



Kindergarten Parent Meeting

8.14.23

Agenda for This Morning

Opening

GES Numbers

Key Staff

4K vs. 5K

Reading and Writing

Skills - Letters, Books, Forming Letters

Math

Skills - Counting, Forming numbers, Number sense

Social Skills

Flexibility and Independence

The Big Questions

Coffee and Treats in the Cafeteria!



Opening... Relationships

David Harris

24th year in education (20th year at GES)

1st grade, 4th grade and 5th grade



GES

- 5K - 6 sections (Art, Music, Phy Ed)
- 1st - 6 sections (Art, Music, Phy Ed)
- 2nd - 6 sections (Art, Music, Phy Ed, Spanish)
- 3rd - 7 sections (Art, Music, Phy ed, Spanish)
- 4th - 5 sections (Art, Music, Phy Ed, Spanish)

ABOUT 630 students!



Key Staff - Who will your child interact with at GES?

Kindergarten Team

Ms. Jen Strong

Mrs. Kristin O'Connor

Mrs. Jenny Bauer

Mrs. Amanda Buyeske

Mrs. Kristle Ley

Mrs. Trina Gannon

Office Staff

Mrs. Dana Jacquot - Admin. Asst.

Mrs. Jessica Kleier - Admin. Asst.

Mrs. Molly Oleson - District Nurse

Mrs. Dawn Ebben - GES Health Aide

Specials Team

Mrs. Maureen Glennon - Music

Ms. Brooke Wellhausen - Phy Ed

Mr. Tyler Norton - Phy Ed

Mrs. Sheena Arndt - Art



Key Staff - Cont.

Pupil Services

Mrs. Linda Gorges - School Pysch.
Mrs. Jenny Becker - School Counselor
Mrs. Melanie DeMenter - School Social
Worker

Instructional Coaches/Interventionists

Ms. Jen Smith - Math
Mrs. Lindsay Schmitt - Literacy/Math
Mrs. Jenny Gassner - Literacy
Mrs. Julie Wilkins - Literacy
Mrs. Sarah Yerges - Literacy
Mrs. Susan Blakewell - EL
Mrs. Liz Pascaly - EL



4K vs. 5K

4K

- Naps
- Snack time
- Half day, 4 days a week
- Play is less structured
- Learning is less structured

5K

- Quiet time
- Working Snack
- All day, 5 days a week
- Structured play time
- Learning
 - How to read
 - How to do math
 - How to write
 - How to work with others



Before we go any farther.. Turn and Talk

Who was the most influential, most memorable, most loved teacher that you had K-12?

Why?



Reading

- letters and their order
- letters and their sounds
- “how books work” using real books
- 1 to 1 correspondence



Writing

- making “books”
- using pictures to tell a story
- sequencing



Math

- 1 to 1 correspondence
- counting forward to 100
- using manipulatives to show math
- single digit addition and subtraction



Social Emotional Learning

- regulating emotions - the Zones
- compromising
- sportsmanship
- working individually and in groups
- listening attentively
- problem solving
- learning from mistakes
- lengthening the time between stimulus and response



Turn and Talk pt 2...

Which is most important?

Reading

Writing

Math

Social Emotional Learning

Flexibility scenario

going to the park scenario...

2 children - 5 and 8

Flexibility is a durable life skill

Flexibility

- Ability to handle change
- Make a decision (that is positive) when something happens that is unexpected
- Handle failure

Examples

- Substitute teacher in the room
- Cancelled Specials class
- Change in the lunch menu
- Inside recess
- Other students' needs in class



Independence = Self Esteem

- Putting On & Taking Off
 - Winter Gear
 - Shoes
 - Backpack
- Zipping, Buttoning, Snapping, Tying
- Bathrooming
- Getting their materials
- Cleaning up and throwing things away/recycle
- Opening snack/lunch items such as - Juice boxes, Yogurt containers, milk cartons
- Following 2 to 3 step directions



What we will do here at GES

We will...

- Love your child
- Teach your child
- Find the best way to assist your child with their academics and SEL
- Walk beside your child while they experience constructive struggle
- Keep consistent communication between home and school
- Monitor your child's social emotional well being
- Monitor your child's academic progress
- Have fun with your child
- Foster a loving, learning, and healthy community within the classroom and school



What we could use your help with

- Letting your child entertain themselves (without technology)
- Letting your child struggle through challenges
- Create healthy routines and structures at home to assist your child with emotional regulation
- Letting your child talk for themselves
- Letting your child play games with you (yes, there should be a winner and loser)



What we could use your help with

- Listen to all sides of the story
- There is such a thing as “too much school” - just read to your child
- Let us know (by phone or email) if something is happening at home that is a change in routine
- Contact us if you have a concern (please don't post on Social Media)
- Don't compare siblings
- Trust us!



The BIG Questions

- What is staggered start?
- Visitors in the building and volunteers
- All Kindergarteners enter through door 13
- Birthday invites and treats
- Classroom teacher is your main point of contact
- Report absences on the attendance line at 920.757.7161
- Be patient at arrival and dismissal
- “Bullies” at school
- Title IX
- Classroom placement flexibility



Questions?

