

# BEAVER RIDGE ES PARENT NEWSLETTER

September 2023





### **Beaver Ridge Elementary School**

Students Arrival- 7:45 AM
Student Dismissal- 2:45 PM
Office Hours- 7:30 AM- 4:00 PM

#### Mission

The mission of Beaver Ridge Elementary School is to develop life long learners achieving academic and personal excellence.

Vision

The vision of Beaver Ridge Elementary is to be a community of empowered and productive lifelong learners.

#### **Administrative Team**

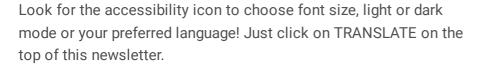
- Martina Luna-Liranzo, Principal
- Jenny Abreu, Assistant Principal (1st grade, Special Education)
- Nicole Browne, Assistant Principal (2nd and 3rd grade)
- Magaly Gonzalez, Assistant Principal (Kindergarten, Special Education)
- Reginald Watkins, Assistant Principal, (4th and 5th grade)

Website: <a href="https://www.gcpsk12.org/beaverridgees">https://www.gcpsk12.org/beaverridgees</a>
<a href="Location">Location</a>: 1978 Beaver Ruin Rd Norcross, GA 30071

**Phone:** (770) 447-6307

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BeaverRidgeES

# THIS NEWSLETTER CAN BE TRANSLATED INTO MANY LANGUAGES.





## Looking Ahead

**September 15** Digital Learning Day #1 (All students learn at home)

September 26 STEM Night

October 5–9 Fall break (Student holidays)

October 15 National Bus Safety Week

October 18 & 19 K-8 early release

October 23 Red Ribbon Week

November 3 Digital Learning Day #2 (All students learn at home)

November 8 Local School Council Meeting #2

**November 20–24** Thanksgiving break (Student holidays)

December 15 Fall Semester Award Ceremony, End of 1st semester

**December 18-January 3** Winter break and student holiday (Student holidays)

January 4 Begin 2nd semester / Students return to school



# Message from the Principal- Ms. Luna-Liranzo

And just like that, a month of school was completed! It has been a pleasure to once again witness a wonderful start to the school year. Our teachers, staff, and students are putting in all their effort to make teaching and learning meaningful.

It was great to see so many of you during our Curriculum Night. I also enjoyed seeing our families and students have fun at our PTA Skate Night. Thank you to our PTA for sponsoring this event. We



appreciate the support our wonderful PTA provides. If you have not done so already, please join the PTA. It makes a difference!

Along with teaching and learning, we are also practicing how to be safe at school. Thank you for working with us during our transition to the new school entrance. We appreciate your patience as we follow the safety protocols for entering our school. We are also practicing safety drills with students. Below is more information about them.

Lastly, I would like to encourage you to stay in contact with our school. You can always check out our <u>school website</u>, <u>Facebook page</u>, and/or <u>Instagram</u> page which are regularly updated.

Proud to be your principal!

Martina Luna-Liranzo







# Safety Drills

We are proud to be able to serve you and your children and we will continually strive to provide a safe learning environment for them.

The safety of your child and all children at Beaver Ridge ES, as well as the safety of the school staff

and support personnel is very important to us. In order to maintain a safe environment for our school community to teach and learn, it is necessary that we practice our Safe Schools Plan. Our Safe Schools Plan was developed with district guidance. Part of the plan involves conducting training for staff to familiarize them with the school emergency plans.

Annually, the school resource officer and I review and complete a Safe School Plan for our school. Each year, the School Safety Plans for Gwinnett County Public Schools are approved by Gwinnett County Emergency Management Agency and are on file at each local school. These plans are shared with local police and fire jurisdictions.

As part of our Safe Schools Plans, we will be conducting various drills throughout the school year. This letter is to help you understand the importance of this as well as to understand each type of drill. The students and staff of your school will be practicing 3 primary emergency drills each year. They are "FIRE DRILLS"; "LOCKDOWN DRILLS"; and "SEVERE WEATHER DRILLS." Each type of drill is explained below.

