Parent Volunteerism at *The Creek*

PTA Involvement

Great Seneca Creek Elementary School (www.GreatSenecaCreekES.org) is a professional learning community focused on developing successful, life-long learners ready for the 21st century through the integration of culturally responsive instruction, technology, and environmental conservation. Consistent parent survey data confirms that parents trust the school with their children and their children's education. Ninety-five percent of the parents who completed the MCPS Environmental Survey reported that the school was responsive to their concerns and that their children felt safe and welcome at school. Additional parent feedback from the same survey indicated that 95% of parents also believed their children were receiving a quality education.

Parents are involved with the school's work through Parent Teacher Association (PTA) membership, volunteer opportunities, and a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC is made up of parents representing families from all neighborhoods and diverse demographics. **Parent volunteerism** is essential to successfully meeting the learning needs of all students. Over 20,000 volunteer hours were logged last year. Impressively, parents have taught several content area after-school clubs such as math, reading, and foreign language. The following are PTA sponsored events:

Sally Foster Fundraiser
Scholastic Book Fair
Beach Bash
Back-to-School Picnic
Market Day Fund Raiser
Staff Breakfasts/Lunches
Talent Shows
Muffins for Moms and Donuts for Dads
Family Bingo Night
International Night
Spring Carnival
Holiday Gift Shops
Donations to Staff for Supplies
Walk-for-the-Homeless

Classroom Involvement

The GSCES staff greatly values the support of parents and community members and realizes the importance of reaching all parents by developing positive relationships with all families to best serve students.

Volunteering in the classroom is appreciated and necessary. Volunteers should contact teachers prior to volunteering in order to be scheduled, ensuring that all volunteers and classroom teachers are effective and efficient with their time. Please contact the classroom teacher directly to discuss volunteer schedules.

Volunteer Orientation is held online for parents wishing to volunteer in the school building. Please read the expectations below and return a signed form to your child's homeroom teacher.

Volunteer Confidentiality Form

Thank you for volunteering at Great Seneca Creek Elementary School.
You're efforts help us reach success for all students!

A volunteer operates in a position of trust. Personal information pertaining to students must be kept confidential. Please remember that the children's actions, responses, or progress is not for sharing in the community.

Do

- ***Agree to keep all information pertaining to students confidential*.**
- Be on time.
- Sign in at the office and get a volunteer badge. Please turn off your cell phone.
- Leave other siblings at home in order to give your full attention to the job at hand.
- Find out the location of the volunteer bin in the classroom. This will allow you to get started without interrupting the instructional flow the teacher has established.
- Follow the lead of the classroom teacher/specialist/para-educator for strategies to use when helping or talking with students.
- Share your time and attention with *all* the children.
- Help all the students follow the classroom, lunch room, and playground rules. For example, if it is 'quiet time', please do not talk with the children.
- Wait for an opportune time to address the teacher if you have questions about your task.
- Let the teacher (or others) know in advance if you are unable to make your scheduled time.
- Be willing to volunteer for any task (administrative or working with children).
- Be aware of hygiene procedures for handling blood and other bodily fluids.
- Use the adult bathrooms.

Don't

- Worry! You'll be great!

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I have read and agree to follow the above policy of Great Seneca Creek Elementary School's Volunteer program and I have completed the Volunteer Emergency Information Sheet

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Teacher: _____

Confidential: To Be Kept on File in GSC Main Office

GSCES Volunteer Emergency Information

Date: _____

Name: _____

Spouse / Partner Name:_____

Spouse / Partner Work Number: _____

Spouse / Partner Cell Phone: _____

Other Emergency Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____

Physician's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Allergies or other Health Conditions: