

ACADEMIC | ATHLETIC | SPIRITUAL



GLADES DAY SCHOOL

2024-25 SY

# YEAR IN REVIEW

GLADES DAY SCHOOL

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OUR INSTITUTIONAL DONORS*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**1-2**

## **Welcome Letters**

A short message from the Head of School and Editor

---

**3-4**

## **School Overview & Years of Service Recognition**

An overview of the 2024-25 SY & recognizing staff for their dedication

---

**5**

## **Best-of-the-Best: Pete Walker Hall of Fame**

Coach Pete Walker inducted into the FACA Hall of Fame

---

**6-7**

## **Best-of-the-Best: Call From The Heart**

\$150,00 raised for a new school bus

---

**8-9**

## **Best-of-the-Best: Glades Day FFA**

GDS FFA celebrates growth during the 2024-25 SY

---

**10-11**

## **Best-of-the-Best: Buddy Sizemore Recipient**

Meet the 2024-25 Teacher of the Year Andrea Landing

---

**12**

## **Gators Who Serve**

Meet some of our GDS Alumni currently serving in the PBSO

## **Portrait of a Graduate**

Meet the 2024-25 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

---

**13-18**

## **LS Student Council President Feature**

Brinley Davis leads with heart and donuts

---

**19-20**

## **US Student Council President Feature**

President Reilly Baltazar leading with unity and spirit

---

**21-22**

## **A Year With The STEAM Lab**

GDS students explore, build, and innovate at the Barhoush STEAM Lab

---

**23-25**

## **Gators In Europe**

GDS students take a trip to London, Paris, and Rome

---

**26-29**

## **2024-25 Gator Athletics**

A review from Coach Threlkeld and 2024-25 athletic season recaps

---

**30-43**

## **A Year In Pictures**

Highlighting the people and places that made 2024-25 unforgettable

**44-46**

## GLADES DAY SCHOOL

# FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



Dear GDS Family and Friends,

It is my joy and privilege to share with you the 2024–2025 Year in Review. This annual publication offers a heartfelt reflection of our mission in action—as we Commit to Inspire all students to Lead academically, athletically, and spiritually.

Within these pages, you'll find more than just highlights; you'll discover the heartbeat of Glades Day School. From classroom achievements and athletic victories to service projects, opportunities to grow in faith and unforgettable campus traditions, this year's journey has been marked by growth, resilience, and a renewed sense of connection. Our students have stepped into leadership roles with confidence, our faculty have poured into them with purpose, and our families have remained the steady support behind it all.

This community is truly the foundation of all we do. Thank you for believing in our mission, supporting our students, and helping to shape a school culture where character, curiosity, and commitment thrive. Your partnership continues to strengthen and elevate every aspect of the GDS experience.

I invite you to enjoy this year's edition and celebrate all that we've accomplished—together. As we begin a new academic year, I hope this publication serves as a reminder of what we've accomplished together—and an inspiration for all that lies ahead as we look forward to the promise of another exciting year.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amie L. Pitts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Amie Pitts | Head of School**

## Board of Trustees 2024-25

Jake Davis '99, Chairman  
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Matt Weeks '88, Vice Chairman  
Willie Bueno '87  
Billy Sanchez '80

David Lively '96, Treasurer  
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Scott Wilkins

# Letter from the Editor

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It's with great pride that we bring you Issue 3 of The Gator: Year in Review - a tradition we've been honored to rekindle and continue for the second year in a row!

Over the course of the 2024-25 school year, our students, staff, and community members once again reminded us why Glades Day School is so special. From academic milestones to championship wins, heartfelt celebrations to everyday moments of growth, this issue captures the energy, heart, and achievements that defined our year.

We're excited to share this magazine with all of you - our students, families, alumni, sponsors, and community supporters - and hope it gives you a chance to reflect on what we've accomplished together. Printed copies are available in the Main Office and Media Center for anyone who'd like to flip through the pages in person.

Thank you for being a part of our journey this year. Here's to everything we celebrated in 2024-25 and all that's still to come!

With gratitude,

**John Tkebuchava | Marketing & Communications Director**



# School Overview

336

TOTAL STUDENTS ENROLLED

FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR, GDS WELCOMED 77 NEW STUDENTS WITH A TOTAL OF 336 STUDENTS

## TOTAL ENROLLMENT

THE STUDENT ENROLLMENT RETENTION RATE FOR THE 2024-25 SY WAS 84%

## RETENTION RATE

84%

OF STUDENTS FROM 2023-24 REENROLLED FOR THE 2024-25 SY

52

FACULTY & STAFF

52 FACULTY AND STAFF WERE EMPLOYED DURING THE 2024-25 SY

## TOTAL STAFF

THE GDS CLASS OF 2025 HAD A GRADUATION RATE OF 100%

## GRADUATION RATE

100%

GRADUATION RATE

FCIS

FULLY ACCREDITED!

GDS REMAINS A PK3-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PRIVATE SCHOOL, FULLY ACCREDITED BY THE FLORIDA COUNCIL OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (FCIS)

## ACCREDITATION

# Glades Day School: Years of Service

RECOGNIZING STAFF FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND LOYALTY TO OUR STUDENTS AND SCHOOL



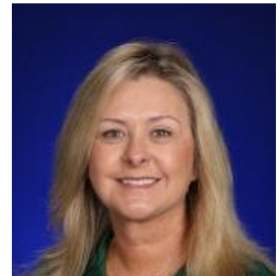
CRYSTAL ALCALÁ | 5 YEARS



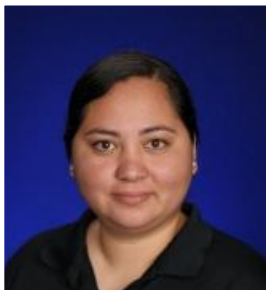
JAIME FLOOD | 5 YEARS



ZACH LANDING | 5 YEARS



KAREN RODRIGUEZ | 5 YEARS



GLORIA SORTO | 5 YEARS



MONICA VILLANUEVA | 5 YEARS



SHELLI BAIR | 10 YEARS



PAT KUJAWSKI | 10 YEARS



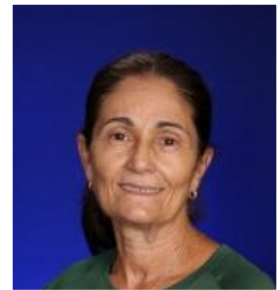
KERRY DESROCHERS | 15 YEARS



SHEILA SANCHEZ | 20 YEARS



CARMEN SANFORD | 20 YEARS



MAYRA PEREZ | 20 YEARS



CRAIG DOBSON | 25 YEARS



NIZI HERNANDEZ | 30 YEARS

# The Best of the Best:

## Highlights of the 2024-25 SY

### COACH PETE WALKER INDUCTED INTO THE FACA HALL OF FAME

#### *A GLADES DAY SCHOOL LEGEND HONORED FOR A LIFETIME OF COACHING EXCELLENCE*

This school year, Glades Day School had the distinct honor of celebrating one of its most legendary figures. Coach Pete Walker, who began his head coaching career at GDS in the late 1990s, was officially inducted into the Florida Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

During his time with the Gators, Coach Walker led the football program to multiple state championships, laying the foundation for a tradition of excellence that still echoes through our athletic fields today. His leadership, passion, and mentorship left a lasting mark on student-athletes and coaches alike.



The Hall of Fame recognition is a testament to his decades of dedication to the sport of football and to the young men he coached throughout his career. His commitment to excellence both on and off the field has earned him this prestigious and well-deserved honor.

We were especially proud to support Coach Walker at the FACA Induction in Orlando earlier this year. In attendance alongside Coach Walker were several current GDS coaches who served under him during his time here, as well as former Head Coach Bryon Walker, a 2003 FACA Hall of Fame inductee himself. The reunion was a powerful reminder of the deep roots and enduring legacy of Gator athletics.



## The Best of the Best:

### **CALL FROM THE HEART HITS THE MARK: \$150,000 RAISED FOR A NEW SCHOOL BUS**

Each year at the GDS Gala, our community comes together for one of the most meaningful moments of the night - the Call From The Heart fundraiser. It's a time when Gator families, alumni, and supporters raise their paddles to support a project that directly impacts the student experience.

