



2023 - 2024
Student - Parent/Guardian
Handbook

Our Educational Family

To reach ANY District or School Office, please call 609-748-1250 and **FOLLOW THE PROMPTS** to be connected properly.

Reeds Road Elementary School

Home of the Bulldogs

Grades K-6

8:35 am - 3:20pm; *Early Dismissal: 1:30pm*

103 South Reeds Road

Galloway, NJ 08205

Principal: Mr. Kevin Lightcap

Assistant Principal: Mr. Richard Garbutt, Jr.

Roland Rogers Elementary School

Home of the Tigers

Grades PreK-6

8:35am - 3:20pm; *Early Dismissal: 1:30pm*

105 South Reeds Road

Galloway, NJ 08205

Principal: Dr. Robin Moore

Assistant Principal: Mr. Anthony Lupo

Arthur Rann Elementary School

Home of the Dragons

Grades K-6

8:35am - 3:20pm; *Early Dismissal: 1:30pm*

515 South Eighth Avenue

Galloway, NJ 08205

Principal: Mr. Kevin McGloin

Assistant Principal: Mr. Terrence O'Connor, Jr.

Galloway Township Middle School

Home of the Grizzlies

Grades 7 & 8

7:30am - 2:20pm; *Early Dismissal: 12:20pm*

100 South Reeds Road

Galloway, NJ 08205

Principal: Mrs. Paula Junker

Assistant Principals: Mr. Ryan Dalon & Mrs. Hollisha Bridgers

Smithville Elementary School

Home of the Dolphins

Grades PreK-6

8:35am - 3:20pm; *Early Dismissal: 1:30pm*

37 South Old Port Road

Galloway, NJ 08205

Principal: Mr. David Ragazzi

Assistant Principal: Mr. Kenneth Berardis

Pomona Preschool

Home of the Penguins

Preschool

9:10am - 3:20pm; *Early Dismissal: 1:30pm*

400 South Genoa Avenue

Egg Harbor, NJ 08215

Principal: Dr. Donald Gross

Through State Aid/Grant Funding, our district also provides preschool education to students at Head Start. For information, please contact our Director of Student Services - General Education, Christine Burgess, or Director of Curriculum, Dr. Suzanne Guidry. (see contact information listed below).

Administrative Offices

101 South Reeds Road, Galloway, NJ 08205

Phone: 609-748-1250 Fax: 609-748-1796

<https://www.gtps.k12.nj.us>

Stephen P. Santilli, Superintendent of Schools x. 1016

Joy N. Nixon, CPA, School Business Administrator x. 1014

Jennifer R. Baldwin, Ed.D., Director of Student Services/Special Education x. 1611

Christine Burgess, Director of Student Services/General Education x. 1012

Suzanne Guidry, Ed. D., Director of Curriculum/Affirmative Action Officer x. 1009

Betty Napoli, Director of Curriculum/District Test Coordinator x. 1047

Elen Manalang, PHR, Human Resources Manager x. 1011

Rocco Rosetti, CEFM, MBA, Facilities Operations Manager x. 5122

Ray Marable, Assistant Facilities Operations Manager x. 5120

Joseph Valver, Coordinator of Information & Instructional Technology x. 1020 (*starting November 2023*)

Lauren Murray, Food Services Supervisor x. 5046

Debbie Kaufmann, Transportation Coordinator x. 1004

Joanna Westcott, Communications Officer x. 1001

Katie Geary, Student Registrar x. 1015

Todd Loveland, District Receptionist/Child Care & Community Ed. x. 1029

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Annual Notifications:

We are required to report the below information to parents/guardians annually. Updated links to notifications will appear in this handbook every year in compliance with the plan. Your electronic sign-off of this handbook via OnCourse annual registration includes your acknowledgement of the below.

