

Welcome to **GRACE HILL ELEMENTARY**

Home of the Huskies



PARENT INFORMATION PACKET

2018-2019

**GRACE HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
901 N. DIXIELAND ROAD
ROGERS AR 72756
Phone: 479/631-3670
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**Jennifer Little
Principal
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Assistant Principal
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Grace Hill Huskies Lead the Way!

Our Mission

Grace Hill Elementary School is a student-centered learning community where collaborative teamwork is utilized to achieve academic excellence and life-long learning.

Our Values

Respect
Responsibility
Perseverance
Teamwork
Problem Solving

Our Vision

To be a collaborative community of life-long learners and independent thinkers that strives beyond academic excellence and contributes to our society, our world, and our future.

We are a Leader in Me School

Our 7 Habits are...

BE PROACTIVE
BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND
PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST
THINK WIN-WIN
SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND THEN TO BE UNDERSTOOD
SYNERGIZE
SHARPEN THE SAW

Welcome to the 2018-2019 School Year!

As principal, I want to work with you in making this year your child's best year ever! Please call me whenever I can assist you. If you ever have a concern, **please** begin by contacting your child's teacher to discuss the concern and develop a solution. If I am needed after that discussion, I will certainly do my best to help!

Please read over the following carefully. A folder should come home with your child every day. Parents are asked to look over the contents of the folder for important notifications and information. Please, return the folder to school the next day and include anything that needs to be signed, as well as signing the sheet attached to the folder indicating that you have reviewed the contents of the folder. This folder will serve as our home-school communication tool.

The teachers and I want to become partners with you in educating your child.

We are a Title 1 School. Title 1 is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools and the goal is to provide a high quality education for *every* child. Therefore, this program provides extra help for the children who need it most.

The building opens at 7:15 A.M. Breakfast in the Classroom begins at 7:30 A.M.

Students are tardy after 7:45 A.M.

Dismissal begins at 2:45 P.M. - Car-riders picked up by 3:05 P.M.

Office closes at 3:30 P.M.

Elementary full price student lunches are \$2.45. We encourage all parents to complete a Free/Reduced Meal Application and turn it in to the office or café. Parents are invited to come and have lunch with your student anytime! Adult lunches cost a couple of dollars more but they are still a great deal!

We ask that you not send carbonated beverages with your child!

Important Information and Procedures:

- Please come into the office when you visit school to sign our visitor/volunteer book and get a "pass-sticker" – this is a safety precaution 😊
- Parents may call before 9 A.M. for make-up work when their child has been absent for more than one day. The work will be available in the office after 2:15 P.M.
- Children are not to bring gum, toys, pets, radios, knives, or any other personal items to school.
- Parents need to bring medications in to the nurse in the prescription bottle and complete our Medication Form. No other medications can be given to students.
- Parent Notes or Doctor's Notes are required when children are absent or are to go home a different way than usual.
- Nutritious foods are mandated when snacks are allowed. A list of recommended foods is available upon request. Please remember these mandates when bringing treats for birthdays and special occasions.
- Students' clothing should be comfortable and appropriate. Shorts and skirts must be at least "finger-tip" length. Tank tops, spaghetti straps, and bare midriffs are not allowed. We ask that clothing not refer to alcohol, cigarettes, or vulgarity.
- Grace Hill Elementary has a ZERO TOLERANCE for violent/aggressive behavior. No matter who hits or hurts first, all those involved will be suspended.

- Attendance is important! If a student misses more than ten days of school in one semester, he/she may be retained.
- Achievement Tests and State Assessments are given in March, April, and May. PLEASE do not plan any trips or appointments that will cause your child to miss school.

We look forward to a GREAT school year!

Mrs. Little, Principal

The Rogers Public School District does not discriminate in its policies and programs on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, handicap, national origin, or ancestry. Inquiries concerning the application of Title X or Title VI may be referred to the Equity Coordinator at 500 W. Walnut, 479/636-3910.



Grace Hill Elementary

PARENT-SCHOOL COMPACT 2018-2019

It is our goal to have school and parents as full-time partners in the education of children in a meaningful and productive way. Each year, we will be using this Parent-School Compact so that each of our roles is clearly defined. The mutual responsibilities of parents and school are to support children in reaching high standards.

Please review this information. Your willingness to participate in this compact will determine the growth of your child's educational experience. Your signature, your child's name and the date are required on this form. Please return this to your child's teacher.

Feel free to conference with your child's teacher or principal concerning this compact. We want to work with you in supporting your child's educational growth and success.

