

COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Gabrielle Smith, M.Ed

Glenallan Elementary School

WELCOME
BACK!

I am excited to start the new year as your new school counselor! My name is Ms. Smith, and I will be working alongside Ms. Jennifer Taylor, Glenallan Elementary School's new part-time school counselor. We will work with students and families throughout the school year.



MS. Smith

After graduating from George Washington University School Counseling Master's Program, I am thrilled to officially become a Gator! I have a long, happy history with elementary school, having previously worked with young students as a school counseling intern, clinical counseling intern, first grade teacher, substitute teacher, summer camp program coordinator, and after-care staff member. I was born and raised in the Aspen Hill/Wheaton area, and I consider myself quite fortunate to become a Gator. Feels like home already. I can't wait to work with so many new students and families in my own community!

MS. Taylor

I am so happy to join the Glenallan family and hope to meet all of you soon at one of our many school events. Before becoming a Gator, I was a counselor at Blair High School and also spent many years helping elementary school children and their families as a community counselor. My husband and I have two daughters. Zoe is a second grader at Forest Knolls Elementary and loves art and reading, and Isabel is 2 ½ years old and an expert at using the word "No!" I'm excited to get to know you, your family, and most importantly your child!

MEET THE COUNSELORS!

Classroom Guidance:

Lesson 1: Who are the counselors? What are they here for?

Lesson 2: Personal Safety

Announcements:

School Supplies Give Away!

Thanks to our awesome donors, we have supplies for those in need. If your Gator needs a backpack or school supplies, you can ask Mrs. Hirst or Mrs. Brashers in the main office or email gabrielle_smith@mcpsmd.org.

Please Contact us!

The elementary school years can be a fun and exciting, yet potentially challenging period for students and parents. We want to assure you that we will always encourage open communication and partnership between students, parents, teachers, and the other stakeholders in a student's life. Your child's best interest will remain our top priority, and we always seek ways to work together for the good of our Gators. We encourage you to reach out to us with any questions or concerns, now and always.

Back To School Parent Resources:

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/back-to-school-resources-parents>

This website has a ton of parental resources for gearing up for a great school year. The topics include anxiety, transitions, parent-teacher relationships, learning differences, and more!

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/top-10-resources-back-school-parents>

Find out what to look for during your school's open house and back-to-school night, tips for helping your child make a smooth transition from summer to school, how to establish homework routines, and even a booklist full of wonderful school-themed picture books to share.

<http://pepparent.org/>

The Parent Encouragement Program (PEP) is a nonprofit, educational organization established in 1982, providing classes, events and other educational resources to parents and all who care for children, toddlers through teens. Classes, some of which are FREE, are available online and face-to-face!

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