- [Annual Integrated Pest Management Notification](#)
- [Annual Asbestos Notice](#)
- [Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy - 5131.1](#)
- [Attendance, Absences, and Excuses Policy - 5113](#)
- School Attendance - A Flyer for Parents/Guardians: [Preschool](#) | [Elementary](#) | [Middle School](#)
- [HPV Fact Sheet](#) | [Hoja de dato del VPH](#) | [HPV Facts - Other Languages](#) (Grade 7 Families)
- [Meningitis Fact Sheet](#) (Grade 6 Families)
- [Head Lice Information](#)

Our Mission and Core Values:

Galloway Township Public Schools, a diverse and progressive district that unifies educators, families and community to provide a safe, challenging learning environment for all children to succeed in meeting the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and develop as lifelong learners and productive citizens.

The above mission statement was created by a group of school district staff, town council members, parents and community leaders at a meeting led by members of the NJ School Boards Association in February of 2002.

In the summer of 2011, the Board of Education adopted “Core Values” to guide the Galloway Township Public School District. In spring of 2021, the district conducted a stakeholder survey to update the core values. Five values - **Respect, Hard Work, Kindness, Trust** and **Equity** - were formally adopted by the Board of Education. Additionally, we created a word cloud to represent all the values that were suggested and selected in the survey. Our core values influence every facet of our work in the district; from collegial interactions, planning for student learning, ensuring safety for students and staff, and the home-school connection. All stakeholders are encouraged to join us in teaching our children these core values and living them each day.

Respect: 1: a relation or reference to a particular thing or situation. 2: an act of giving particular attention: consideration. 3a : high or special regard : esteem. b: the quality or state of being esteemed.

Hard Work: 1: activity in which one exerts strength or faculties to do or perform something: a: sustained physical or mental effort to overcome obstacles and achieve an objective or result; b: the labor, task, or duty that is one's accustomed means of livelihood; c: a specific task, duty, function, or assignment often being a part or phase of some larger activity.

Kindness: 1: the quality or state of being kind, treating people with *kindness* and respect; 2: a kind deed: favor; 3: *archaic* : AFFECTION

Trust: 1: assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something; 2: dependence on something future or contingent

Equity: 1a: justice according to natural law or right; specifically freedom from bias or favoritism; 1b: something that is equitable

* Please note that all definitions are from Merriam-Webster’s online dictionary (<http://www.m-w.com>)

District Website:

We are pleased to unveil our NEWLY REDESIGNED district website this year at: <https://www.gtps.k12.nj.us>. You can find information on each of the district's schools, curriculum programs, intervention and support services, child care program forms and facts, information on registering children, and much more! Note: Important information received from the department of education regarding their initiatives are listed in our Galloway Families tab.

Special features of our site include: Quick Links to the District Calendar, School lunch menus, Parent Portal & more; an interactive district calendar; and special student & parent/guardian information.

You can also follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) & [YouTube](#) @GTNJSchools

Important Note:

Please be advised that this handbook includes information, policies, and practices during a typical school year. Based on the most recent health and safety status and guidelines or other circumstances, items in this handbook are subject to change. In those instances, parents/guardians and students will be notified.

Health & Safety

School Safety and Security:

The Galloway Township Public School District is committed to keeping our children safe in their schools. The district and all schools have a Safety and Security Manual which addresses all non-typical events in a school day, including: accidents at school, assaults, terroristic threats, intruders in the building, and other events. Plans are established for these issues both at the building and district level. The contents of the manual are revised on an annual basis and necessary changes are made based on the needs of the district. Following are other ways in which we promote the well-being of our students and staff:

1. Our Student Code of Conduct (see links - pg. 15) outlines behaviors, consequences, and interventions / restorative practices. This includes lesser issues as well as more serious infractions.
2. All administrators and staff are provided with training to help them identify students in need and those that are at-risk (e.g. suicide, substance abuse, child abuse).
3. School Social Workers, School Psychologists, School Counselors, and Mental Health Specialists provide services including but not limited to: 1) classroom, small group, and individualized counseling; 2) teaching social skills; and 3) work with parents, individually and in groups, to help them understand and recognize student depression, addiction, and other serious mental health problems; 4) crisis response.
4. District educational programs include: 1) how to deal with strangers; 2) resolving conflicts, preventing violence, preventing bullying and harassment; 3) promoting tolerance and social skills; 4) peer mediation training.
5. The district and the Galloway Township Police Department have a collaborative relationship. This includes four School Resource Officers (SROs). Our SROs strive to establish a positive relationship between our students and the police through daily interactions, classroom visits, participation in special events, and the like. Our SROs are also there to protect our students and staff in the event of an emergency. Additionally, we work with the GTPD and other emergency responders to plan for emergency response and conduct drills.
6. School-community coalitions that provide ongoing programs on preventing youth violence and substance abuse.

