

Gratton School District



PARENT HANDBOOK

2025-2026

PARENT HANDBOOK



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Gratton School Staff & Schedule

Attendance

Programs

Breakfast & Lunch

STEAM Enrichment Program

Music

School Site Council

General Policies

Field Trips

Homework

Student Social Interaction

Bicycle Helmets

Vandalism

Tobacco Free

Parking Lot Safety

Personal Items Policy

Cell Phone

Communication

Citizenship

Dress Code

Behavior Guidelines

2025-2026 School Calendar

Gratton School Staff & Schedule
Wendy Williams, Superintendent



Teachers

Jaime Piazza	Grade TK/K
Sadie Maxwell	Grade 1
Bernadette Everett-Reed	Grade 2
Heather Yardy	Grade 3
Marcus Hake	Grade 4
Karen Genzoli	Grade 5
	Grades 5th-6th P.E.
Daniela Cordova	Grade 6
	Grades 5th-6th P.E.
Rexan Casteel	Grade 7 Lang. Arts/Science
	Grade 7 History
	Grade 8 Math
	Grades 7th-8th P.E.
Sarah Cunningham	Grade 8 Lang. Arts/Science
	Grade 8 History
	Grade 7 Math
	Grades 7th-8th P.E.

Administrative Assistant

Debbie Rocha

Media Aide

Nicki Coburn

Intervention & Resource

Shara Wilson

Speech

Lorie Wagner

Instructional Aide/

After School Coordinator

Kaitlyn Bishop

Lunch Supervisor

Cathy Scott

STEAM Teacher

Jennifer Olsen

Lunch Aide/After School Program

Rochelle Modaresi

Music Teacher

Monica Twomey

Campus Supervisors

Kaitlyn Bishop

Rochelle Modaresi

Board of Trustees

Keith Coonce, 993-8545	Ashley Stevens, 202-8009
Kristi Johns, 604-2893	Phil Wagner, 988-0014
Jessica Mora, 810-8004	

STARTING/ENDING TIMES

Grades K- 8 8:00 a.m. - 2:20 p.m. Grade TK 10:00 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.

Minimum Day Schedule - Grades K - 8 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Grade TK 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Breakfast Served 7:30 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.

Attendance

It is important for students to be at school each day. Students attend school for 180 days during the year therefore, each day of instruction is valuable. Students are expected to be present and ready to learn each day.



It is also important for students to be punctual. Being on time helps set a positive tone for the day and establishes a calm, organized and comfortable routine. Morning announcements and submitting work usually happens the first few minutes of school. Students are expected to be on time and ready to learn each day.

A few guidelines to remember

1. In the event that your student is ill, please phone the district office as soon as possible. An independent study packet will be started for the student to complete all missed work.
2. Students who are ill for more than three days must have a doctor's excuse.
3. Students who are tardy more than five times or who miss school more than five days without a valid excuse will receive notification from the district reminding the family of the importance of being at school. Excessive tardies or absences may result in a phone call or conference with the teacher and/or superintendent.
4. Tardy students must visit the office first to obtain a tardy slip to enter the classroom.
5. The district encourages all vacations to be taken outside of the regularly scheduled school days.
6. The district encourages all appointments to be made outside of the regularly scheduled school day.
7. Parents must visit the office first when entering the campus or to sign your child out.

Programs



Breakfast Schedule

Breakfast Served Daily from 7:30 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.

Second Chance Breakfast served during morning recess

9:45 - 10:00 K-5 Recess

10:00 - 10:15 6-8 Recess

*Students are provided one breakfast per day.

Lunch Schedule

11:30 - 11:50 TK-2 Lunch

11:50 - 12:10 TK-2 Recess

11:50 - 12:10 3-5 Lunch

12:10 - 12:30 3-5 Recess

12:10 - 12:30 6-8 Lunch

12:30 - 12:50 6-8 Recess

Gratton School is committed to providing students with healthy, nutritious meals each day.

Student meals are free of charge for all students. An adult breakfast meal is \$2.85. An adult lunch meal is \$4.75. A breakfast and lunch calendar will be emailed to each family every month. The breakfast and lunch calendars are also available on the school website at grattonschool.net

Families are still encouraged to fill out the Free & Reduced School Lunch Form on the District's website under the Parent Resources tab for students that qualify. This program provides supplemental funding to the District outside of meal reimbursement dollars.

Your child may bring a sack lunch from home if they choose to. We offer milk for the students that bring a sack lunch at no charge.

No soft drinks or energy drinks are allowed.

