



Bulldog Strong

Principal's Message

We have had a great first start to the school year and all of our students are adjusting well. I am excited to announce that Glassboro School District is enthusiastically embracing a district-wide character development initiative and is working closely with a team of consultants from CITRS (Character-Integrity-Trust-Relationships-Success). Along with our continuing emphasis on academic growth, we will be paying special attention to growing the character of our young people. It is the district's firm belief that this will not only improve our schools but have a life-long benefit to each and every one of our students. Each month we will be discussing a character "virtue" that will be integrated in our teacher to student language, morning meeting, character ed lessons, etc.

We will also be honoring a student from each classroom every month based on the monthly virtue. Students will receive a letter home, a certificate, a small token and have their name announced on a special announcement of our monthly Bulldog Buddy Winners!

Throughout the month of September our students have learned about wisdom. Wisdom is seeing what is right, what is truthful, and knowing the right thing to do. Our visual this month was an owl and we focused on how students can be "wise" and "make wise choices".

October is all about integrity. We can show integrity by following the rules, being honest, and telling the truth. Look for more information from your child's teacher on how we are incorporating integrity throughout the day and the month!

Best regards,
Melanie Sweeney (msweeney@gpsd.us)
J. Harvey Rodgers Principal

School Hours

Our office hours are from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. If you need to contact us, you can reach the main office at 856-652-2700 x5101 or our school secretary, Nina Gomez, at egomez@gpsd.us.

The instructional hours for the 2022-2023 school year are 8:40 am to 2:40 pm. Parent drop-off takes place from 8:25 am to 8:40 am.

There are several early dismissal dates and late arrival days scheduled throughout the school year. On early dismissal days, all students will attend school from 8:40 am to 12:40 pm. On late arrival days, all students will attend school from 10:40 am to 2:40 pm. We do serve breakfast and lunch on these days.

Halloween Parade

The J. Harvey Rodgers School will have a Halloween Parade on Monday, October 31st at 1:30 pm. Students are permitted to bring their costumes to school the morning of the event. All costumes should be appropriate for an elementary school setting and labeled with your child's name. They will have time to change into their costumes prior to the parade. We will have our additional staff available to assist within our classrooms. Costume items that are not appropriate for school, such as toy weapons, are prohibited.

Parents will be able to attend the parade along the backside of the building near the playground. Prior to October 31st, a parade map will be sent out to our families. Once the parade begins, students will walk with their classrooms around the playground. During the event, students must remain with their teacher. At the conclusion of the parade, students will return to their classroom to prepare for dismissal.

If you do not want your child to participate in the Halloween parade, please contact the classroom teacher. We will provide an alternative activity for students who will not be participating.

Kindergarten MAP Fluency Testing

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Reading Fluency testing will begin for all Kindergarten students the week of October 3rd. MAP Fluency enables teachers to efficiently measure oral reading fluency with an online, adaptive benchmark and progress monitoring assessment. In addition to fluency, the test measures foundational skills and literal comprehension. This, combined with collaboration among grade level members and our ELA Supervisor, allows the faculty to proactively address student needs. A report will be generated and shared with parents in four areas: Phonological Awareness; Phonics/Word Recognition; Listening Comprehension; Picture Vocabulary. We will test students again in the Winter and in the Spring.



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Transportation/Parent Pick-Up

It is important for parents to be at the bus stop to retrieve their children. Children will not be released off of the bus unless an adult is at the bus stop. Students who are not picked up at the bus stop will be brought back to the building and an adult will need to pick them up at that time.

Students who are picked up as "Walkers" should be picked up promptly at 2:40 pm. Emergency contacts will be called if we are unable to get ahold of a parent/guardian.

We have limited certified staff available after dismissal to monitor students who have not been picked up or have to be brought back to the school.

If you require an alternate bus pick-up/drop-off other than your residence, you must complete the "Alternate Transportation Form", which can be found on the Glassboro website (www.gpsd.us) under the Transportation tab.

Upcoming Dates



October

7th - Teacher In-Service (No School)

10th - Columbus Day (No School)

11th - Rodgers Parent Advisory Committee Meeting (RPAC)
@ 6:00 pm

19th - School Pictures

28th - 2-Hour Delayed Opening

Individual School Pictures

On October 19th, Barksdale School Portraits will be doing individual photos for all students at the J. Harvey Rodgers School. Students who are not in attendance on October 19th or need a retake of their photo, will have an opportunity to take them on November 29th.

A separate email will be sent with information on purchasing photos as well as a flyer with additional information.

Breakfast and Lunch

All students will be provided breakfast through the school district.

Students may pack a lunch or purchase a lunch through our Food Service Provider, Chartwells.

Parents/guardians can add money onto a child's account electronically or it can be sent in an envelope with your child's first and last name and their teacher's name.

Mandatory Influenza Shots

Students 6 months through age 59 months of age (5 years old), shall annually receive at least 1 dose of influenza vaccine between September 1st and December 31st of each year. Please turn in proof of the influenza vaccine to the school nurse as soon as possible to ctaylor@gpsd.us. If we do not receive proof of the influenza vaccine received by December 23, 2022, your child will not be able to return to school after winter break until the proof is received. Please check the Gloucester County Department of Health website for information on various flu shot clinics, some of which are specific for young children, free of charge. <https://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/952/Flu-Clinic-Schedules>

Sneakers

While it is important for all students to wear the appropriate foot attire on a daily basis to support active play, it is especially important for your child to wear sneakers on the day that they have gym class. Each Kindergarten class has gym every 3rd day of our rotating schedule. Kindergarten students also go outside for a period of 30 minutes each day.

All Preschool classrooms have push-in time for Health and Wellness and go outside for a period of 40 minutes each day for gross motor.



If you would like to request that a hard copy of the newsletter be mailed to you, please contact school secretary, Nina Gomez, via email or phone – egomez@gpsd.us, or EXT. 5101.