School Security Drill Legislation (A2003) was signed into Law on January 11, 2010. This law (18A:41-1) went into effect on November 1, 2010, and states that New Jersey schools are required to conduct one school security drill and one fire drill each month that school is open. The statute defines a school security drill as “an exercise, other than a fire drill, to practice procedures that respond to an emergency” including a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, bomb threat, or active shooter situation. The goal of any drill is to familiarize faculty, staff and students with specific procedures so they feel confident, safe, and secure in the event that an actual emergency arises. Just as there are responsibilities for faculty, staff and students during an emergency, parents can play an essential role in keeping the school community safe. Please consider the following guidelines so that you can help your child’s school respond effectively:

- Keep your emergency contact information up to date. You can change your telephone number and email address via the OnCourse on the *OnCourse Connect* page or by calling your child’s school. If your address changes during the school year, you need to contact our registrar at 748-1250 x1015.
- All exterior doors are locked at all times. In the event of an emergency, please do not come to school to pick up your child. Depending upon the emergency, it is likely access to the school will be blocked by the police. Further, this could put you at risk and may take away from the primary focus of student safety. We will communicate with you via School Messenger and through social media (Facebook and Twitter). Each school also has an automated lockdown alert system which includes a light at the entrance indicating that an emergency is happening and no one can enter.
- Use of cell phones is prohibited during school hours, including during school security drills and fire drills. The use of cell phones during an actual emergency can lead to confusion and misinformation.

For more information regarding school safety procedures and drills, please visit the NJ Department of Education School Security website at: www.state.nj.us/education/schools/security

Arriving to School Safely:

The following safety rules were developed for children arriving at school through means other than the school bus to reduce the large number of vehicles in the school driveways, to avoid pedestrian accidents and relieve traffic congestion around the school complex, especially during arrival and dismissal times. Please observe these rules and ask that your children abide by them:

- Please follow all speed limits and other signage. This helps ensure everyone, especially our children, are safe.
- If you are dropping your child off at school, as you approach the drop off areas (which will be provided to you by the school) do not double park or park so the child has to cross between cars to exit your vehicle. Your child should be exiting your car from the passenger side of the car directly to the sidewalk. Pull ahead to the front of the line as you arrive.
- If you are helping your child gather items from the car you must park your car in a designated parking place.
- If a student is non-transported and the family opts to have the child walk to/from school, remind your child to cross at designated crosswalks with school crossing guards. The Galloway Township Board of Education requires annual signed permission for a student to be dismissed and walk home unescorted by a parent or guardian. All documented arrangements will be considered permanent for the entire school year. Parents/guardians may alter these arrangements upon prior written notice provided to the school office at the beginning of the school day. A permission form is available at the school office.
- If a student is riding a bike to and from school, please be advised that the Galloway Township Board of Education and its administration and staff fully support compliance with the New Jersey Bicycle Helmet Law (N.J.S.A. 39:4-10.2). All minor children who are students of the Galloway Township Public Schools and their parents are required to fully comply with the law. Students under the age of 14 are expected to always wear a properly fitted and appropriate bicycle helmet while operating a bicycle to and from school. A "bicycle use" contract must be signed by students and parents at their individual school on an annual basis.

