August 12, 2022

Greetings Wildcat Parents and Guardians:

I would like to welcome you and our students to the 2022-2023 school year. I invite you to celebrate with us this year. I am excited to inform you that we are a “C+” school this year. We are a shy 24 points from being a “B” school. To celebrate our school grade, we will be having hot dogs, chips, and a drink on August 12 @ 1 p.m.

Hopefully, our students have used some of their time away to relax, recharge and get ready to embrace the upcoming school year. I am very much delighted that most of you have decided to return and all of us at GWC look forward to seeing our students on Friday, August 12 @ 1 p.m. for Meet the Teacher. Students will receive free books, backpacks filled with school supplies, IDs, the opportunity to sign up for TEAM-Up, car decals for ALL CAR Riders, and free physicals. First day of school is Monday, August 15, 2022. ALL STUDENTS MUST BE UNIFORM.

Our school’s theme this year is titled Blast Off to Learning! The stars have aligned perfectly for us to deliver on making GWC an incredible school and having our students be a part of what should be a highly productive school year. The staff has embraced the incorporation of a new learning platform into our student learning environment ensuring that student success remains at the forefront of what we do.

Parents, included in this letter is a list of school supplies, new school shirt order form. Yes, we have school shirts with our school logo for $9. Also, please follow us on Instagram (@georgewashington3158) and join our Facebook (George Washington Carver Elementary) page for updated school information.

I truly believe that our students benefit most when they are present every day and being guided by high quality teachers and having high quality learning experiences. At my core, I find GWC to be an amazing learning community, powered by an amazing team of staff who really care about children. Our teachers are welcoming, and they are dedicated to ensuring that your student received the best education possible.
Just a couple of reminders:

Students cannot arrive on campus until 8:00 a.m.

- **First Day of School** –
  - Parents will have the opportunity to escort students to class the First Day of school only. You can drop off supplies or meet the teacher. You must exit the building by 8:20.

- **Breakfast** –
  - All students eat free. 2nd thru 5th grade will eat in the cafeteria 8:00 – 8:30 daily. Please make sure your child is here on time so that instruction can begin on time.
  - Kindergarten thru First Grade – students eat breakfast in the classroom.

- **Transportation/Bus** –
  - If your child will ride the bus, parents must create a FOCUS account and select Bus/Bus Route. Students are being assigned to bus stops this year. Directions have been included with this letter.
  - All Kindergarten students must have a signed permission slip to ride the bus.

- **Morning Arrival Procedures** –
  - Car Riders - All car rider students will use the car loop located on Vernon Road (on the side of school). **Gates will close at 8:30 daily. Please turn your music down when you enter school grounds.**
  - Walkers - Parents who walk students in the morning, please drop student off at the 2nd main gate entrance (in front of the school).
  - Bus Riders – will be dropped off in front of the school. Please contact Transportation at 904-858-6200 if you have any questions or concerns with routes and buses.

- **Dismissal**
  - ALL PARENTS MUST HAVE A DISMISSAL TAG FOR CAR RIDERS. Please pick up your dismissal tag prior to the first day of school, which is August 15. Tags will be available at the Meet the Teacher on August 12 as well.
  - No early student check-out after 2:15 p.m. (DCPS policy – no dismissal 45 minutes prior to end of school day)
  - Walkers – Will be dismissed out the back gate at 3:00 p.m. (**Kindergarten students must be picked up by parent or guardian 18 years or older.**)

- **Home-School Communication** – Class Dojo and Student Agendas.
- **Visitors/Visiting Campus** – All visitors must be cleared via DCPS volunteer system.
- **Parent Conference** – must be scheduled in the main office. Please provide teachers 24 hours to contact you.