Teachers of students in grades TK-8 have microwaves in their classrooms and will provide this service. The following guidelines must be followed:

- Keep warm-ups under 1 minute.
- Have food ready to warm in a microwave-safe container (no foil or metal containers).
- Send any utensils your child may need.
- Due to the number of requests for this service, it is crucial that warm-ups are foods that require a minimal amount of warming - **not cooking!!**

Snacks are provided for students enrolled in the ELOP After School Program.



Despite the school's water being safe for consumption, the District currently provides bottled water in the classrooms and other locations on campus. Bottles and/or cups will not be provided. Students should bring their own refillable bottle and take it home regularly to be cleaned. Traditional drinking fountains are also accessible outside and in classrooms.



STEAM Enrichment Program



(Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)

All students in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade participate in our STEAM Enrichment Program offered during the regular school day. Through collaboration with the classroom teacher, our certificated STEAM teacher provides engaging, standards-based projects that are grade level appropriate. Students design both individual and team projects by following the foundations of the STEAM learning model which include:

- Observation
- Creativity
- Innovation
- Planning
- Revision
- Collaboration
- Presentation

This learning model teaches our students to think critically, problem-solve, and explore in solving the driving question. This foundation also provides our students with the grit and skills necessary to solve real-world problems and challenges they will be faced with in the future.



Music

Music instruction is offered to all students during the regularly scheduled school day. Our music program provides students in grades TK-8 the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of music principles through singing, games and classroom instruments. In addition, students in grade 4 receive lessons on the recorder and students in grades 5-8 learn how to play the ukulele. Students are required to attend scheduled performances during the school year. Performances are part of the student's final grade in music. Further information about our music program can be directed to our music teacher Mrs. Twomey.



The Gratton School Local Control Accountability Plan is developed and recommended by the School Site Council. The council has the ongoing responsibility to review with the principal, teachers, and other school personnel to assess the effectiveness of the program.

The needs and resources of the program require membership that include broad representation of parents and staff. If you are interested in participating on the Site Council, please phone the district office for more information.

General Policies



Permission notes informing you of off-campus trips are required to be signed and returned to your child's teacher before the scheduled trip. No phone calls will be made for notes not turned in prior to the scheduled field trip. Students without parental permission will be expected to remain at school. The consequence for bad behavior on a trip will be exclusion from the next field trip and/or additional consequences as deemed appropriate by the teacher.

Chaperones that drive students on a field trip must fill out a form (available in the office or on the website) prior to the field trip and have a current copy of their driver's license and a current copy of their insurance card on file in the office. **Chaperones are limited to parents and grandparents only. All others must have prior office approval.**

Each teacher reserves the right to determine a student's eligibility for each field trip based on citizenship and grades. Students must maintain a 2.0 grade point average, have no F grades and a minimum of S citizenship in order to attend field trips.

1. Students must ride the bus both ways on a field trip unless the parent signs a release form for the return trip back to school. Parents may not sign for children other than their own.
2. If space is limited, teachers must use a lottery system to determine parent participation.

Siblings and Field Trips

1. Siblings enrolled at Gratton are not allowed to participate in a field trip if their own class is not participating.
2. Preschool or younger siblings may be able to participate if there is room or if the trip is age appropriate. Check with the teacher for details.
3. Reservations for the class and parents will be priority before siblings.

Homework

The Gratton School District Board of Trustees believes that homework is the responsibility of the student. It is the student's job to develop regular study habits and to do most assignments independently. The board recognizes the fact that homework serves a valid purpose when it:

- a. provides essential practice in needed skills
- b. trains pupils in good work habits
- c. affords opportunities for increasing self-direction
- d. enriches and extends school experiences
- e. helps children learn to use time wisely
- f. brings pupils into contact with out-of-school learning resources such as parents
- g. promotes growth in responsibility



Student Social Interaction

A natural part of a child's life is developing social skills. Attending school offers the student daily opportunities to learn and practice appropriate social interaction. Character education is taught in all grades and rewarded in individual classrooms through our Class Dojo rewards program. Awareness and problem solving skills are taught about topics such as teasing, bullying and sexual harassment with grade appropriate discussions, role playing and activities. Prevention and action are taught and emphasized. If you feel that your student is having a problem with social interaction, please contact the teacher immediately to discuss a plan of action.

Requirements of Students to Wear Bicycle Helmets



Vehicle Code section 21212 requires anyone under the age of 18 years who is operating a bicycle upon a public street, bike path, or trail, to wear a "...properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet....". The Gratton School District Board of Trustees has enacted a rule requiring all students riding to and from Gratton School to wear a helmet in accordance with this section.