Last year's campaign exceeded expectations, raising over \$72,000 to fund brand new gym flooring, athletic branding in the gym hallway, and custom folding chairs. The results transformed our athletic spaces and created a more polished and professional environment for events and games.

This year, Glades Day School set its sights even higher with an ambitious goal of \$150,000 to purchase a brand new school bus - a critical investment for student transportation, field trips, and athletic travel. Thanks to the generosity and dedication of our incredible donors, we reached our goal.

We are beyond grateful for the continued support of our Gator community. Your commitment helps drive our mission forward - quite literally this year!

Take a look at the next page for a list of our generous donors!



# Thank You

## -2025 Call From The Heart Donors-



Aerial Crop Protection  
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Ricky & Alleigh Reitz  
Robert & Berta Alvarez  
Robert & Lissette Rodriguez  
Royal & Deirdre Hayes  
Seminole Supply Company  
Sharon Baird  
Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative  
Timmy & Stormi Stein  
Timothy & Cynthia Prescott  
Trey & Holly Sizemore

# The Best of the Best: Glades Day FFA Celebrates Growth



THE 2024-25 SY MARKED A SUCCESSFUL AND INSPIRING CHAPTER FOR THE GLADES DAY FFA, HIGHLIGHTED BY NEW LEADERSHIP, GROWTH, TRADITION, AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

The 2024-25 school year marked a new chapter for the Glades Day School FFA program, as Crystal Alcala stepped into the role of FFA advisor after previously serving as a Lower School teacher. Her transition into agricultural education was seamless, and she quickly proved to be a natural leader and mentor in her new position. With a strong commitment to both tradition and progress, Mrs. Alcala helped guide the program through a successful and memorable year!

One of the year's major highlights came in January at the South Florida Fair. The GDS FFA and independent exhibitors proudly participated in multiple events across the weekend. Thursday's weigh-in was a historic moment for the group, with every participant's hog making weight - a first for the program. Under Mrs. Alcala's direction, students were well-prepared and confident heading into the fair.



FFA ADVISOR CRYSTAL ALCALA LED GDS THROUGH A STANDOUT 2024-25 YEAR WITH CONFIDENT LEADERSHIP, AND A COMMITMENT TO TRADITION AND PROGRESS. PHOTO CREDIT: GREG BALTAZAR

## GLADES DAY SCHOOL



The competition events showcased the students' hard work and sportsmanship. Thursday night featured showmanship, and on Friday, participants competed in the hog show. Among the standout moments was Jayden Ramos earning first place in her class, a proud achievement for both her and the entire program.

Saturday concluded the fair weekend with the annual auction. The success of the auction was made possible through the generous support of local businesses and families. The Glades Day School community remains incredibly thankful to all who contributed and to the South Florida Fair for providing such a valuable experience.

The year wrapped up on a high note with the Glades Day FFA Banquet - an evening filled with celebration, appreciation, and heartfelt goodbyes to seniors. Mrs. Alcalá honored the legacy and values of the community with a meaningful ceremony that left a lasting impression. Parents, students, and supporters gathered to reflect on the accomplishments of the year and to recognize the seniors who will be carrying the lessons and spirit of the program into their next endeavors.

With the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year, the Glades Day FFA stands proud - stronger than ever thanks to the leadership of Mrs. Alcalá and the support of an incredible community. With a bright future ahead, we look forward to another year of growth, dedication, and success!



# Buddy Sizemore Recipient: Andrea Landing

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FROM GDS ALUM TO GUIDING LIGHT, ANDREA LANDING EMBODIES THE SPIRIT, SERVICE, AND LEGACY OF THE BUDDY SIZEMORE AWARD



Glades Day School is proud to announce Mrs. Andrea Landing as the 2025 recipient of the Buddy Sizemore Award, the school's highest annual honor recognizing excellence in teaching and service. Named after former GDS trustee and headmaster Mr. Buddy Sizemore, a Vietnam War veteran and beloved leader, the award commemorates individuals whose work and character embody his legacy of commitment, integrity, and impact on the school community.

For Andrea Landing, Glades Day School isn't just her workplace - it's her home. A proud member of the Class of 2014 and the 2013 Homecoming Queen, Andrea's journey with GDS began in preschool, and though she left for a period, she returned in 7th grade and never looked back. Her ties to the school are deep and generational: her brother, sister, and husband are all GDS alumni, and now two of her own children are Gators, with one just completing K3 and the other finishing first grade.

After earning her Bachelor of Arts in Science/Family Child Sciences, Andrea began her teaching career in a private school setting, working with 5th and 6th graders across all subjects. When she returned to GDS professionally, she joined the middle school as an English and electives teacher. Over time, however, she began leaning more toward a counseling role. "I really just realized how much mental health ties into academics," Andrea said. Her collaboration with Amanda Capalbo, GDS's Social-Emotional Learning Specialist, further cemented her belief that supporting a student's emotional well-being is inseparable from helping them thrive academically.

## GLADES DAY SCHOOL

Though she once envisioned herself as a hospice nurse or first grade teacher, her passion for student counseling has grown steadily. She is currently completing her Master's in Counseling and will fully transition into a school counselor role next year, stepping away from her position as English Department Head.

Andrea's empathy and dedication are deeply personal. As a first-generation college student, she understands the anxiety many students face. "Trying to navigate senior year and applying for colleges - it's really stressful. I spent a lot of nights crying," she recalled. This understanding fuels her commitment to being present for her students in ways that go beyond academics.

"Being able to be a listening ear through some of the hardest times of the students' life. To cheer them on. To help them know there's someone in their corner helping them every step of the way," she said, describing what she loves most about her role. But the work isn't without challenges. "Trying to leave work at work is really difficult when you build that relationship with students. You take so much of that on (personally) when they are in a deep crisis," she acknowledged.

Her relatability - as a young teacher, GDS alum, mother, and student herself - gives her a unique ability to connect with students navigating the pressures of growing up in today's digital world. She sees firsthand the challenges young people face and is a steady, compassionate presence as they learn to overcome them.

Her colleagues shared the following:

Mrs. Capalbo, who is mentoring Mrs. Landing through her graduate program, shared the following: "Andrea has an unwavering passion and dedication that makes a daily impact on the lives of our students. Each student is met with a warm smile, empathetic ear and a heart full of love."

And, Mrs. Stormi Stein who was the administrator who hired Mrs. Landing shared, "When I first spoke to her about coming to Glades Day, I knew right away—we needed her. Her youth brought an energy and perspective that immediately connected with our students in a meaningful way."

For her tireless devotion to student growth, her deep love for her alma mater, and her ever-growing impact as both educator and mentor, Andrea Landing represents everything the Buddy Sizemore Award stands for. Her GDS journey continues - now in a new role - and her influence on the next generation of students will undoubtedly be lasting.

Congratulations, Mrs. Landing - your Glades Day School family is proud of you!



“

“HER YOUTH BROUGHT AN ENERGY AND PERSPECTIVE THAT IMMEDIATELY CONNECTED WITH OUR STUDENTS IN A MEANINGFUL WAY.”

stormi stein | academic support coordinator



# Gators who SERVE



GDS is proud to recognize alumni who have continued their commitment to service by protecting our community as members of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. These individuals exemplify leadership, integrity, and courage – values they carried with them from the halls of GDS onto the streets of Palm Beach County. We also extend our pride and gratitude to the many other GDS alumni serving with PBSO, whose dedication and achievements continue to make us proud!



**ROGER D. BRITT, JR.**

*Class of 2003*

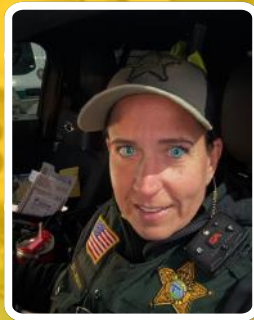
K9 Deputy Britt has served with PBSO for eight years and is currently part of the Special Operations Division K9-23.



**REY SORIANO**

*Class of 2009*

Serving since 2009, D/S Soriano is currently assigned to the PBSO Traffic Division's Motor Unit.



**LISA ANN BENSON**

*Class of 1999*

With 12 years of service, D/S Lisa Ann Benson began her career as a 911 Dispatcher and is now part of the North Region Road Patrol Traffic Unit.