TITLE 1 PARENT/GUARDIAN AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COMPACT

Believing that high student performance is a shared responsibility, Grace Hill Elementary School and the parent/guardian of _____ agree to this Compact:

THE SCHOOL WILL:

- Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that will enable all children, with the involvement of parents/guardians, to meet state academic standards;
- Hold an annual meeting to inform parents of their right to be involved and explain the Title 1 program, this compact, the importance of their involvement, our curriculum, assessments, and proficiency levels;
- Offer meetings at flexible times for parents/guardians to provide timely information and training so that parents/guardians can be effective partners in their child's learning;
- Provide frequent reports to parents/guardians on their child's academic performance and progress toward meeting state standards;
- Provide parents reasonable access to staff by school email and meeting times during teacher's planning time, during parent-teacher conferences, or by appointment/request;
- Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities by request when appropriate;
- Provide timely responses to parents'/guardians' recommendations.

THE PARENTS/GUARDIANS WILL:

- ___ Be responsible for their child arriving on time each day and attending school every day possible;
- ___ Limit programs and time spent watching television;
- ___ Read and respond to communications from the school;
- ___ Make sure that homework is completed in a neat and proficient way and is turned in on time;
- ___ Support their child in all school functions;
- ___ Make sure their child gets at least 9 hours of sleep each night.

Rogers Public Schools

where all belong, all learn, and all succeed

Dr. Marlin Berry, Superintendent

500 West Walnut Street

Rogers, AR 72756

www.rogersschools.net

(479) 636-3910 Fax (479) 631-3504

Dear Parent:

In December 2015, former President Barack Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act into law.

Parents continue to have the same rights as they did under “No Child Left Behind”.

Under ESSA, parents have a right to know the professional qualifications of their children’s teachers(s).

This letter is to inform you of your right to ask for the following information about each of your child’s classroom teachers:

- Whether the state of Arkansas has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches (Note: We are also required to send a notice to parents affected if the teacher is not fully licensed, so if you haven’t received such notice, your child’s teacher(s) is/are fully licensed.)
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status through which state licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher’s college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- If any time your student has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher(s) that is not highly qualified, then you will be notified by the school.

You also have the right to request information regarding the qualifications of the paraprofessional(s) assisting your child’s teacher(s). If your child is receiving Title I, Part A services from a paraprofessional, then our district or school is able to provide you with the following information:

1. Whether the paraprofessional has completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education.
2. Whether the paraprofessional has completed an associate’s degree (or higher).
3. Whether the paraprofessional has met a rigorous standard of quality through our state’s certification procedure for determining the quality of paraprofessional staff.
4. Whether the paraprofessional has: (a) the knowledge of and ability to assist in instructing reading, writing, and mathematics or (b) the knowledge of and the ability to assist in learning activities, such as homework, reading readiness, writing, mathematics, and other support as appropriate.

If you would like to receive specific information about your child’s teacher or paraprofessional, please visit our office at 500 West Walnut Street to fill out a Parent Request Form. A response will be mailed to you within ten working days from the date of the request. Our office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Our district is fully committed to the success of your child. We appreciate your partnership in our efforts.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roger Hill

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

GRACE HILL ELEMENTARY
PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN
2018-2019

Grace Hill Elementary School has developed jointly with our parents a written parental involvement plan that is designed to encourage parents to form a strong partnership with our school.

Program Components

Involve parents of the school, alumni, and community members

At Grace Hill we welcome visiting parents and encourage parents to have lunch with their students and volunteer in classrooms. We invite and encourage parents to participate in our Parent Teacher Organization and to attend all education, information and award events. We enjoy the visits of former students who come to see the school and teachers or administrators that they remember from their time at Grace Hill. We invite parents and community members to serve on our Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (ACSIP) committee, to become involved in PTO and to work with other Grace Hill groups. We have associations with community organizations that come to our school for service projects such as The PepsiCo Leadership Academy hosted by the Adelante group from PepsiCo. College students from Northwest Arkansas Community College work in our school to complete their class requirements. The Camp War Eagle and SOAR programs work with our students and parents by providing after-school and summer programs. A team of community leaders help influence and facilitate relationships between Grace Hill Elementary and businesses in the community supporting "The Leader in Me" Program that our School has adopted.

Address grade levels and individual needs of the school

Various meetings are held throughout the school year to address student needs at the grade level, for example the Back to School Meet and Greet, Parent Involvement Meetings, and training meetings to help inform parents of how they can support preparation for testing and provide academic support. At Kindergarten Registration in March, parents are given readiness information to better prepare their child for Kindergarten success. Parents may request a conference at any time of the year to meet with a teacher, administrator, or counselor to address individual student needs. Two times a year district wide parent/teacher conferences are scheduled. Interpretation/Translation services are provided for major school events, conferences and important school communication whenever possible. Annual meetings are held to offer

information regarding the Title I, Part A requirements and the rights of a parent to be involved in these programs. A Title I School/Parent Compact is provided for all parents to sign outlining the agreement between parents, students and the school to share responsibility for improving academic achievement, so that students can meet the State's high academic standards.

