

A Strong Home-School Connection Sparks Lifelong Learning!

Be an important part of your child's education!

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. • **Eat dinner together as a family as often as you can.** • Ask questions about the school day. • Ask your child about homework—and look at it when she has finished. • If your child is having trouble with homework or you sense there is a problem at school, don't hesitate to talk to the teacher. • **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! • Know the names of your child's friends. • **Boost creativity and problem-solving** with open-ended questions, imaginative play, and a kid-friendly space for building and creating. • Hug your child every day. • **Encourage your student to be a good digital citizen.** 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. • 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 home page of the GCPS website 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. Be sure to verify the accuracy of contact information at the beginning of the school year, and contact the school if any of your information changes during the year.
- **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 sign up for RSS feeds, register to receive GCPS *eNews*, and go social with GCPS on Facebook, Twitter, and— new this year— Pinterest and Instagram!
- **SchoolMessenger**— Receive district and school emergency alerts by phone call, email, and/or text. General/non-emergency messages and attendance notifications are sent by email. Access SchoolMessenger through your Parent Portal account to set preferences. Messages from GCPS 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.** At any time while listening to a message broadcast, you can press "5" on your phone to initiate the opt-out process.