**EMILIO R. GRAVERAN**

*Class of 1997*

Now serving as a Fugitive Warrants Agent, Emilio Graveran has eight years with PBSO and previously worked in Road Patrol & Property Crimes.



**ISRAEL "BOO" BAEZ**

*Class of 1999*

With 19 years at PBSO and prior service at the Belle Glade Police Department, Det. Baez continues to serve the community with experience & dedication.



**JOSE GARZA, JR.**

*Class of 1995*

With 11 years of service, Jose Garza, Jr., serves as a Correction Deputy, bringing dedication and experience to his role.



**JODY L BENSON**

*Class of 1999*

With 22 years of service, Jody Benson began at the Belle Glade Police Department before joining PBSO, serving in multiple units and now leading as a Sergeant.



**EMMANUEL CANO**

*Class of 2013*

Now serving in the PBSO Motor Unit, Emmanuel Cano has eight years of service and a proud GDS legacy that began in 3rd grade (GDS is also where he met his wife).



**BRAD SEIDER**

*Class of 1996*

A 20-year PBSO veteran, Sergeant Seider has led within the Detective Bureau since 2017, bringing leadership & investigative expertise.

PORTFOLIO OF  
GRADUATE

REILLY  
BALTAZAR  
VALEDICTORIAN  
CLASS OF 2025

---



“Portrait of a Graduate” speeches are presented at the Annual Parents Meeting. This speech was presented by 2025 Valedictorian Reilly Baltazar. With these speeches, our graduates talk about their time at GDS and highlight their memories and the difference GDS and it’s staff has made on their lives.

As one of many proud seniors in Glades Day’s Class of 2025, I stand before you with gratitude, reflecting on the journey that has shaped me into who I am today. Although I’m just a few years short of claiming the “lifetime Gator” title, this school has been my second home for the majority of my childhood. It’s where I’ve grown up, been challenged to rise to every opportunity, and learned that the most meaningful success is built on faith, humility, and love for others. I’m especially thankful to have shared this journey alongside my sister, Natalie, who also attends GDS, and to carry on the legacy of our mom, Noelle, a Glades Day graduate herself. My years as a GDS Gator have been filled with growth, leadership, and service, all supported by a community that genuinely values hard work and heart. The foundation I’ve built here has equipped me with the confidence and drive to challenge myself, academically, athletically, and spiritually.

Academically, I’ve worked hard to maintain a 4.0 GPA or higher and have been honored on the President’s List. I’ve received awards such as the Citizenship Award and the Teacher’s Award, each reminding me of the encouragement and support I’ve received from the GDS faculty. I’m also dual-enrolled at Palm Beach State College, earning college credits while managing my high school coursework. Yet, more than the accolades, it’s the everyday experiences, the lessons, the relationships, and the challenges, that have defined my growth. This school has taught me to persevere, to lead with integrity, and to find purpose in hard work and compassion.

This year, I have the privilege of serving as President of the Student Government, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. I also lead our chapter of Future Farmers of America. These roles have challenged me to grow as a servant leader, encouraging others, fostering connection, and learning how to lead with empathy. Beyond campus, I was honored to be selected for the ACES Leadership Program and the Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership Conference, both of which bring together student leaders from across the state for intensive leadership development. These experiences gave me the chance to engage with my peers, step out of my comfort zone, and gain a deeper understanding of what it means to lead with purpose.

Being part of the athletic tradition at Glades Day has been one of the most rewarding parts of my time here, full of growth and memories I’ll carry with me forever. As a dual-sport athlete in cheerleading and volleyball, I’ve learned the value of discipline, time management, and the bonds built through teamwork. I’ve also had the honor of serving as captain of the softball team throughout high school, an experience that pushed me to lead by example, support my teammates, and grow as both a competitor and a mentor. Through each season, I’ve learned to show up, work hard, and never lose sight of the joy in the game.

**continued on next page...**

## GLADES DAY SCHOOL

### Portrait of a Graduate continued...

Community service has been at the heart of my high school experience and personal growth. I have been honored to serve over 500 volunteer hours so far. Many of those hours have been spent giving back to our local community, whether by participating in the Gove Elementary “Christmas Buddies” outreach, where we bring joy and gifts to young students during the holidays, or helping organize a donation drive for Melissa’s Place, a homeless shelter in Pahokee, to provide essentials for individuals and families in need. As a certified youth soccer coach through AYSO, I’ve had the opportunity to mentor young athletes, helping them build both confidence and skills. I’ve also served as a group leader for the World Vision 30-Hour Famine, guiding devotionals to raise awareness about global hunger. One of the most rewarding experiences was when I was nominated as a candidate for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Student Visionaries of the Year campaign, where we raised nearly \$20,000 in support of cancer research and patient support. These opportunities have reminded me that service is not just about giving back, but about meeting people where they are and walking alongside them with dignity and care. I have learned to lead with empathy, to act with purpose, and never to underestimate the impact of small, consistent efforts.

Now, standing in the final stretch of my senior year, I am witnessing the results of my hard work, as well as the support and opportunities I’ve received here at Glades Day. I feel incredibly honored to have received acceptance letters from a diverse group of esteemed universities across the country, including Florida State University, University of Central Florida, Auburn University, the University of Miami, the University of Georgia, Texas A&M, Louisiana State University, and Michigan State University. I’ve been fortunate to qualify for numerous scholarships based on academic merit, leadership, and service. While many awards are still pending, I’m proud to have already received scholarships such as Bright Futures and the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Department Scholarship.

It’s with great excitement to share that I will be attending Florida State University this fall to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Becoming a Seminole is more than just the fulfillment of a childhood dream. It’s a reflection of the years of preparation, growth, and opportunity I’ve experienced throughout my time here. I truly believe this next step wouldn’t have been possible without the foundation built within this community. This school has shaped my character, encouraged my ambition, and given me the confidence to chase big dreams, and now, one of those dreams is coming true.

Being part of Glades Day School has been more than just an educational experience; it has been a place where I’ve been known, supported, and inspired. I will always carry the values, the memories, and the community spirit of GDS with me. I look forward to returning one day as an alumna to give back, to encourage others, and to share how Glades Day helped shape the woman I have become.

Thank you to the parents, faculty, and supporters who invest in students like me. Your belief in our potential means more than you know. I am proud to be a GDS Gator and am excited to carry this legacy forward as I take my next steps. Go Gators!

“

**"BEING PART OF GLADES DAY SCHOOL HAS BEEN MORE THAN JUST AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE; IT HAS BEEN A PLACE WHERE I'VE BEEN KNOWN, SUPPORTED, AND INSPIRED."**

---

reilly baltazar | valedictorian

POORTRAIT OF  
A GRADUATE

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SYDNEY  
POOLE  
SALUTATORIAN  
CLASS OF 2025

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# Portrait of a Graduate: Featuring our 2025 Salutatorian

“Portrait of a Graduate” speeches are presented at the Annual Parents Meeting. This speech was presented by 2025 Salutatorian Sydney Poole. With these speeches, our graduates talk about their time at GDS and highlight their memories and the difference GDS and it’s staff has made on their lives.

Good evening, my name is Sydney Poole and I am currently ranked number two for the class of 2025. I have been attending Glades Day School for 15 years, ever since I was in K3. My sister, Paylyn, is in the 8th grade and has also attended her whole life. I am also a legacy Gator having both of my parents graduate from Glades Day as well as my Aunt Aleigh, Aunt Paige, Uncle Russ, Uncle JD, and both my Mimi and Grandmother were teachers on campus. I wouldn't have wanted to spend the past 15 years anywhere else.

Over the past 15 years, I have made amazing memories and the best of friends. I am very involved around campus and often like to say, “if I'm not in the office at least once a day, something is wrong.” And to clarify it's not for my behavior, it's to ensure that I am always working hard to make GDS a great place for my fellow classmates and future classes. I am an active member of the National Honor Society and National Spanish Honor Society serving as Vice President for both groups, the treasurer of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, senior class President for Student Council, secretary of FFA, Finance Captain of the Dance Marathon, and my favorite, captain of the Varsity Volleyball team. Because of all these amazing extracurricular activities, I have become a better person, student, and have learned many skills that I will use later in life. I have learned how to be a leader, how to put others before myself, public speaking skills that I will be grateful for when I get to college, and so many more.