Implement a volunteer plan

Each teacher at our school requests parent volunteers according to individual needs. These needs/requests are provided in our Volunteer Resource Book in the school office. Parents are encouraged to participate in volunteer projects through our Parent Teacher Organization such as designing and building the school float for parades, helping with class parties, helping with teacher appreciation projects, helping with special treats for the students on field day and helping with service projects that improve our school grounds. When volunteers visit our building their efforts are recorded in our volunteer log. We recognize volunteer contributions throughout the school year during assemblies and a reception is held at the end of the year in their honor.

Planned activities and events

Activities and events are held throughout the school year to welcome, inform, educate, and entertain parents and community members including Orientation/Open House, Parent Involvement Meetings, Family Learning Nights and programs highlighting student accomplishments.

Ensure the availability of resources such as books and magazines

Books and other materials are available in the library and the Parent Center area of the main lobby. Free fliers are available in this area and may, also, be obtained from the counselor. These resources include information on topics of concern to parents in the areas of academic success, social concerns and parenting skills. Information on other programs that would benefit school readiness for younger siblings such as HIPPI, Head Start and Pre-K are offered through the office. Opportunities for students and families provided through the community for example summer classes and camps are also displayed in this area

Recognize parents collectively on Rogers Public Schools website for attending parent conferences

Parent support of the schools through conference attendance is recognized on the RPS website at the district level.

Information/Family Kits

Provide information to parents

Information is provided to parents through various sources including district policy and procedures book, school and district websites, newspaper articles, weekly take home folders, school newsletters, and direct information from individual faculty or administrators.

Parent Center

The main lobby area of the school has been designated as the Parent Center at our school. This area houses information regarding resources for our parents. Parent resources are also available in the school library for check-out and information on specific topics can be requested and provided by the school counselor.

Policies

Policies and procedures are in place to welcome parents into our school while ensuring the safety of students. All visitors check into the office for a visitor tag before entering the building. All pick-up and dismissal procedures are supervised in order to help the parents as well as to ensure the safety of the children. Classroom visits by parents are welcomed when appropriate.

Facilitator

This is a position that is designated by the school principal and recognized in the school ACSIP plan. Our counselor, Lea Necessary, is our Parent Coordinator/Facilitator...her email address is Lea.Necessary@rpsar.net.

Professional Development

Administrators receive 2 hours of professional development in the area of Parent and Family Engagement each year and this is coordinated at the district level. The faculty receives 2 hours of professional development in the area of Parent and Family Engagement that is arranged by the building Principal on the schedule designated by the school district.

Funding

Funding to meet the requirements of act 603 is designated at the district level.

GRACE HILL ELEMENTARY
PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN (Parent Summary)
2018-2019

Dear Parents:

Welcome to Grace Hill! We are excited to be your partner in educating your child. We love to have parents help at our school. Volunteers are welcome to help teachers in classrooms or in the library. We encourage you to become involved in our Parent Teacher Organization and to help them with special projects for our students and teachers.

We have many meetings here at Grace Hill to help you understand how you can help your child achieve to their best ability. We hope you will come for educational meetings. We also have assemblies and programs that display your child's achievements and talents. We hope to see you there.

We always want to support and help you in any way we can. If you have concerns you can schedule a meeting with your child's teacher, an administrator, or the school counselor. You can find many informational materials to help you support your child's academic or emotional progress in the parent center shelves in our entry way. Other information from the community will be posted there for you as well, like opportunities to participate in classes or student camps.

Watch for our Wednesday folders. All of our important information and opportunities will be included in the information sent home to parents in this folder each week.

Thank-you for being a great parent partner at Grace Hill!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Little, Principal

Volunteer Opportunities At Grace Hill Elementary Sign-up

We need you! Listed below are some areas where we love to have volunteers help out our school. Please check any areas of interest and we will share this information with your child's teacher and with the PTO. We look forward to seeing you at school!

Student's Name (Please Print): _____ Grade: _____

Parent's Name (Please Print): _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

I would like to help by (check all that interest you):

_____ I would like to help with special events in the classroom such as the winter party, the Valentine's Party, or other special classroom events.

_____ I can supply supplies for classroom parties, such as store bought cupcakes, drinks, paper products, treat items.

_____ I can supply purchased items for special class projects.

_____ I can go on field trips.

_____ I can help by cutting out items or assembling items for the class.

_____ I have a special talent or interest that I can share with the class. _____

_____ I would like to be a part of **PTO** and work on their projects such as the homecoming float, and fund raising projects.

Please return this form to your student's teacher or to the office.
We are excited that you want to be a part of our team.

I acknowledge the receipt of:

**The Grace Hill Elementary Parent Information Packet
which includes the**

The Title I Parent/School Compact

**The Parent Summary Letter Reviewing the Parent and
Family Engagement Plan for Grace Hill Elementary**

And

The Volunteer Opportunities Sign-up

Student's Name (please print): _____

Date: _____

Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian (signature): _____

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO GRACE HILL!

Feel free to send the Volunteer form at the end of this packet back with this form.
The rest of the packet is yours to keep for future reference.