Arriving to School Safely By Bus:

If your child takes the bus, please use it. This helps lessen traffic congestion overall as well as the time it takes to dismiss car riders. The well-being of our children is of utmost importance to the Galloway Township Public Schools. Bus transportation to and from school is one area that we continually work to ensure safety. At the school level, all administrators are reviewing with students safety rules for riding the bus. Through the efforts of Integrity Transportation, the Galloway Township Police Department, Greater Egg Harbor Regional Transportation Consortium and District administrators, Counselors and Child Study Team members, all bus drivers receive training regarding safety and crisis response.

Your cooperation with the following policies is greatly appreciated, and can go a long way to ensure that children being transported to and from school are safe and transported in a timely manner. If you have questions or concerns, please contact our District Transportation Coordinator at: 609-748-1250, ext. 1004. Please also see "School Bus" (under "Student Codes of Conduct; page 14) for more information.

- Students in **Pre-K and Kindergarten** must be met by a parent or designated adult at the assigned bus stop. If no parent or designated adult is at the stop, the child will be transported back to school at the end of the run and placed in our After School Child Care Program. Being placed in the After School Child Care Program will incur a charge to the student's parent/guardian.
- A request to change bus stop pick-up or drop-off locations must be made in writing with the Transportation Office. Please do not ask the driver to change the stop; drivers are not permitted to make any changes. Changes (if approved) can take up to 48 hours.
- Students are not permitted to ride another student's bus.
- Students should be at their assigned bus stop 10 minutes prior to the scheduled pick up time all year

long.

Reminder for the first few weeks of school:

- Please be patient! Routes can take longer to run during the first few weeks of a new school year.
- The pickup time on the bus pass (mailed to parents in August) is approximate and may need to be adjusted. It is not our intent to make significant changes during the first two weeks of school.

Food Allergies and Special Dietary Needs:

The nurses in Galloway Township Public Schools are requesting parents/guardians to assist in helping children with peanut, nut, and other food allergies. We also want to help children who eat special foods because of a medical need or diagnosis. Children with special dietary needs can compromise their health if they eat certain foods. The risk of accidental exposure to foods that children are allergic to or cannot eat can be reduced/eliminated if parents/guardians, staff, students, and physicians work together to minimize risks and provide a safe educational environment for food allergic students and children with special needs.

This process can be accomplished in the following ways:

1. When parents/guardians send in food for classroom celebrations- birthday, holiday, etc. contact the classroom teacher to see if any student has a food allergy.
2. All foods should come in a package with a label that lists all the ingredients/foods.
3. Parents/guardians of children with food allergies and/or special dietary needs should educate their children about their specific food allergy and/or special dietary needs.
4. The school can educate staff and students about food allergies and special dietary needs.
5. Classmates should not share food.

The nurses and staff of GTPS want to be proactive in preventing food allergy emergencies and food related incidents, and we can only do this with your help. Please communicate with your child's school nurse if your child has a food allergy or special dietary need.

PLEASE NOTE; ACCORDING TO STATE/FEDERAL REGULATIONS DOCUMENTATION FROM YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IS NECESSARY WHEN MODIFICATIONS TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST OR LUNCH IS REQUIRED. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email your building school nurse.

Administering Medication

Before any medication may be administered to or by any student during school hours, Board of Education policy requires a written order of the prescribing physician and the written request of the parent/guardian which shall give permission for such administration. Please contact your school nurse for additional information. [CLICK HERE for the "Administering Medication Form"](#).

Seizures

In order to prioritize the safety of children with epilepsy and seizure disorders in New Jersey schools, the State Legislature passed Paul's Law. This law requires training for all school staff on epilepsy and seizure disorders and the inclusion of epilepsy and seizure disorders in individualized health care plans for students. If your child has been diagnosed with epilepsy or a seizure disorder, please contact your child's school nurse. The school nurse will work with families to complete an Individualized Emergency Health Care Action Plan.

Hospitalizations/Surgeries:

If your child is returning to school following surgery and/or hospitalization and may require accommodations upon their return, please contact the school principal prior to your child's return to school. Accommodations will require doctor's orders and may result in communication between the physician's office and the school nurse. It is the recommendation of the district that students who are on crutches are transported to and from school by a parent/guardian for their own health/safety. If parent/guardian transport for pick-up and drop-off is not possible doctor's orders will be reviewed to determine the need for transportation accommodations. If your child's

recuperation period at home is greater than ten (10) days, speak to your physician and contact your school administrator regarding home instruction. Please see the home instruction section for more information.