The extracurricular that I have been involved in the most is Volleyball. I have been an active member of the Glades Day volleyball program since I was in the 6th grade. This season, I was named Head Captain of the 2024 team. Throughout my volleyball career, there have been many highs. The highest of highs was being a part of the 2022 district championship team. That year, we called ourselves the dream team, and we were every bit of the dream. I am proud to say that I am the last one standing from that year, but it was a time of my life that I would do anything to go back to. From traveling to Gainesville twice a week to coming home with a Championship trophy to even making it to the Elite Eight. Every part of that season was amazing. During this time, we shared so many laughs, tears, and the best of memories. My favorite memory from my time on the varsity volleyball team was the 2023 season. Whenever we weren't practicing or playing games, we were always up to something. Last season while in Gainesville, our team went to a go-kart track. As most of my teammates knew, I wasn't the best driver, but I got myself into position and was ready to take on the track, that was until my head coach, Erin, willingly jumped into the cart with me. Needless to say, it was truly one of the funniest volleyball moments I shared with my coach. As my time at GDS wraps up, my volleyball career will always hold my favorite memories.

**continued on next page...**

### Portrait of a Graduate continued...

Another one of my favorite and most fulfilling extracurricular activities is my commitment to the children's miracle league, or the CML. The children's miracle league is a baseball league designed for special-needs children I found out about this program through my cousin, Carson. Carson has down-syndrome but he finds ways to inspire me every day. Through this program, Carson has thrived and looks forward to his baseball Thursdays every week, and it has become my favorite activity to volunteer with. The CML runs from August to April, and if you ever have the chance to watch one of these games, I highly recommend it. Seeing the smiles on these children's faces whenever they hit the ball, run bases, and get to catch a ball like any other kid, brings a smile to any person's face. This program has taught me patience, compassion, to be grateful for the life I've been given and appreciate the things we often take for granted. It has also helped shape me into the person I am today –someone who values service and giving back to the community.

In addition to my extracurricular involvement, GDS has provided me the opportunity to take college classes early. I am currently dual enrolled at Palm Beach State College and will have 27 credits when I graduate from high school. I have taken classes like English 1 and 2, Health Concepts, Speech, and surprisingly my favorite, Music.

In the future, I plan to pursue a career in journalism with an emphasis in sports management. There have been many influences as to why I want to pursue a career in sports, the biggest one being my dad. I can remember since the time I was a little girl going to UF football, volleyball, and baseball games with him. However, it wasn't until my junior year of high school that I knew a career in sports was for me. I have always loved sports but my freshman year, I fell in love with baseball. After watching college baseball games every single night, I knew I wanted to be involved in the sport I love in the future.

For this reason, I have applied to schools that will allow me to pursue my passion. I will attend the University of Mississippi starting in the fall. While there I will work with the Ole Miss Rebels baseball team, and have already secured an internship with the Miami Marlins in the summer of 2026. I have already found my perfect roommate and am beyond excited for what the next four years have to offer me. Hotty Toddy! Go Rebs

“

"I'VE LEARNED TO BE A LEADER, HOW TO PUT OTHERS BEFORE MYSELF, AND PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS I'LL BE GRATEFUL FOR IN COLLEGE AND BEYOND."

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sydney poole | salutatorian



# LS Student Council President Brinley Davis Leads with Heart and Donuts

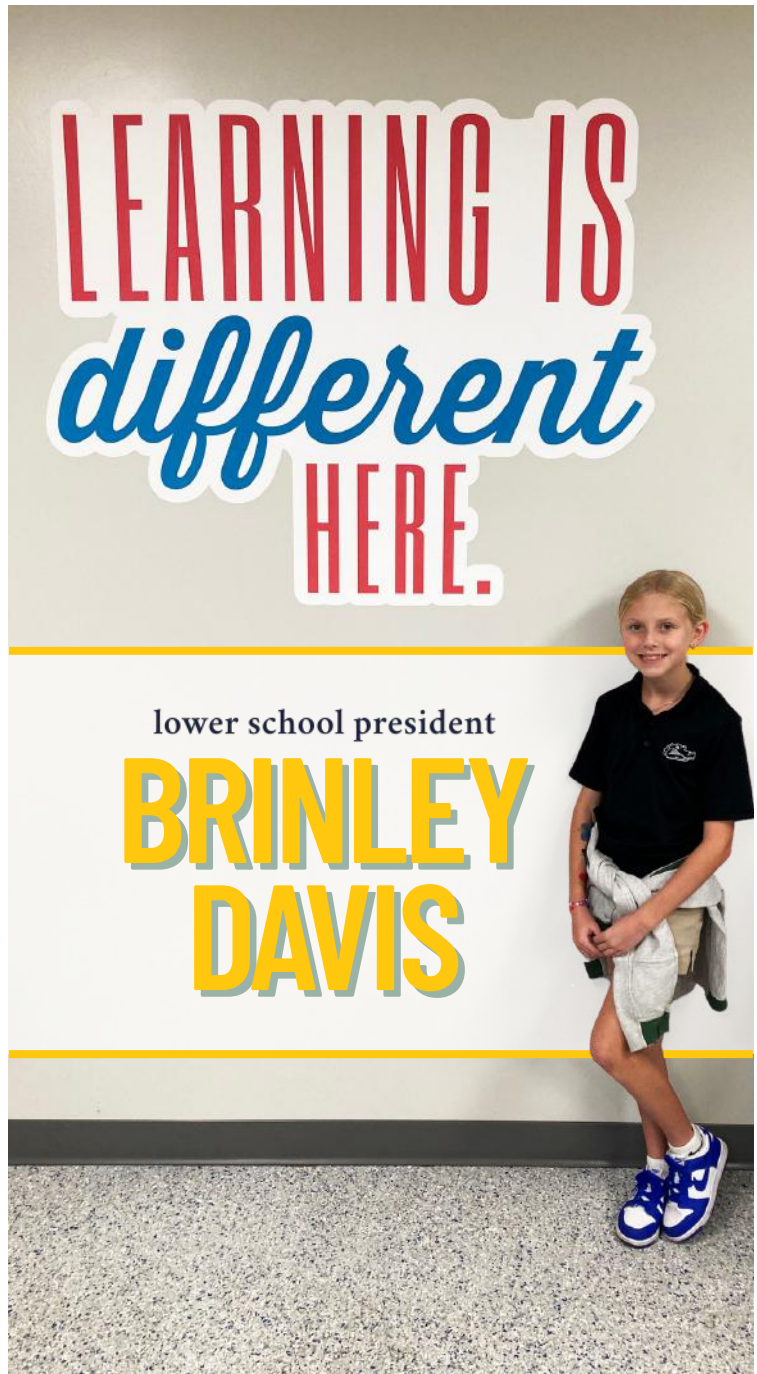
LOWER SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRINLEY DAVIS LEADS WITH ENTHUSIASM, DEDICATION, AND A COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AND COMMUNITY

At Glades Day School, student leadership takes many forms, but few shine as brightly as Lower School Student Council President Brinley Davis. Brinley's enthusiasm, dedication, and thoughtful approach have made her a standout leader among her peers this past school year.

When asked what inspired her to run for Student Council President, Brinley said simply, "Because you get to learn leadership skills. It's fun to do." This motivation reflects her eagerness to grow while embracing the responsibilities that come with the role.

Brinley's favorite part of being on the Student Council has been the many opportunities for hands-on experiences. "We got to go on a lot of field trips. We had a lot of fundraisers. My favorite part was selling donuts on Fridays," she shared. The return of Donut Fridays was actually one of the improvements she championed for the school, proving her dedication to making positive changes.

Among the highlights of the year was a memorable field trip to Florida Crystals, where the students were treated with a delicious meal following their tour of the facility. Another favorite was the trip to Manatee Lagoon, offering students an exciting chance to explore nature. On the fundraising front, Brinley is particularly proud of the efforts with Ella's Closet, which delivered collected diapers to families in need, demonstrating the council's commitment to community support.





When reflecting on what makes Glades Day School special, Brinley noted the unique trips and community events like Grandparents Day and Donuts with Dads, which create a warm and inclusive atmosphere for students and families alike.