#### **FIRE DRILLS**

• The school will conduct a "fire drill" each month that school is in session. This is a state requirement per Life Safety Code 11-7-1. These drills are recorded on the Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner's website. We want each student to understand and be aware of the importance of this drill and not be afraid when the fire alarm is sounded. By practicing they will know what to do and how to do it.

#### LOCKDOWN DRILLS

• The school will conduct two "Lockdown Drills" each school year. This type of drill will secure the school building and safely shelter all students, staff and visitors inside the building. The purpose of this drill is to keep the students safe from any danger outside or inside the building. During a "lockdown drill" all of the perimeter doors to the school building will be locked and will remain locked until the danger or issue outside or inside the building is removed. To enable everyone to remain safe, no one will be allowed to enter the building or leave the building until the drill is completed.

#### **SEVERE WEATHER DRILLS**

• The "Shelter-in-Place" drill will be conducted each school year. The purpose of this drill is to be prepared to move to a safe location within the building in case of severe weather or tornados. Please remember that these safety practice drills are done to help maintain our schools as a safe place to learn and work.

If you have any questions regarding any of these Safety Drills or other safety concerns, please feel free to reach out to the principal.

# **Digital Learning Day**

Friday, September 15, 2023

# Digital Learning Day #1

Friday, **September 15**, is a Digital Learning Day (DLD) for all students. On scheduled DLDs, students access lessons in eCLASS but do not have virtual class time with their teachers.

To ensure that students have a nutritious breakfast and lunch to fuel their learning, our bus drivers will be on the road and at every bus stop to deliver meals prepared by the School Nutrition Program staff. Families should expect buses to run their routes from approximately 10:45 a.m. to noon, beginning at the first stops on the route. These delivered meals are provided at no cost to families and are provided to anyone 18 years old and under.

# GCPS Calendar Voting for 2024-2025 & 2025-2026

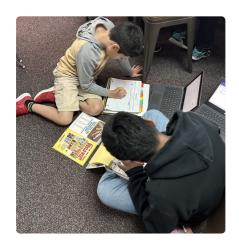
This year, GCPS will ask students, staff, and parents to review the four (4) available calendar options and vote on the calendar of your choice. You will be able to vote only one time. Each calendar option includes two (2) school year calendars: 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years. Use the links below and review each option carefully before casting your vote.

- English
- Español
- 中文
- <u>하국어</u>
- Tiếng Việt

### Click here for more information on the calendars.



There will be a Free Community Health Fair on September 16, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Norcross, GA. Bring the entire family to get a FREE health screening.









### **Parent Workshops**

### Parent Mentors Present: "Parents Engaging in Education" – 4 Session Workshop

Who: Parents/Guardians of students receiving Special Education services

**What:** Parent Mentors Present: "Parents Engaging in Education" – 4 Session Workshop **When:** 9/28/23, 10/12/23, 10/26/23, 11/9/23, 10:00am-11:30am *or* 6:00pm-7:30pm

Where: In-Person registration link for 10:00am session on 9/28/23:

https://forms.gle/6WHZFpwRQLLN4QKK8

Zoom registration link for 6pm session on 9/28/23: <a href="https://gcpsk12-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0pc0CtpjwvG9xUpC0ZaG2pt3XgobrU\_PpQ">https://gcpsk12-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0pc0CtpjwvG9xUpC0ZaG2pt3XgobrU\_PpQ</a>

Please use the links below to access the parent letters in English and Spanish.

