

Gaffney High School Welcomes New Principal: Eric Blanton

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in Elementary Education from Converse College, an Education Specialist Degree from Converse College, and finalized with a Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from Liberty University. Dr. Blanton enjoys spending time with his family and playing golf with his friends. His son graduated from Gaffney in 2013, playing for the Gaffney High School's Golf Team. Blanton is biased when it comes to Golf, the competition and working as a united team for a greater goal, are just some of the reasons why he has found a genuine pa-

-sion for the sport. His family is a major drive in his dependence on morals and ethics to guide his reasoning. His son, whom he is greatly proud of, continued his education at Clemson University and now lives in Mauldin, SC. His first wife, Gina, tragically passed away a little over four years ago, as members of the GHS student body, we would like to thank Dr. Blanton for his tenacity and drive to continue his teaching after such a tragic event. Blanton would go on to marry his second wife, Courtney, not too long ago. She teaches at Blacksburg

Middle School working as a 6th grade Science teacher. Dr. Blanton has a daughter, Grace, who is a senior at Blacksburg High School. Dr. Blanton says that the greatest difference between Gaffney Middle and Gaffney High is the maturity of the student body, the ability to emotionally and physically handle the aspects of life in and out of school. The transition between GMS and GHS is the drastic size difference between the size of the facilities. The greatest piece of advice that he has for students, as we approach homecoming this

week, is to live each moment like it's your last. This homecoming is thirty-five years since his graduation from Gaffney High School, "it feels like just yesterday", explaining how time just flies. Some of his best experiences working within the district was being able to build a relationship with all of the students. One of his greatest memories is when an African American, seventeen-year-old, young man, told Dr. Blanton that he had saved his life and that he loved him dearly. Working at school his motivation is to help his students work and

reach their dreams, whatever they may be. He believes that students misunderstand him and think he is not flexible or understanding. For example, the dress code, "policies are put in place for students to be able to have the maximum learning experience." He likes to think, at heart, that he is the greatest advocate for his students, and he would do anything he could to help anyone. Again, the GHS Indian Post would like to welcome Dr. Eric Blanton to Gaffney High School, we hope you have an amazing year and years to come.

Remembering Princess Diana

Shon Ponder
Editor-in-Chief



Since taking the throne in 1953, Queen Elizabeth II led with an iron fist from an outside perspective. She was unable to rule since the power of the King and Queen of England was dissolved for the rule of Parliament. England has yet to truly rid the social power of the royal family. The impact within the news that includes updates on their lives dominates tabloids and broadcasting stations across the United Kingdom. The continuation of the bloodline is something that everyone within the media looks forward to. Queen Elizabeth II married Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh in 1947. They later had four kids all with their own respective titles. Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward; these kids grown into the limelight with an immense amount of pressure that some people would find to be too much. Her eldest son, Prince Charles, grew up knowing that someday he would take the throne for himself and rule as his mother did. The broadcasters followed him through his personal life for years as he worked through his schooling in the academy and ventured into adulthood. The success and fame that he got was something that would become an issue when he found his eventual love interest, Lady Diana Spencer.

Born on July 1st, 1961; Diana Spencer was already established within the royal family as her childhood playmates were the two

youngest sons of Queen Elizabeth II. Unfortunately, her parents were unable to sustain a happy marriage and they would separate leaving her to remain under the care of her father, Edward John Spencer, Viscount Althorp, heir to the 7th Earl Spencer. The status of an Earl gave Diana Spencer the name Lady Diana Spencer, a highly respected honorable title in England. Lady Diana would continue to work on her credibility and education as she studied abroad in Switzerland; her higher education would eventually bring her back to England working in primary education for academy students at the Young English School. Her childhood friends would welcome her back into the country and her love interest for, Charles, Prince of Wales, became a reality in the Winter of 81'. News broke that the two were engaged and immediately all eyes set on the upcoming Princess of Wales. Her extraordinarily shy personality and compassionate soul was one of the many reasons she was able to gain a worldwide fan base that would come to know her as certain names circulating around the shortening of her name "Di". Love between Prince Charles and Lady Diana seemed like paradise, and their marriage was certainly nothing short of one. July 29th, 1981 was a nationally televised event, the royal wedding. The event itself was watched by millions across the globe, the iconic dress worn by Lady Diana, the star-studded wedding

wedding venue, and even the appearance of the Queen and King Consort made the date one to remember. Unfortunately love in Paradise can only last so long; shortly after the wedding rumors circulated that Prince Charles was committing adultery with his ex-lover Camilla Shand. Even though the two were in the middle of a serious adulterous scandal, the Prince and Princess welcomed their first child, Prince William, on June 21st, 1982. Princess Diana would assume her role as a mother and attempt to put her royal duties as a secondary priority in her life. This would be seen as an act of resenting her royal responsibilities and the royal family would begin to criticize her for not living by the rules and guidelines set by the Queen. Along with her responsibilities as a mother, she tried to upkeep her responsibilities as a wife by going on a royal tour with Prince Charles to make appearances at many of the important territories of the United Kingdom, but unfortunately this would only trouble their relationship more. In another scandalous event, the two were spotted arguing over their stay within the tour. Princess Diana disapproved of the extended tour as she wanted to stay with her child as to where Prince Charles wanted to continue his royal duties and finish his stay. The two would continue their relationship and later welcome their second son, Prince Harry, on September 15th, 1984. As the birth of their sec-

ond son was announced, the separation between the two was wedged between a divide so strong that many saw the inevitable coming. Charles' rumored infidelity was only getting more traction in the news as the Camillagate tapes surfaced as well as the infamous Camilla and Charles polo match incident that occurred hours after Harry's birth. Along with Charles, Diana's infidelity was also rumored and when the media picked up on the late-night meetings between the two and their mistresses a separation was set between them. Diana would openly travel alone as the Princess of Wales and continue to stay true to her priorities as a mother by caring for both William and Harry as she toured. The separation as well as Diana's mental illness caused by post-partum depression led to the two to finally divorce on August 28th, 1996.

Although Princess Diana would no longer be considered a true Princess, her appearances at many important events across the world for national hunger, and AIDS awareness as well as award events for actors and singers gained her the title of "Lady Diana, the Princess of People's Hearts". Diana still valued her privacy as well as her status as a single mother. At the peak of her fame, she was widely recognized as the most photographed woman in the world. Her life slowly became a constant battle with trying to evade the paparazzi, because of this

she chose to hide her new love fling from the public in an attempt to try to save her status as a loving mother. On August 31st, 1997; Diana was attempting to evade the paparazzi with her driver and love interest when her driver who was under the influence of alcohol crashed resulting in the death of all three within the vehicle. The news of her death shocked the world including those within the royal family. Charles was noted to be deeply distraught over her passing and released a statement regarding the respect her had for her.

It has since been 25 years since her passing and her memory as well as her legacy has left a lasting impression that has stuck with the people she has impacted throughout her life. Her children have since grown to be as outstanding of citizens as she was, with their work in charities as well as their national devotion to making the world a better place. Remembering Diana, Princess of Wales, Princess of People's Hearts, the voice of those who could not fight for themselves.

As of September 8th, 2022 Queen Elizabeth II, passed away at Balmoral Castle, United Kingdom after seventy-years of her Royal Reign. Her reign has been relinquished to her eldest son, Charles. Now King Charles III, he will take over the rule of all the Queen's previous territories. Long live the Queen.