Brinley credits her role models for inspiring her leadership style. "Mrs. Jackson," who was her teacher all year, along with her mom and dad, have been key influences in shaping her values and approach.

For future Student Council Presidents, Brinley offers thoughtful advice: "Be aware of all your responsibilities and that you have to know what you're going to have to do. Help and be kind and cooperate with other students. Work with the other officers if they give you ideas. Don't get too prideful otherwise it will sound like you are bragging." Her words reflect the humility and teamwork that have made her such an effective leader.

Outside of school, Brinley enjoys swimming, watching movies, going to the beach, and shopping - a well-rounded mix of fun that balances her busy student life.

Brinley Davis' leadership has made a lasting impact at Glades Day School. Her commitment to service, teamwork, and school spirit exemplifies the best of what Student Council can be!



# US Student Council President Reilly Baltazar Leading with Unity and Spirit

THROUGH DEDICATION, EMPATHY, AND A PASSION FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT, PRESIDENT REILLY BALTAZAR HELPED UNITE THE GLADES DAY UPPER SCHOOL COMMUNITY DURING THE 2024–2025 SCHOOL YEAR.

As the 2024-2025 school year has finished, Glades Day School celebrates the accomplishments of Upper School Student Council President Reilly Baltazar. Throughout the year, Reilly was a dedicated and inspiring leader, committed to making a positive difference and fostering a more inclusive, spirited school community.

When asked why she decided to run for Student Government President, Reilly shared, “I decided to run for Student Government President because I truly care about our school and wanted to make a positive difference. I enjoy being involved, listening to others, and helping create events and experiences that bring our school together. I want to be a voice for my peers and make sure everyone feels heard and included.”

With a clear vision from the start, Reilly set out with a key goal. “My main goal was to make sure every student felt heard and had a way to get involved. I’m happy to say we’ve made a lot of progress with our school!” she reflected proudly.



No leadership role comes without challenges. Reilly identified one of the biggest hurdles as increasing student engagement for campus events. “One big challenge was getting students more engaged and excited about campus events. We overcame it by trying new ideas, like promoting our upcoming events.” Her innovative approach helped turn participation around.

Among the many highlights of her term, Reilly fondly recalls Homecoming Week as the most memorable. “The most memorable moment during my time as President was Homecoming Week. Seeing everyone’s amazing outfits, the school spirit, and getting to play all the fun games together made it such a special and exciting time. It was awesome to see everyone come together and have fun—it really showed how great our school community is.”



Serving as a student leader enriched Reilly's experience at Glades Day School in profound ways. "Being a student leader at Glades Day School has helped me become more confident and better at working with different people. It's made my time here way more meaningful because I've been able to give back to the school community."

One initiative Reilly is especially proud of is organizing Homecoming Week. "I'm most proud of organizing homecoming week because it brought everyone together and really boosted school pride. It was awesome seeing so many students get involved and have a great time."

Balancing the demanding role of Student Council President required strong organization. Reilly credits her planner and phone reminders for helping her stay on top of deadlines and meetings. "Balancing everything isn't always easy, but staying ahead and planning out my week really helps," she explained. Through her leadership journey, Reilly gained valuable insights into communication and teamwork. "I've learned that good communication means really listening, not just talking. Collaboration works best when everyone feels like their ideas matter and they're part of the team."

When asked what qualities are essential for a Student Council President, Reilly said, "A Student Council President should be a strong leader who can inspire and motivate others while maintaining clear communication. They should be empathetic and organized, able to understand the needs of the student body."

Looking ahead, Reilly sees the skills she's developed as a foundation for future success. "This leadership experience has helped me grow in so many ways. It taught me how to communicate better, stay organized, and work together as a team with others. I've learned how to handle responsibility and make decisions that impact more than just myself. These skills will definitely help me in the future."

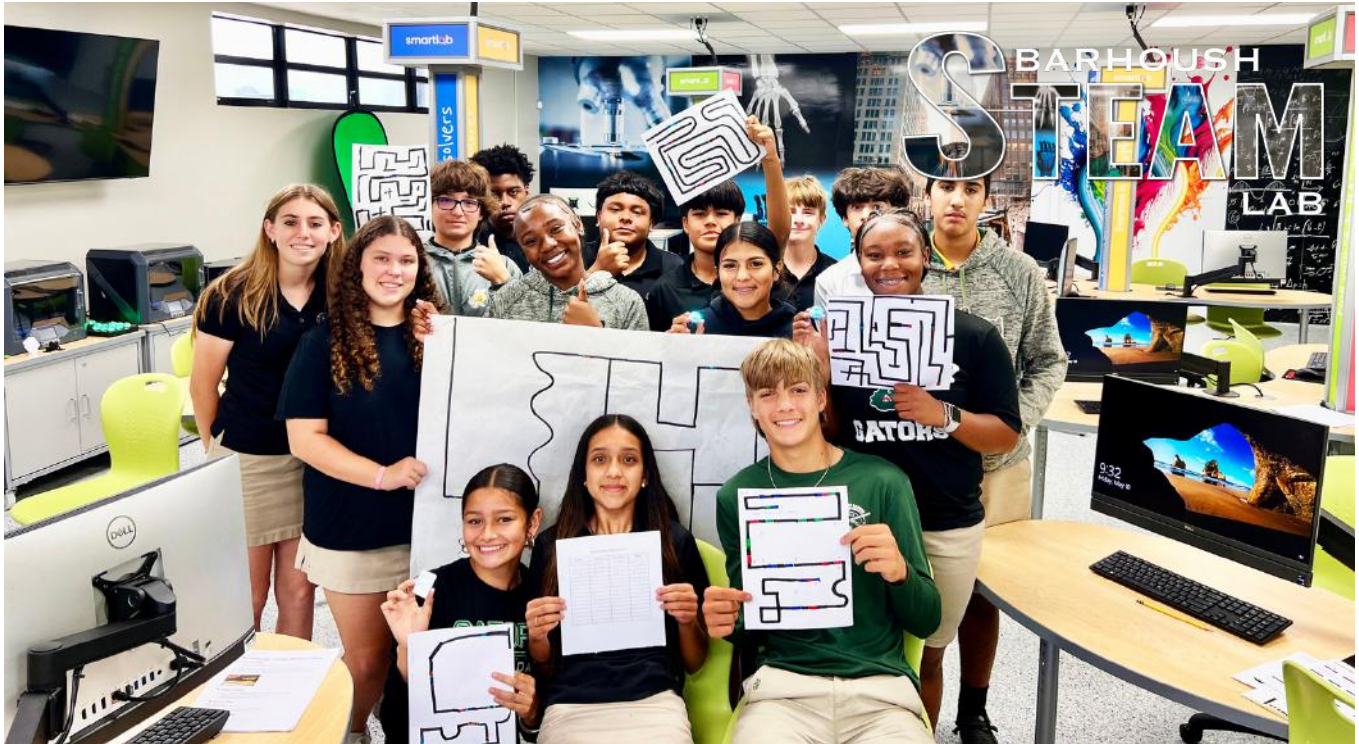
As her term concludes, Reilly hopes her legacy will be remembered for kindness, dedication, and unity. "I would like the student body to remember that I always tried to lead with kindness, dedication and a focus on bringing people together. I hope they remember the fun memories we created and the school spirit we built."

For those aspiring to lead, Reilly offers wise counsel: "My advice to aspiring student leaders is this: if you really want something, be willing to put in the effort. Success doesn't come easy—it takes hard work, dedication, and determination."

Beyond student leadership, Reilly has clear goals for her future. "My goal for the future is to become a pediatric oncology nurse. I plan to attend Florida State University and one day hope to work at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital."

Reilly Baltazar's leadership during this school year has left a lasting impact on the Glades Day School community. As she prepares to take the next steps in her journey, her example will inspire future student leaders for years to come.

# A Year of STEAM: GDS Students Explore, Build, and Innovate



In its first year, the Glades Day School STEAM Lab sparked curiosity, creativity, and collaboration among students of all ages, offering a fresh, hands-on approach to learning that bridges academics with real-world skills.

This school year marked an exciting new chapter at Glades Day School with the opening of the STEAM Lab- a space designed to encourage hands-on, project-based learning across science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics. Students from various grade levels have had the opportunity to engage with real tools, think creatively, and collaborate in meaningful ways.