#### 2023-2024 Parents Engaging in Education.Invitation.pdf

**Download** 

221.5 KB

### Parent Mentors Present: "Understanding Your Child as a Learner"

**Who:** Parents/Guardians of students receiving Special Education services **What:** Parent Mentors Present: "Understanding Your Child as a Learner"

**When: Tuesday, September 26, 2023**, 10:00am – 11:30am *or* 6:00 pm-7:30pm

Where: In-Person registration link for 10:00am session: <a href="https://forms.gle/DoefweLZDktYWt6N6">https://forms.gle/DoefweLZDktYWt6N6</a>

Zoom registration link for 6pm session: <a href="https://gcpsk12-">https://gcpsk12-</a>

org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpdOuprDgrHNMTZLbCB8e3HkoUpx17j\_Wi

Please use the links below to access the parent letters in English and Spanish.

# GCPSPMP.Understanding Your Child as a Learner.September 2023 Flyer.Spanish. pdf

#### **Download**

183.7 KB

### GCPSPMP.Understanding Your Child as a Learner.September 2023 Flyer.pdf

#### **Download**

189.4 KB



The cafeteria will have snacks and drinks for sale. The items and prices are listed above. If you do not want your student purchasing these items, please send an email to the Café Manager, Ms. Allyson Perras at allyson.perras@gcpsk12.org or to your child's teacher. We will add an alert to the account to prevent the student from purchasing these items



### **Little Learners Academy**

Can't commit to BRES Play 2 Learn program once a week? Beaver Ridge is offering a new program "Little Learners Academy" once a month after school hours for children under 5 years old. Come and learn how to engage with your child through play. Get your child ready for school!



We will host our 1st **Little Learners Academy** on Tuesday, September 19th, at 5:00 pm. Light refreshment will be served. Please get in touch with <u>giselle.gomez@gcpsk12.org</u> or call 770-326-8093 for more information.

Click HERE to RSVP.



#### What is the Family Center?

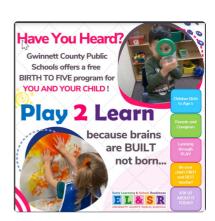
The Family Center offers parents help and resources they can use to support their child at home. Ms. Gomez and Ms. Alonso can assist families with questions and resources throughout the school day. Research shows that involving families and communities in their local schools improves children's academic and social success.

What can the Family Center do for me?

- Build parent capacity
- Volunteer opportunities...We need you!
- Check out books, games, and more to help your child at home
- Workshops, English and technology classes
- Help with school-related paperwork, website activities, Parent Square app, MyPaymentsPlus,
   Free and Reduced lunch, parent portal, et.
- Teach me what my child is learning
- Help me communicate with teachers
- Community resources
- Build community involvement

#### Play2Learn

Please join us as we learn to play with Play 2 Learn. Classes are held every Wednesday, from 9:30 - 11:00 am. Please get in touch with <a href="mailto:giselle.gomez@gcpsk12.org">gcpsk12.org</a> or cal 770-326-8093. P2L focuses on building the capacity of parens to be their child's first teacher as well a providing an opportunity for students to be in a group setting. <a href="https://vimeo.com/343462269">https://vimeo.com/343462269</a>.





### **Family Engagement Tips**

#### Set expectations that motivate success

Children care how their families view them, and they usually live up to expectations. So set expectations that will motivate your child's best efforts. As you prepare for the coming school year, make a list of high (but realistic) expectations for your child, such

as working hard, turning in schoolwork on time, etc. Discuss it together. Once school starts, be consistent. Help your child take pride in progress and express your belief that your child will be successful in school.

https://tpitip.com/?13hJ18608

#### We Need You!

Are you looking for ways to partner with us? We are looking for volunteers to assist with Friday folders, bulletin board preparation, assisting in the media center, or volunteering in the Family Center? Please call 770—326-8093 or email <a href="mailto:giselle.gomez@gcpsk12.org">giselle.gomez@gcpsk12.org</a> or <a href="mailto:giselle.gomez@gcpsk12.org">gina.alonso@gcpsk12.org</a> to sign up and/or acquire more information.





Each Friday students may purchase ice cream for \$1 to enjoy at lunchtime.

Students will need to bring exact change or one dollar bill.

