

The Gap Connection

Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School's Parents' Association

Dear RGNS Parents,

Welcome to the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School 2010-2011 school year! The Gap Connection is the parents' association at RGNS and provides time, talents, and funds as a resource to the school community. Each year we look forward to meeting the school's ever-changing needs to help ensure another successful year for our students. This year, more than ever, your time and resources are needed to make our school the best it can be.

I am the mother of a rising senior and I consider myself very fortunate to be able to give back to the school that has given my daughter and my family so much. However, I need your help. As many of our regular volunteers have "graduated" with their seniors, we need new parents to get involved and continue our many programs. We have already begun to make plans for some of this year's projects, both successful repeats and some new projects. Please, as an RGNS parent, get involved in at least one of our projects. We provide many different services to the school as well as fund many awards, thanks to the dedication of our parents. Below is a list of some of our activities and accomplishments from the 2009-2010 school year.

- Hosted a fall forum "Technology: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" to help educate parents about potential online pitfalls for students
- Partnered with the College Counseling Office to host a spring workshop "College 101" to help parents better understand the college process and timeline
- Sponsored Recycled Uniform Clothing Sales as a service to RGNS families
- Hosted a Dessert Reception for parents during Fall Parents Weekend
- Hosted the annual Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Continued participation in the Ingles Tools for Schools program as well as the Box Tops for Education program, both of which provide resources for our campus
- Staffed the school library each Sunday afternoon with parent volunteers
- Supported our basketball, baseball, and soccer teams through the concession stands, staffed by parent volunteers
- Hosted the Annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, which raised \$600
- Hosted the Annual Silent Auction, which raised \$2,600
- Sponsored Adopt-a-Dorm, which provides monthly goodies to dorm students
- Held the Annual Chocolate Fest, benefiting the RGNS Fine Arts Department
- Provided financial gifts to classes to help support activities selected by the student government
- Awarded over \$10,000 to teacher projects and classroom programs through the Project Funds Program
- Awarded \$500 scholarship to a Senior Volunteer Service Leader
- Awarded \$500 scholarships to 6 Outstanding Returning RGNS Students
- Supported the school's Annual Fund
- Donated \$600 to Uniform Outreach, a partnership with the school bookstore

The Executive Committee will meet on a monthly basis (all parents are invited and welcome to attend) and we will host two or three general meetings through the year for all parents. All meeting dates will be posted to the parent page of the school website. The general meetings will include a brief business meeting and will offer relevant and informative programming. Last year's programs are mentioned above - "Technology: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly" and "College 101."

Your child and every other RGNS student will benefit directly from the Gap Connection activities. Our goal this year is to have 100% of our parents join our association to support the RGNS students. The personal involvement of EVERY parent is the key to our success. Please join the Gap Connection today. The \$25.00 dues provide the foundation for the valuable contributions listed above.

As we continue our commitment to RGNS, parents are vital to the success of the Gap Connection and RGNS! Please be sure to stop by the Gap Connection table during RUSHHE Registration on Sunday, August 15th or during Academic Registration on Saturday, August 21st to meet other parents and learn how you can get involved. We have many opportunities throughout the year for parents to participate whether you live locally or out of town. Also please take the time to complete the enclosed form and return it with your membership check.

I look forward to working with you during the 2010-2011 school year. The Gap Connection is always looking for new faces and new ideas to help make our Association a success. If you see a project that interests you, or you have some ideas to share, please feel free to contact me at joypritch@bellsouth.net.

Sincerely,



Sheila Joyner-Pritchard
Mother of Minna '11
President, The Gap Connection