As the first year has now come to a close, facilitators Lynn Davis and Teresa Ruiz reflected on their experiences guiding students through the lab and helping them navigate a new way of learning.

Mrs. Davis said she's both excited and surprised. "Because it's not what I thought it would be, but it's actually better," she said.

She added that, initially, there were a lot of unknowns, but once the students got in and started working, the STEAM Lab really got them to think outside the box and "come up with solutions to answers that aren't so easily given to them."

**Continued on the next two pages...**

Mrs. Ruiz had a similar experience with her classes. She added that there has been a learning curve, but the students were getting better at being self-starters, which is how the STEAM Lab projects are often structured around. “We are here to facilitate, not lecture,” she said. They also shared thoughts on the core value the lab offers. From academic skill-building to encouraging problem-solving and exploration, the benefits of the lab go beyond traditional classroom experiences.

Both Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Ruiz agreed that career development was one of the clearer benefits of the lab. “Many students are unaware of the wide range of career opportunities available to them,” said Mrs. Davis. Mrs. Ruiz added that the STEAM Lab wakes up the artistic and engineering parts of the students’ brains. “When they produce their final projects, it often reveals the career paths they may be leaning towards,” she said.

The role of STEAM Lab facilitator comes with its own unique set of challenges and rewards. As with any new program, there are moments that require flexibility and adaptability.

Mrs. Ruiz said she struggled particularly early on with “letting go and letting them find the answers for themselves. That’s the difference between a teacher and a facilitator. We ‘learn together’ (with the students) with all the new tech,” she said. Mrs. Davis echoed Mrs. Ruiz, highlighting the daunting task of learning to use all the technology and also staying on top of how the technology is changing/updating.

The STEAM Lab offers a wide variety of project types for students. From engineering tasks to digital design, students have the opportunity to work on projects that align with their interests and strengths.

According to Ruiz and Davis, engineering and robotics projects were both very popular among students. “They love building something with their hands more than the programs on the computers,” said Ruiz. On the other-hand, Davis said her students particularly enjoyed experimenting with the wood cutter/engraver.



## STEAM Lab continued...

Throughout the year, there were also opportunities to bring in preschool students to experience the lab. These collaborations helped introduce younger students to the STEAM environment and provided them with an early look into hands-on learning experiences.

Mrs. Davis teaches STEAM Lab classes with students from grades 6th - 12th, but still found time to bring in younger students to explore the lab themselves. "K4 isn't designed to be in the lab but I brought them over twice this year to explore and design projects," said Mrs. Davis.

"It's been a joy to see their enthusiasm - the moment they walk in, they dive right in with excitement," she added.



### IT'S FUN THAT I CAN WORK PHYSICALLY AND HAVE FUN WITH MY FRIENDS

*Cole Hanson | 11<sup>th</sup> Grader*

### I ENJOY GETTING TO MAKE VIDEOS FOR (THE STEAM LAB) BECAUSE I ENJOY FILMING AND EDITING

*Dallas Alvarez | 9<sup>th</sup> Grader*

### MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT THE STEAM LAB IS THE 3D PRINTER

*Isabella Lopez | 8<sup>th</sup> Grader*

Ruiz also has had K-5th grade students stop by the lab to code robots, build cities using engineering kits, and work on circuit boards and laser mazes.

Now that summer has arrived and the first year of the STEAM Lab is officially complete, it's clear that the space has already made a meaningful impact on both students and educators at Glades Day School. With its emphasis on exploration, creativity, and problem-solving, the lab quickly became more than just a classroom. It was a place where students discovered new interests and began to see their potential in exciting ways. As the program continues to evolve, it's sure to remain a valuable part of the GDS learning experience. Below, you'll hear directly from the students themselves as they share their reflections from their time in the lab!

### MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT THE STEAM LAB IS HAVING A CHANCE TO BUILD AND CREATE ALL THESE AMAZING THINGS

*Yrianna Treto | 6<sup>th</sup> Grader*

### I LOVE HOW WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO WORK WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROJECTS

*Isabella Huerta | 7<sup>th</sup> Grader*



*GATORS IN EUROPE*

**LONDON.**

**PARIS. ROME.**

*A trip filled with culture, discovery, and lasting memories...*



**Pages 26-29**

## GDS Students Explore London, Paris, and Rome on Unforgettable Educational Tour

This past spring, Glades Day School students and chaperones embarked on an extraordinary journey across three of Europe's most iconic cities: London, Paris, and Rome, led by GDS teacher Angee Lohmann, the trip was packed with breathtaking sights, cultural experiences, and lifelong memories. The trip served as both an educational adventure and a testament to the school's long-standing tradition of global learning.

The itinerary brought students to some of the most recognizable landmarks in the world.

"In London we went to Piccadilly Circus, Leicester Square, Trafalgar Square, St. Paul's Cathedral, Buckingham Palace where we saw the Changing of the Guards, had lunch at Borough Market and enjoyed the view from the London Eye. Our bus tour took us by the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, Westminster Abby, Windsor Castle and over the Tower Bridge then took the Eurostar (underground train) to Paris," said Mrs. Lohmann.

Paris delivered equally unforgettable moments, including world-renowned art, architecture, and romance.



LONDON

# PARIS



"In Paris we went to Luxembourg Gardens, The Louvre Museum, Champs d'Elysées, The Eiffel Tower, and the Palace of Versailles, and saw the Place de la Concorde, Les Invalides, and took a River Seine Cruise," said Mrs. Lohmann.

In Rome, students walked through the heart of ancient and modern civilization, experiencing both historical and spiritual significance. "In Rome our hotel overlooked the Mediterranean Sea, and we visited the Colosseum, The Forum, The Vatican including the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica (walking through the Holy Doors of the Jubilee Year), The Trevi Fountain, The Spanish Steps, The Pantheon, and Piazza Navona," she said.

When asked to pick the most memorable moment, one stood out above the rest to Mrs. Lohmann. "I think the favorite moment was on the River Seine Cruise in Paris when we were just under the Eiffel Tower and it began to sparkle. However, walking through the Holy Doors at St. Peter's Basilica was my personal favorite," she described.



## GLADES DAY SCHOOL

While the tour may seem seamless from the outside, organizing an international trip for students is no small task. "Safety and security is the #1 priority for Education First, and after leading over 20 groups, I have not had any safety issues or concerns. Many people want to travel, and it is difficult to find dates and destinations that work for everyone, but I try to offer itineraries and price points that work for most," said Mrs. Lohmann.

Glades Day School's tradition of student travel stretches back more than four decades. Mrs. Lohmann explained that Glades Day School's student trips to Europe began in 1980 with Mrs. Sue Teets.

After joining one of those trips as a senior in 1983, she developed a strong passion for travel. Although the program paused in the 1990s due to Desert Storm, she and Barbara Scruggs revived it in 1996 and led a large group to London, Paris, and Rome the following year.

The two alternated as group leaders through 2005, organizing trips to destinations such as Austria, Spain, Greece, and even Australia. Mrs. Lohmann has continued to lead groups in the years since.

While students return home with souvenirs and photos, it's the personal development that often proves to be the most lasting benefit. "These tours bring what students see in their textbooks and on the news to life. Besides seeing and touching history, like at the Colosseum, they learn cooperation, responsibility, time and money management while practicing their good manners, communication skills and kindness to others," said Mrs. Lohmann.

The journey across Europe was more than a tour — it was a formative experience that deepened students' global awareness, independence, and appreciation for history and culture. And for Glades Day School, it was another successful chapter in its long legacy of educational exploration.