Parents also have the option to purchase ice-cream for their student's class to celebrate their birthday.

The cost for ice-cream is \$1 per student.

You can send exact cash to your child's teacher the day you would like to celebrate <u>with a note</u> letting them know you want to purchase ice-cream in honor of your child's special day.



We will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with special activities throughout the school. Starting September 15, we will begin selling t-shirts on MyPaymentsPlus. The design is below.



### **Back-to-School Backpack**

Key information for families is accessible via the Virtual Back-to-School Backpack for Families (<a href="http://www.gcpsk12.org/virtualbtsbackpack">http://www.gcpsk12.org/virtualbtsbackpack</a>) and will be posted on the district website on July 24.

Content for families is available online via the GCPS website, including Handbook Information for Students and Families (formerly called Student-Parent Handbook), as well as AKS Overviews (K-8) and AKS by grade (K-8) and subject (core and CTAE). **These materials will not be printed.** Links to these pages will be part of the Virtual BTS Backpack.

## Beaver Ridge Elementary STEM Night



**When:** September 26, 2023 **Time:** 5:00 pm -7:00 pm

**What:** An evening of hands-on science, math, and engineering activities for students and families to complete together.



### School Lunch

#### Free and Reduced Information

- As a reminder, SY23-24 Free and Reduced eligibility status will carry over for the first 30 school days of SY24 (through 9/14).
- Parents must fill out a new application for SY24 in order to maintain their Free or Reduced-Price meal benefits.
- The online 2023-2024 Free and Reduced application is now available. <u>Click here</u> to see if your child qualifies for free or reduced meals and to potentially avoid being charged.

#### **Breakfast**

All students will be charged for breakfast based on their current eligibility status (Free, Reduced, Full Pay)

• Meal Prices for breakfast are as follows: Reduced - \$.30 cents; Full Pay - \$1.50

#### Lunch

- All students will be charged for lunch based on their current eligibility status (Free, Reduced, Full Pay)
- Meal Prices for lunch are as follows: Reduced \$.40 cents; Full Pay \$2.25

### Free and Reduced Priced Meal Application

# MyPaymentsPlus Account Information

All Meet Your Teacher Day/Open House documents will ONLY be available on MyPaymentsPlus. We <u>will not</u> have paper forms available.

#### MyPaymentPlus Offers Free 24/7 Access To

- Student cafeteria balances and purchase history
- Prepayments for breakfast/lunch, with auto-pay capability
- Meet Your Teacher Day (Open House) documents
- Other fees and activities such as yearbooks, spirit wear, field trips and more!

#### **Using your MPP Account**

https://instruction.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/content/enforced/2323043-

<u>Federal\_Programs\_Communication\_Center/MyPaymentsPlus/MPP.setup.HOW\_T0.mp4?</u> ou=2323043

#### **Creating an Account - Spanish**

https://instruction.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/content/enforced/2323043-

<u>Federal\_Programs\_Communication\_Center/MyPaymentsPlus/Spanish%20version%20(detailed).pdf</u> ?\_&d2lSessionVal=j8rlvA3AnllKoIU3fqtWbW8el&ou=2323043

A Parental Guide: Reviewing and Acknowledging Orientation Agreements & Title I Documents <a href="https://instruction.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/content/enforced/2323043-">https://instruction.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/content/enforced/2323043-</a>

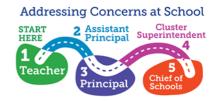
<u>Federal\_Programs\_Communication\_Center/MyPaymentsPlus/MPP%20How%20to%20review%20report.mp4?\_&d2lSessionVal=j8rlvA3AnllKolU3fgtWbW8el&ou=2323043</u>

For customer service & support on your MyPaymentsPlus account, please call 1-877-237-0946

Click here to register for MyPaymentsPlus

## Addressing Concerns at School

Gwinnett County Public Schools finds that the quickest and most effective way to resolve a concern regarding your child is by addressing it at the most direct level. Addressing Concerns at School graphic



In our school district, we care about each and every student. We also believe that open and honest communication between parents and teachers is a key to student success. Thank you for partnering with your child's teacher and school to address any concerns.

