High, 4455 Steve Reynolds Boulevard in Norcross.

Students and parents interested in attending must register by Tuesday, October 21. They can do so by calling HSF's toll free number at 1-888-814-8410, or via the internet at www.hsf.net/S4S-registration-en.aspx