# ROME



## GATOR ATHLETICS

2024-25 SY

# 2024-25 Athletics: A review from Coach T.

*With the 2024-2025 school year now behind us, our Athletic Director looks back on a year of strong performances, growth, and memorable moments across all Glades Day School sports programs. From varsity teams reaching playoffs to impressive individual athlete achievements, this year was marked by dedication, teamwork, and perseverance. With steady participation in our middle school programs and spirited competition at the varsity level, our student-athletes have continued to build on the tradition of excellence in GDS Athletics.*

**Overall Performance: How would you summarize the overall performance of our athletic teams this year? What were some of the standout achievements of our teams or individual athletes? Can you highlight some memorable moments or games from each sports season?**

A: Some of our varsity programs had really good seasons while others are still building. We have five MS athletic programs that continue to have a good turnout in participation. Our varsity football team went 5-5 and reached the SSAA semifinals. We had six football players make honorable mention all county for Sun Sentinel: Algernod Crawford, Ramsey Rimes, Vincent Valderamma, Payne Wallace, and Dacoby Wooten. Our soccer programs continue to be competitive. The boys program went 7-4-1, reaching the district semifinals. Our varsity girls soccer team went 8-9 in the regular season and reached the regional quarterfinals. First year HC - David Ramirez and assistant JT Ocanas did a wonderful job. The varsity softball record was 11-5. Kristabella Flournah was 2nd team all county by the PB Post and reached 100 strikeouts this season. Both our varsity girls and boys track teams were 1A District 14 Runner Up. There were nine track athletes who were district champions. Denijah Bailey 100 H and Madison Baez in long jump. Dacoby Wooten in 100m and 4x1. The boys 4x1 - Wooten, Algernod Crawford, Kani Clark, and Zeth Villarreal. Zeth Villarreal was also district champion in the long jump and discus. Andrew Hogston was district and regional champion in the javelin. He qualified for the state finals meet in javelin. Thirty-one track athletes qualified for the regional meet.

## GLADES DAY SCHOOL

**Coach and Staff Contributions: Can you highlight the contributions of our coaches and staff to the success of our athletic programs this year?**

A: All our coaches did a great job in developing the athletes. David Ramirez took over a strong girls soccer program and brought a young, vigorous mentality to the girls program. Kailey Boss took over the varsity softball program and finished the regular season 11-5. She did a wonderful job.

**Future Goals: Looking ahead, what are some goals or aspirations for our athletic department in the coming year?**

A: We will continue to increase student involvement of GDS Athletics, and enhance and upgrade athletic facilities.

**Facility Upgrades or Changes: Maybe now is the time to mention next year and any changes to the athletic program(s)?**

A: New graphics in our gymnasium entrance that added a fresh look for spectators and family events. Looking to upgrade our Schlechter Stadium Sound System.

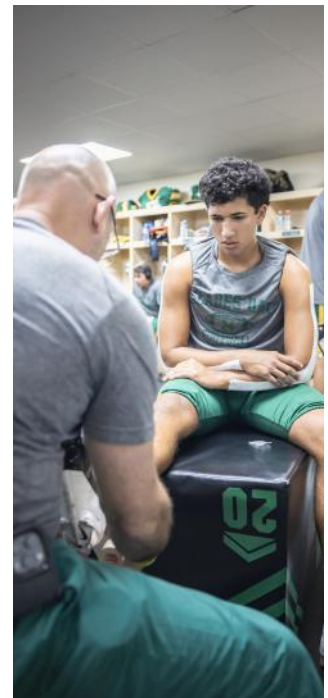
*As we turn the page to the next school year, the Athletic Department remains focused on increasing student involvement and enhancing our athletic facilities to provide an even better experience for our teams and fans. With exciting upgrades-like refreshed gymnasium graphics and planned improvements to the Schlechter Stadium sound system-Glades Day School Athletics is set to welcome another successful season. Thanks to our dedicated coaches and passionate athletes, the future is bright for Gator Athletics.*



“

“THANKS TO OUR  
DEDICATED COACHES  
AND PASSIONATE  
ATHLETES, THE FUTURE IS  
BRIGHT FOR GATOR  
ATHLETICS.”

zach threlkeld | athletic director





# Gator Athletics: Season Summaries

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For the 2024-25 school year, our GDS athletes took part in football, volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball, track & field, and softball.

Step into another thrilling year of Gator Athletics as we celebrate the achievements of the 2024-25 school year! From preseason practices to postseason play, our student-athletes brought energy, effort, and heart to every game, match, and meet. Across football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, track & field, soccer, and softball, GDS athletes rose to the challenge - earning district honors, setting new records, and making memories that will last a lifetime. Whether rallying under the lights or training in the early hours, our teams embodied what it means to wear green and gold with pride. Join us as we reflect on the determination, leadership, and spirit that defined this season. Gator Nation, this one's for you.



2024-25

## Varsity Gator Football Recap

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The 2024 varsity football season for Glades Day School was a rollercoaster filled with high-scoring wins, tough matchups, and moments that showcased the heart and determination of the Gators. From thrilling shootouts to dominant victories, the team demonstrated grit and resilience throughout the year.

The Gators came out strong in August, starting the season with back-to-back wins. They beat out Boca Raton Christian in 35-7 victory, then dominated Windermere Prep with another commanding 35-7 victory. These early performances set the tone for a team that refused to go down without a fight.

September brought a series of challenges against tough competition, including Oxbridge Academy and LaBelle. While results didn't always fall their way, the team continued to push forward and improve.

Their determination paid off. On October 25, Glades Day reignited their momentum with a decisive 48-12 road win over Gateway Charter. The victory not only boosted team morale but also built critical momentum heading into the playoffs.

**Continued on the next page**

## Varsity Football continued...

In the postseason, the Gators proved just how competitive and battle-tested they had become. They opened with another intense matchup against Boca Raton Christian, once again winning by a narrow 43-41 margin. This was identical to their season opener. The season came to a dramatic end in the next round against Canterbury, where the Gators fell just short in a heartbreaker, 29-28.

Though the season ended earlier than hoped, the Glades Day varsity football team leaves the field with heads high. Their growth, perseverance, and fight in every game defined a season full of memorable moments and laid the foundation for future success.





## 2024-25

# Varsity Volleyball Recap

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The 2024 varsity volleyball season for the Lady Gators was defined by persistence and meaningful progress on the court. Throughout the season, the team built valuable experience and celebrated bright moments that reflected their dedication and teamwork.

The year began with strong performances that helped establish early confidence. A 3-0 sweep over Atlantic Christian was quickly followed by another decisive win against Clewiston. These back-to-back victories showcased the team's potential and set a positive tone.

As the season progressed, the Lady Gators faced a series of tough opponents. Each match brought new opportunities to learn, adapt, and strengthen their chemistry. Even in the most competitive stretches, the team remained focused on improvement and unity.

Another highlight came with a 2-0 victory over the Academy for Innovative Education. That win, paired with continued effort and resilience, demonstrated how far the team had come since the start of the season.

In October, the Lady Gators brought renewed energy to the court and notched another convincing win over Clewiston in a 3-0 rematch. As the season came to a close, the team carried with them the lessons and growth that come from facing challenges together.

While the season may have tested them in many ways, the Lady Gators emerged stronger and more prepared for the future. Their development, determination, and spirit laid a solid foundation for the seasons ahead.



## 2024-25

# Varsity Boys Basketball Recap

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Throughout the season, the Gators remained competitive in several matchups, especially against nearby rivals. They pushed Clewiston in a tight 44-41 contest and came close against Pahokee, falling just short at 44-38. Even during a 51-31 game against Seminole Ridge, the team showed stretches of solid play and teamwork on both ends of the floor.

The highlight of the season came with a hard-earned 61-49 win over Sports Leadership & Management (SLAM).

That game showcased the team's potential, marked by effective defense, unselfish ball movement, and confident shooting.

As the team reflects on the year, they do so with a deeper understanding of what it takes to compete. With a foundation now in place and more experience under their belt, the Gators are positioned to keep building in seasons to come.



2024-25

## Varsity Girls Basketball Recap

The 2024-25 season presented plenty of challenges for the Glades Day School Varsity Girls Basketball team. Despite the obstacles, the Lady Gators showed heart and improvement each time they stepped onto the court.

After a difficult start to the season, the team made a statement on December 12 with a powerful 48-12 home win that energized both players and fans. Their intensity on defense and control of the game from start to finish highlighted how far they had come since opening day.

The momentum carried into January, when the Lady Gators pulled off one of their most exciting wins of the year. In a nail-biter at home against FAU High, Glades Day edged out a 24-23 victory, proving they could hold their own in a tight contest.

Though the scoreboard didn't always reflect their effort, the team took meaningful steps forward. With improved skills, sharper game awareness, and a competitive spirit that never wavered, the Lady Gators set a foundation they can continue to build on next year.

# 2024-25

## Varsity Girls Soccer Recap

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The 2024-25 season was a competitive and spirited campaign for the Glades Day School Varsity Girls Soccer team, marked by strong success in district play with a 4-1 record.