- 1. **Teacher -** First, talk to your child's teacher or a counselor at school for assistance. Most concerns are resolved at the classroom level.
- 2. **Assistant Principal -** If the concern is not resolved at the classroom level, please contact your child's assistant principal.
- 3. **Principal -** If working with the AP does not adequately address the issue, please contact the school principal.

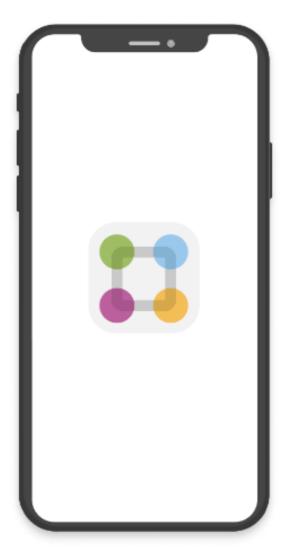
### Parent Square

We are excited to announce that our school district has adopted a new form of school-to-home communication called ParentSquare. This unified communications platform is designed to keep parents and guardians informed and encourage greater engagement and connection with your child's school and Gwinnett County Public Schools.

ParentSquare provides a safe way for district administrators, school principals, teachers, staff, and parents to receive and send information, such as:

- Weather-related closings & delays
- School and class information
- Share pictures and files
- · See calendar items
- · Upcoming class activities

Beginning July 18, 2023, district and school information will now be sent to your computer or phone via email and/or text via ParentSquare. For even more convenience, download the ParentSquare app (available for free for iOS and Android devices).



# Download the ParentSquare mobile app

Send and receive school communications on the go



### Blue Devil Football Home Opener Friday, September 15

The Norcross Blue Devils host Discovery High School for the home opener on Friday, September 15 at 7:30 pm. Tickets for the game may be purchased on the GoFan App or at <a href="GoFan.co">GoFan.co</a>. Join us to cheer on the Blue Devils as we kick off another exciting football season.



NHS wants all our fans to have a great experience when they visit campus. There are a few guidelines for those attending NHS athletic events:

- · All elementary and middle school students must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- · Only students from Norcross HS, Paul Duke STEM HS, and the visiting team's high school will be admitted to the game unless they are with a parent or guardian. High school students must present a current ID on StudentVue to enter.
- $\cdot$  As is common with most stadium events, we are implementing a Clear Bag Policy for all athletic events on campus.

Learn more about our event expectations on the NHS website.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the year as we cheer on our Blue Devils!

#### 2023 VARSITY Football Schedule

### Disney On Ice & Monster Jam Reading Challenge!



Visit the Norcross Gwinnett Public Library to join the following challenge and earn a free ticket!

Read five books and earn a FREE ticket to either Monster Jam or one of the Disney on Ice shows. <a href="https://www.gwinnettpl.org/kids/disney-on-ice-2/">https://www.gwinnettpl.org/kids/disney-on-ice-2/</a>

# Mark your Calendars

Click here to view the 23-24 GCPS Student Calendar.

#### **GCPS Parent Portal Link**

#### Parent\_Portal\_Flyer\_FINAL.eq.pdf

**Download** 

692.2 KB

#### **Communication Reminder**

Please frequently check our website: <a href="https://www.gcpsk12.org/BeaverRidgeES">https://www.gcpsk12.org/BeaverRidgeES</a>, follow us on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BeaverRidgeES">https://www.facebook.com/BeaverRidgeES</a> and <a href="https://www.instagram.com/beaver\_ridge\_es">https://www.instagram.com/beaver\_ridge\_es</a>, and read all emails from Beaver Ridge Elementary School to stay up to date on all current and upcoming events, important updates, and invaluable information.



Beaver Ridge Elementary School

