

*Gwinnett County
Retired Educators
Association*



*Scholarship Recipients
April 2023*

High School Recipients

Katherine (Katie) Knoedler



Katie graduated from Norcross High School. She plans to attend Georgia College & State University. Katie has a stellar record in high school including strong grades, involvement in activities and service. Of most interest to educators, Katie took on a work-based internship as a teacher's assistant in her senior year. This experience solidified her goal of training as an elementary school teacher.

Brooke Meltzer



Brooke graduated from Mill Creek HS. Brooke plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. During her HS career Brooke participated in many activities and service-oriented actions. In an effort to fully explore her potential area of study, Brooke did extensive observation and co-treatment with several GCPS Speech-Language Pathologists. This firmed Brooke plans to major in Speech-Language Pathology at the University level. Additionally, Brooke was awarded the Dr. Janice L Calkins Speech-Language Pathology Scholarship.

GGC Recipients

Gabriella Mentor



Gabi loves to volunteer. She helps with the children's ministry at her church. She volunteers with the Atlanta Children's Foundation which works with foster care children throughout the summer. She has also assisted with Reading Rescue.

Gabriella believes that "teaching is a profession that calls you, you can not just do it. It called me"

Her professor describes her as punctual, poised, and professional. Her mentor teacher describes her as dedicated, organized, and empathetic.

Rubi Montanez



Rubi is described by her professor as "one of the most reflective preservice teachers I have taught over the past 20 years." She goes on to say that Rubi is bilingual with "impeccable English". This will make her a valuable asset to any school.

Her professor and mentor teacher describe her as thoughtful and responsive, confident, determined, humble and kind. This was evident in her willingness to serve as an interpreter for parent-teacher conferences even after school hours.

Her professor summed up her reference letter by saying, "As a veteran teacher and coach of 25 years, Rubi gives me hope for the future."

Teacher Recipients

Nikol "Nikki" Withrow



Nikki has 13 years' experience. She taught at Couch Middle School and Discovery HS before taking a position at the County Office as an Instructional Coach. She wants to continue to learn the best ways to leverage technology as a differentiation tool that will help best support teachers and students. She is obtaining her EdD Instructional Technology at Walden University.

Myra Coria



Myra has taught 4 years in Online education and 3 at Snellville Middle School as an ESOL Teacher for a total of 7 years. Her Bachelor's Degree is in Special Education with a concentration in Deaf Education. She is obtaining her EdD in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Second Language Acquisition. She has been accepted into the graduate program at American College of Education. Myra was also a student at Snellville Middle and graduated from South Gwinnett HS. She was a first-generation high school graduate and is proficient in American Sign Language, Spanish, and English.

