

Make the Home-School Connection!

Be an important part of your child's education!

Know the names of your child's teachers. • Know the name of the principal, too. • Make sure your child arrives on time. • Look through the Student/Parent Handbook together to make sure your child knows what is expected at school. • Visit your local school website frequently. • **Eat dinner together as a family as often as you can.** • Ask questions about the school day. For example, "What are you learning in science right now?" or "What was the funniest thing that happened at school today?" • Ask your child about homework— and look at it when she has finished. • If your child is having trouble with homework, ask the teacher how to get help. • **Encourage your child to read for pleasure every day.** • Visit the library together often and register your student for Branch Out!, a partnership that allows kids to use their GCPS ID at county libraries with no fines for overdue books! • Play a game together. • Know the names of your child's friends. • **Encourage creativity and problem-solving** with open-ended questions, imaginative play, and a kid-friendly space for building and creating. • Know the social media applications that your child uses. Talk frankly about how to stay safe and why it's important to be careful when posting online. • Hug your child every day. • Attend school events, meetings, and performances. • Tuck an encouraging note into your child's backpack. • **Every day, tell your child how proud he or she makes you feel.** • Take a walk outside together once a week, and ask about your child's favorite and least favorite things about school. • If you sense there is a problem at school, don't hesitate to talk to the teacher. • Meet with your younger child's teacher at least twice a year, and touch base with your older student's teachers via email or on parent nights. • **Keep up with important school information online...**

Go to www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us

As a valued education partner, you play an active part in your child's school success. Find a wealth of information, tools, and tips at your fingertips... on the school system website. On the home page and on the Parents tab, watch for...

- **The Parent Portal**— The Parent Portal offers online, timely, and secure access to your child's grades, attendance, discipline record, and test history. Register for the Parent Portal through your child's school.
- **The MYeCLASS Student Portal**— As part of the eCLASS initiative, the Student Portal gives students access to a selection of grade-specific digital textbooks and resources, the online research library, a media catalog, eBooks, and much more... all with a single sign-on!
- **Testing information**— Before planning appointments and time away from school, check dates for required tests. Attendance on test days gives your child an opportunity to show what he knows, and provides the teacher with important information about his learning.
- **Education tips for parents**— As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Online, you'll find parent tipsheets on a host of topics— from academic support and literacy to Internet safety and planning for college— along with information on services for families.
- **More resources for your family**— On the website, you and your child can find information on community schools, online learning opportunities, extracurriculars, and more.
- **Information on your child's school experience**— Learn about Gwinnett's AKS curriculum, assessments, promotion criteria, and classroom instruction, plus how GCPS supports your child's learning with services in nutrition, transportation, safety, wellness, and other programs.
- **Links to news, publications, and other ways to stay informed**— Calendars, handbooks, AKS brochures and booklets, *Essentials* newsletter, and school accountability reports are just a few of the documents you'll find online, as well as links to the online *Communiqué* magazine, local school websites, and other education-related resources. You also can access streaming video and the on-demand library for GCPS TV. And, you can find GCPS on Facebook and Twitter, sign up for RSS feeds, and register to receive GCPS *eNews*.
- **SchoolMessenger**— Receive district and school alerts by phone call, email, and/or text. Access SchoolMessenger through your parent Portal account to set preferences. New this year, messages from GCPS and local schools will come from this number— 1-844-248-6644. Please add this number to your contacts so you can easily identify the call as coming from GCPS. If you miss a message, just call this toll-free number to retrieve and replay notifications.

Gwinnett County Public Schools

437 Old Peachtree Rd., NW, Suwanee, GA 30024-2978

678-301-6000 • www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us



June 2018