Attendance & When to Keep Your Child Home

Attendance counts every day, and all day. However the district recognizes that students may need to miss school when ill. Click [HERE](#) for the district's guidelines on when to keep your child home from school.

Visitors to Our Schools:

Each school is equipped with security cameras at the main entrance to each building and throughout the schools. All doors are locked at all times for the safety of our students and staff. **Admittance to any building will be limited to the front entrance and monitored through the use of security cameras and a "buzz in" system.** You will be required to show identification, (driver's license, etc.) and will be asked to wear a visitor's badge while on school property.

1. All visitors must state the purpose of their visit when they ring the bell for admittance.
2. Upon entrance to the building you must report to the office. You will be required to show identification (i.e. a driver's license) and sign in using the visitor's book. You will receive an identification badge which you must wear at all times while on school property.
3. While parents/guardians are always welcomed at our schools, unscheduled conferences or impromptu classroom visits are discouraged because teachers follow a daily schedule and are responsible for the supervision and safety of all children. Preparation periods are available for conferences or meetings. Please write a note to the teacher or call the school to schedule an appointment.
4. During public health emergencies or based on government mandates, there may be other guidelines.

Student and Athletic Accident Insurance Protection

The Galloway Township Board of Education is pleased to inform you that they have contracted with Bollinger, Inc. to provide student and athletic accident insurance protection for your children. The policy provides coverage for accidental injuries while students are participating in school sponsored and supervised academic activities and interscholastic sports. In order to participate in this program, you must enroll your child(ren) at the beginning of each school year. Enroll here: [Bollinger - School Insurance](#)

The school's policy pays benefits on an excess basis. This means that if your child was currently covered under a policy sponsored by your employer or that of your spouse, that insurance would be primary. The Bollinger plan would be secondary. If neither you nor your spouse has employer provided insurance, the Bollinger plan becomes primary.

If your child is injured while participating in a school sponsored and supervised activity and you anticipate that there will be medical bills incurred, you should obtain a student accident claim form from the school office. You should complete the claim form and submit it to Bollinger at the address indicated on the form. Any bills for medical treatment would first be submitted to your employer's plan or that of your spouse. Any remaining balances would then be submitted along with the primary carrier's "Explanation of Benefits" statement to Bollinger.

Technology

Technology in Our Schools:

The district is proud of our continued innovations in terms of technological advancement. We strive to develop students that are both *skilled* and *ethical* users of technology. Every elementary school and GTMS have a technology lab and full-time technology teacher. Each classroom is outfitted with Interactive flat panel screens and document cameras to support instruction. Additionally, electronic devices (e.g. iPads, laptops, and Chromebooks) are available for student and teacher use on a daily basis. For years, our district has integrated technology in what is now known as STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) or STEAM (same as STEM but with the Arts added).

Responsible Use Policy (RUP):

This document, signed by every staff member at the beginning of their tenure, and by every student and their parent/guardian on an annual basis, has been adopted by the Board of Education in order to ensure that technology is being used properly for educational purposes. **Any student who fails to return this document will have limited or no access to the available technology until this signed form is complete. Any violations of the RUP will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and may include loss of use of technology resources.** To view a copy of our RUP, please visit our website: www.gtps.k12.nj.us then click on “Technology”.

Photo Permission Form:

We love to brag about the great things our students are doing! Every year, as required by law, a Photo Permission Form will be provided which provides your consent to having your child’s picture taken for articles in the local newspaper, on TV news clips, and for district brochures, calendars, and presentations. You, of course, also have the option of denying this permission, or only allowing it in certain instances. The form explains all of these options for you.

Staying Connected:

Every staff member and/or department of the Galloway Township School District has an e-mail address that you can use to contact them. Our teachers will share their district email with parents/guardians and also have the option to create a web page or utilize other technology tools as another method of keeping you informed.