Vandalism

Students and their parents shall be responsible for all damage by students to equipment or school property. This responsibility applies in the matter of books and supplies of all kinds, as well as equipment, buildings and grounds.



Tobacco Free

This is a tobacco-free campus. This includes smokeless tobacco, vapor and e-cigarettes.



Parking Lot Safety...And...Driving Slowly

When dropping off or picking up your children, please pull as far forward as possible in the parking lot's right hand lane. The inside lane is used for cars to leave the parking lot. Also remember to park in designated parking spaces only.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL!



Personal Items Policy

Electronics and Toys - Students are not to bring toys, balls, electronic devices or cards to school. These items create a distraction in the classroom and a disturbance on the playground.

Classroom teachers may prearrange opportunities for students to bring items from home. This should only be done under special circumstances (i.e. Sharing Day, etc.) and with teacher approval. These items are not to be taken out to recess.

Label all clothing, backpacks and lunch bags with your child's name so that these items can be easily identifiable and returned to your child.

Lost and Found - Sweatshirts, sweaters, jackets, and shirts are frequently left on the playground. The items collected with no names are moved to the lost and found rack, located in the gym. The articles of clothing will remain on campus until scheduled breaks, at which time they will be donated to an organization that clothes the needy. Remind your child to immediately check the lost and found located in the gym for any missing items.

Gratton School District is not responsible for loss, damage or theft of personal property of students. Please discuss with your child the importance of taking responsibility for his/her belongings.



Cell Phones

We pride ourselves on being an engaging learning environment for our students, free of unnecessary distraction from cell phones and/or social media. **All personal electronic signaling devices shall be turned off and turned in to the classroom teacher at the start of school.** Devices will be returned to the students at the close of the school day. If a student uses any mobile communications device during school, a school employee shall confiscate it and return it at the end of the school day to the parent. The possession or use of any personal electronic signaling device during the school day is strictly prohibited.



Communication

Effective communication between the school and parents is essential to the success of each student. Please do not hesitate to email, make an appointment or touch base with your child's teacher. All questions are important to us.

Website - grattonschool.net

School wide events and activities can be found using the district website calendar page. Remember to check the calendar frequently as events and dates can change and new events can be added throughout the school year. Parents can access PowerSchool, meeting agendas, meeting minutes, and other information about the district.

Most district office communication will be done by mass email and/or Class Dojo. Teachers are required to use mass email and/or Class Dojo as well to inform parents of classroom announcements and events.

PowerSchool

Parents of students in grades 4-8 are strongly encouraged to use the PowerSchool information system to monitor grades and attendance. User names and passwords are distributed each year for new students. Please contact the office if you need assistance accessing or using this program.

Class Dojo

Class Dojo is a school communication platform that office staff, teachers, students and families use to share information, photos, and videos. Your child's teacher will send an invitation for you to join if you have not already done so. It is encouraged that you join to see what your child is learning in the classroom, as well as stay up to date on school and classroom communication. Class Dojo is a private platform, only accessible to Gratton families.

District policy requires that any parent with a concern or issue regarding their student must contact the classroom teacher first. Teachers can be contacted by email or phoning the district office. Teachers are available before and after school. If the concern or issue is not resolved after a couple conversations with the teacher, the superintendent may then be notified and a conference with all parties involved will be scheduled.

GRATTON SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY

CITIZENSHIP



The Six Pillars of Character

The Gratton School District Board expects all students to demonstrate good citizenship within the school community. Poor citizenship hinders the learning process for the student who misbehaves and others in the classroom.

All staff and students are expected to exhibit "The Six Pillars of Character," – Caring, Citizenship, Fairness, Respect, Responsibility, and Trustworthiness. Teachers will instruct about these characteristics with various grade appropriate activities throughout the year. Dojo points or other classroom rewards will be given to those students exhibiting these characteristics throughout the year, as well as celebrated in each classroom.

The following factors are to be considered in determining a citizenship grade:

1. Demonstrates Effort
2. Follows Rules and Directions
3. Completes Assignments on Time
4. Works Cooperatively
5. Accepts Responsibility and Shows Self Control

Teachers will notify parents if students are having difficulty with any of the above criteria. A plan will be formed to rectify the situation. If the difficulty continues the teachers may choose to apply consequences of restricting privileges such as field trips, sports games or other activities. If the difficulty continues further the teacher, parents, and student will meet with the superintendent where further consequences of suspension or expulsion may be discussed.

