

**GNS**

**Support Staff  
Parent Night**



**Sept. 24, 2025**







# Agenda



Welcome ----- Ms. Moore

Staff introduction ----- Team

Attendance Policy ----- Mrs. Ristic & Mr. Solomon

Title 1 Overview ----- Mrs. Castillo

Volunteering/Fingerprinting ----- Ms. Ransom

PTA ----- Mrs. Emily Johnson

Closing ----- Ms. Moore

# *GNS Support Staff Team*

Principal's Secretary

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LaNiese Harris

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Registrar

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Brianna Shrouder

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Parent Engagement Asst.

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Mirna Castillo

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School Counselor

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Angela Ransom

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Student Advocate

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Dominique Payne-Ristic

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Mental Health Clinician

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Justin Solomon

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# *GNS Care Team*

Title	Name	Role	Referral	Slide
<b>Parent Engagement</b>	<b>Mrs. Castillo</b>	Increase parent participation in their children's education which is beneficial to their success.	Parent, staff and admin	<a href="#"><u>PEA Presentation</u></a>
<b>Student Advocate</b>	<b>Mrs. Ristic</b>	Bridge between the student and the teacher and school. Provide individualized support to specific students on my caseload.	In- house referral. Staff and admin	<a href="#"><u>SA Presentation</u></a>
<b>School Counselor</b>	<b>Ms. Ransom</b>	Prepare students with life skills through social emotional lessons, academic support and counseling.	Teacher and parent referral	<a href="#"><u>PSC Presentation</u></a>
<b>Mental Health Clinician</b>	<b>Mr. Solomon</b>	Provide mental health support services for students and families experiencing trauma, social emotional difficulty, life adjustments and more.	Parent or staff *parent consent required for services	<a href="#"><u>MHC Presentation</u></a>

# Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is key to your child's success. Our goal is to support families in ensuring that each child reaches their full potential.

- MSDE school year requires 180 days of instruction to complete a school calendar year.
- PGCPs requires that after 4 absences classroom teachers contact the parent.
- At GNS after 5 days one of our attendance team personnel will reach out to you.
- A child is considered chronically absent if they miss 10% of the enrolled days (ex. 45 days enrolled, absent 4 days they are chronically absent.)



*"Success is earned one day at a time. Start by showing up."*



## *Attendance Policy Cont.*

Absence Reason	Excused	Unexcused
No note provided		✗
Vacation		✗
Illness	✗	
Doctor's appointment	✗	
Suspension	✗	
Bereavement (immediate family)	✗	

# Attendance FAQs

## Tardies/Early Dismissal

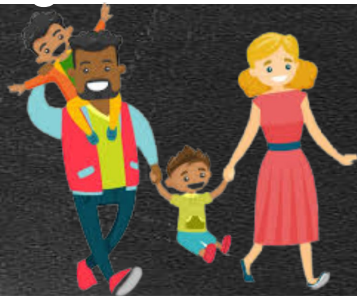
- Unexcused and excused absences are still absences in the eyes of the state. Absence notes do not remove absences from a student's record.
- Excused absences allow for teachers to provide make up work.
- Teachers are NOT required to provide make up work for unexcused absences.
- Absence notes are required within 3 days of the student's return to school. Must be dated, signed and list the absence reason.
- After 3 tardies in a week the teacher will reach out to the parent.
- Though not an absence in the system, chronic tardiness impacts student performance.
- Instructional time is being missed that can not be made up and missing assignments are not required to be made up.
- In secondary grade levels early dismissals can result in absences.



# *Title 1*

Gladys Noon Spellman Elementary is a Title 1 school this means we receive Federal funds which allow us to purchase meaningful resources for our school, staff and students. This also assists us in staffing to ensure our students have access to support in and out of the classroom.

## Parent & Family Engagement Plan Input



## School-Parent Compact Parent Input





# *Volunteering and Fingerprinting*

PGCPS requires volunteers to complete the volunteering application each school year. Fingerprinting is free for all families with children attending a Title 1 school, a letter must be submitted when completing the background check which can be provided by the school.

In addition to the online application and background check, potential volunteers must also complete a series Safe Schools safety module videos prior to being cleared as a volunteer.

Please visit the volunteering link, which provides a detailed explanation of each role and the requirements for volunteering in each capacity.

We are always looking for parent and family volunteers to assist us with school events and chaperones. We welcome your contributions and support!

# *Important Links*

*Volunteering*

*Synergy ParentVUE for new parents*

*Synergy ParentVUE existing parents*

*Lunch application forms*

*School Parent Compact Spanish*

*School Parent Compact English*

*PTA*



# *Upcoming Events*

Men Make a Difference Day ~ Monday, October 20th