The Lady Gators opened the season with a dominant 8-0 shutout against Pahokee and followed that with a 2-0 victory over Atlantic Christian.

Along the way, they picked up a key 2-0 win against Lake Worth Christian before the winter break.

January brought renewed energy and focus as the team went on a five-game winning streak.

Highlights included commanding 7-0 and 6-1 victories over Pahokee and Atlantic Christian, and a 6-0 shutout over SLAM, reinforcing their position as a district powerhouse.

The postseason proved challenging, and while the team fell short in back-to-back matches against Berean Christian, their performance throughout the season showcased growth, resilience, and a fierce competitive spirit.

With their district success and midseason surge, the Lady Gators leave the year with much to be proud of and a strong foundation for future seasons.





2024-25

## Varsity Boys Soccer Recap

The 2025 season was a standout campaign for the Glades Day School Varsity Boys Soccer team, who closed out the year with an impressive 7-4-1 record.

From their commanding season opener to a hard-fought playoff run, the Gators showed strength, consistency, and a competitive edge all year long.

The team wasted no time finding its rhythm, starting the season unbeaten through their first four matches.

A dominant 6-1 win over Moore Haven set the tone, followed by a 3-2 victory against Pahokee. A 2-2 draw with Atlantic Christian showcased their grit, and they wrapped up the early stretch with another commanding 5-1 win against Sports Leadership & Management (SLAM).

December brought their first challenges, with back-to-back losses to Berean Christian (0-2) and Trinity Christian Academy (2-3). But the Gators quickly rebounded in January, picking up wins once again over Moore Haven and Pahokee. A narrow 0-1 loss to Atlantic Christian reflected the team's strong defense and competitive spirit. They responded with confidence, notching consecutive wins over SLAM to close the regular season.

Though the season ended with a tough playoff loss to Berean Christian in the opening round, the Gators' overall performance reflected a team on the rise. With a balanced attack, solid defense, and a season full of hard-earned wins, Glades Day Boys Soccer took major steps forward and built a reputation as a team to watch in the seasons ahead.

# 2024-25

## Varsity Baseball Recap

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The Glades Day School Varsity Baseball team closed out the 2025 season with a display of growth, hustle, and a strong push in the final stretch.

After an early tough game, the Gators quickly bounced back with a solid 10-5 win over Lake Worth Christian. They continued to respond with a 13-7 victory over Glades Central.

In a packed week at the end of February, the Gators finished strong with a dominant 17-0 shutout against Inlet Grove.

March marked the team's most successful stretch. The Gators earned back-to-back wins over Berean Christian and Glades Central and closed out the regular season on a three-game winning streak. Highlights included a 5-3 win over Atlantic Christian, a 13-3 win over Lake Worth Christian, and a 9-4 victory against Moore Haven.

Their postseason effort showed strong competitiveness, reflecting the team's steady improvement and growing identity throughout the season. The late-season momentum offers a promising outlook for the year ahead.



2024-25

# Varsity Softball Recap

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The Glades Day School Varsity Girls Softball team delivered an impressive 2025 campaign, finishing the season with a strong 11-5 overall record.

From their opening game, the Lady Gators made it clear they were a team to watch - kicking off the year with a commanding five-game win streak that set the tone for their season.

Their opening statement came in the form of back-to-back blowout wins: a 15-0 victory over Highlands Christian and a 20-4 rout of Glades Central. Momentum only grew from there, with the team picking up tightly contested wins like a 6-5 battle against Royal Palm Beach, as well as dominant showings such as a 17-4 win over American Heritage and an 18-5 performance against Atlantic Christian.

Their first setback came in March with a loss to Moore Haven, but the Lady Gators responded immediately. They bounced back with another shutout win (15-0) against Royal Palm Beach and an eye-popping 31-17 offensive explosion over Lake Worth Christian. Even in their narrowest defeat - a 0-1 loss to Morningside Academy - the team demonstrated their competitive spirit and defensive strength.

April brought a mix of results with four wins and three losses, leading into the postseason. The Lady Gators' season concluded in a hard-fought playoff matchup against Fort Meade on April 29th.

Overall, the team showcased depth, talent, and a relentless drive throughout the season. With a string of high-scoring wins and tightly contested games, the Lady Gators left their mark as one of the most formidable teams on campus this year.



# 2024-25

## Gator Track & Field Recap

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The 2025 Track & Field season was one for the record books at Glades Day School, with an outstanding series of performances from both our middle and upper school athletes. From sprints to distance runs, jumps to throws, the Gators made history across nearly every event category.

Senior Andrew Hogston redefined excellence in the javelin, breaking the previous school record by nearly 20 feet with a 145' 5.25" throw. His effort secured him the Regional Title.

Tenth grader DaCoby Wooten blazed through the season with a school record in the 100 Meters, clocking an impressive 10.98 seconds. He also ran the fourth fastest 200 Meters in school history at 23.14 seconds.

In the 400 Meters, 8th grader Algernod Crawford made headlines with a 53.72 second finish - the second fastest time in GDS history.

On the girls' side, 10th grader Madison Baez ran a 2:41.48 in the 800 Meters, becoming the second fastest in Gator history, just behind the reigning record-holder.

Ninth grader Effren Martinez shattered the school record in the 3200 Meters by nearly a minute, posting a time of 11:30.07. He also notched the third fastest 1600 Meters at 5:24.67, just one second shy of the current school record, with years still ahead to claim it.

Eighth grader Paylyn Poole followed in her sister Sydney's footsteps with a 16:06.32 in the 3200 Meters, second only to Sydney's 2021 record of 14:48.53.

Tenth graders Zeth Villarreal and DaCoby Wooten both cleared 5' 9.75" in the High Jump, tying for the second highest jump in school history. Zeth also soared to the fourth best Long Jump ever recorded at GDS with a leap of 19' 11".



## Track & Field recap continued...

Tenth grader Mi'Liyah Miller recorded the fifth best shot put in GDS history at 78' 5", while 11th grader Joye Wallace earned her place in the javelin top five with a 71' 6.25" throw.

Madison Baez also claimed the third best Long Jump in school history at 15' 0.75". In the Triple Jump, 8th grader Yoriah Gordon landed a 31' 2.75" (3rd best), closely followed by 10th grader Trinity Sturgis at 30' 11.25" (4th best).

This season saw four new records in the 400 Meter Hurdles by four different Lady Gators:

- Denijah Bailey (10th grade) – 1:16.22 (2nd fastest)
- Tessa-Lynn Carotenuto (6th grade) – 1:23.68 (3rd fastest)
- Marina Baez (6th grade) – 1:37.52 (5th fastest)
- Elle Hays (7th grade) – 2:03.88 (8th fastest)

This season was a celebration of growth, grit, and groundbreaking performances. With a strong core of young talent and established leaders, the future of GDS Track & Field looks brighter than ever. Go Gators!





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# Gators in the Fall 2024



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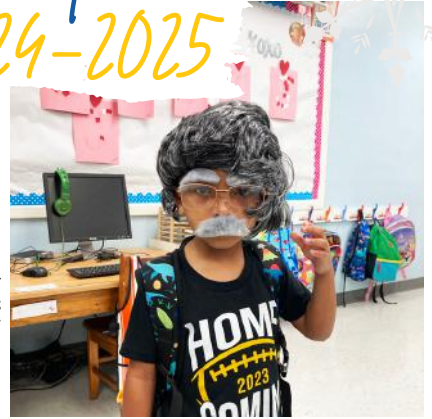
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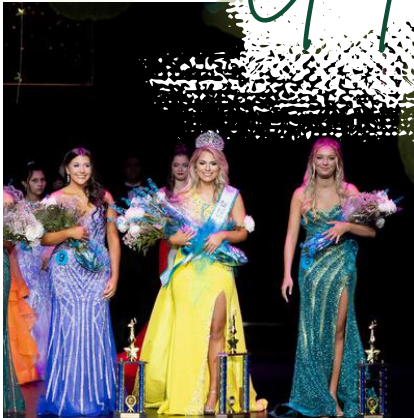
Gators in the Winter

2024-2025





# Gators in the Spring 2025





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# Year In Review

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AUGUST 2025

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