Reviewed 6/4/25



PHILOSOPHY

The school should have authority over dress and grooming as they affect the learning environment.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

1. Neatness, cleanliness, and appropriateness are emphasized.
2. The following are considered inappropriate:
 - A. Excessive make-up
 - B. Bare midriffs
 - C. Hats worn inside of buildings
 - D. Inappropriate lettering
3. Appropriate dress includes a coat or jacket in cold weather.
4. **Modest** walking shorts are allowed.
5. Dress length shall be such that girls can perform routine school activities, such as sitting, reaching, bending, etc. and easily maintain modesty.
6. Shoes must be worn at school.
7. Appropriate footwear is required for athletic activities.
8. The wearing of dangling earrings is discouraged for safety reasons.
9. Hair length and style for boys and girls should be such that no unusual attention is drawn to the student.
10. No gang attire shall be worn at school. This includes, but is not limited to baggy pants, hats with gang logos, colors representing gangs, etc.
11. Overall presentation should be such that no unusual attention is drawn to the student.

Behavior Guidelines

1. BEHAVIORS AND CONSEQUENCES

A. BEHAVIORS

1. Defiance or interfering with the peaceful conduct of the school (i.e., classrooms, campus, office, etc.).
2. Committing obscene or vulgar act(s) or use of indecent language.
3. Cheating
4. Threatening or intimidating any other student or an adult.
5. Being in unsupervised/restricted areas.
6. Possession of any object not of a dangerous nature without teacher/administrator permission (i.e., water guns, balloons, etc.).
7. Any dress, grooming, or appearance which disrupts or attempts to disrupt the educational process or affects the health or safety of the individual. Inappropriate attire includes clothing promoting illegal substances and/or obscenities, bare midriffs, and footwear that inhibits participation in physical activities.

BEHAVIORS IN #1-7 WILL RESULT IN THESE CONSEQUENCES:

1st Offense: Documented warning and/or other alternative consequences.

2nd Offense: Detention

3rd Offense: One-day (in or out-of-school) suspension and possible recommendation for alternative program.

Severe Clause: Depending on the severity of the behavior, the staff may choose second or third consequence for first offense.

B. BEHAVIORS

1. Stealing or attempting to steal school or private property.
2. Knowingly receiving stolen school or private property.
3. Causing serious damage to school property.
4. Causing or attempting to cause physical injury.
5. Possess, sell, or be under the influence of any controlled substance.

BEHAVIORS IN #1-5 WILL RESULT IN THESE CONSEQUENCES:

1st Offense: Detention or alternative consequence based on the Principal's discretion.

2nd Offense: One-day suspension or other alternative consequence.

3rd Offense: Three-day suspension and possible recommendation for alternative educational program.

Severe Clause: Depending on the severity of the behavior, the staff may choose second or third consequence for first offense.

C. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. (E.C. 48900) No pupil shall be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated unless the act is related to school activity or school attendance. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts which are enumerated in this section which occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - a. while on school grounds
 - b. while going to or coming from school
 - c. during the lunch period whether on or off campus
 - d. during or while going to or coming from a school-sponsored activity
2. Students accumulating 20 days of in-school and/or home suspension are subject to involuntary transfer to an alternative program.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken if a student's behavior is disruptive to the instructional process or causes damage to persons or property even though the offense is not defined in the student conduct code.
4. Students and parents have the right to appeal disciplinary action taken against a student. A meeting must be requested with the superintendent prior to any further appeal.



GRATTON
School District

2025-2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
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School Begins August 7, 2025

AUGUST				
			7	8
11	12	13	Min Day	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

SEPTEMBER				
Holiday	2	3	4	Min Day
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

OCTOBER				
		1	2	3
6	7	8	Min Day	10
13	14	15	16	Min Day
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER				
3	4	5	6	7
Holiday	Holiday	12	13	14
17	Min Day	Min Day	Min Day	Min Day
Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday

DECEMBER				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	Min Day
Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
Holiday	Holiday	Holiday		

JANUARY				
			Holiday	Holiday
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
Holiday	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

FEBRUARY				
2	3	4	5	6
Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
Holiday	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

MARCH				
2	3	4	5	6
9	Min Day	Min Day	Min Day	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

APRIL				
		1	2	Min Day
Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

MAY				
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	Min Day	21	22
Holiday	26	Min Day	Min Day	

JUNE				
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School Ends May 28, 2026



End of 1st Trimester - October 31, 2025
End of 2nd Trimester - February 27, 2026
End of 3rd Trimester - May 28, 2026



TOTAL STUDENT DAYS = 180
TOTAL TEACHER DAYS = 185