The district and individual schools maintain websites and social media accounts that can also help keep you up to date with school happenings. Please consider “liking” and “following” **Galloway Schools** on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter \(X\)](#), as well as your child’s school presences ([start here for more links to each building](#)).

[OnCourse Connect](#) allows parents to access important information like attendance, assignments, grades and more. This is another great way to stay connected! Parents/guardians can also view and update information about emergency contacts.

District Policies & Procedures:

One of the responsibilities of the board of education is to establish rules and policies for the good of the student body as a whole. **All policies may be reviewed by the public at any time by logging on to our website** and clicking on the “Board of Education” section. Some examples are as follows:

Attendance, Absences, and Excuses

In order for the Board of Education to fulfill its responsibility for providing a thorough and efficient education for each pupil, the complete cooperation of parents/guardians and pupils is required to maintain a high level of school attendance. A pupil must be in attendance for 162 or more school days in order to be considered to have successfully completed the instructional program requirements of the grade/course to which they are assigned. Students not meeting this requirement may be retained.

Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school early in the day when a child will be absent and for informing the school of the reason for the absence.

See our [Attendance, Absences, and Excuses Policy - 5113](#), which further details tardiness, absences which are excused, unexcused, and absences which count towards truancy.

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying:

On January 5, 2011, Governor Chris Christie signed into law P.L. 2010, Chapter 122, known as the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. The law includes requirements for school districts, charter schools, the New Jersey Department of Education, other state agencies, professional associations and institutions of higher education. The law became effective during the fall of 2011.

The Director of Student Services for General Education is the District Anti-Bullying Coordinator, and our school counselors are the Anti-Bullying Specialists. The below link will bring you to our district and school’s “Anti-Bullying (HIB)” page where you will be able to access the district’s HIB policy, the NJ Department of Education’s “Guidance for Parents on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act”, 2022 Amendments to the Anti-bullying Law, HIB Reporting Links, and school counselor contact information: [Antibullying \(HIB\) - Galloway Township Public Schools](#)

We strongly believe that school can be a safe and nurturing environment for all. One of our goals is to continue to create a caring community where everyone feels safe and has a sense of belonging. To facilitate this effort each school has a designated curriculum which addresses HIB prevention through age-appropriate lessons.

The Anti-Bullying Curriculum per grade level is as follows:

Preschool: Creative Curriculum and AI’s Pals SEL curriculum

K-5: Second Step’s Bullying Prevention Units

6-8: Second Step’s Social-Emotional Learning Units - Includes a bullying and harassment unit

The Bullying Prevention Unit teaches Kindergarten through Grade 5 students how to recognize, report, and refuse bullying. Parent letters and Take-Home Activities are a part of this program.

In addition, Second Step Social Skills lessons continue to be taught in all K-6 classrooms and our middle school. As of the 2021-22 school year, students in preschool are also receiving a social skills program entitled AI’s Pals. This program is through Teaching Strategies and focuses on making healthy choices.

Further information is available on our school and district websites. Our programs will be most effective when the parental community, administration, staff, and students have a shared belief that kindness and a respect for each other is of great value. This mindset and belief contributes to a positive environment leading to positive academic performance.

Residency and Contact Information:

It is important your home address, email address, and phone numbers are accurate and on file in case of emergency. If you change your email address or your phone number, please contact your school's secretary. If you move to a new home, whether within the district of Galloway or out of the district, it is the parent/guardian responsibility to inform the registrar at 748-1250, ext. 1015. With the most up-to-date information, we can ensure that all communication, correspondence, and transportation services are accurate.

Note: Per Policy 5118 "Nonresidents", "Regularly enrolled children whose parents/guardians have moved out of the district during the final marking period shall be permitted to finish the school year without payment of tuition." Please note that regularly enrolled children whose parents/guardians move from the district at any other time, without notice to the district, may be required to pay tuition. Those who do not legally reside in Galloway or who falsify residence documents may face criminal charges for Theft of Service (Section 2C:20-8 of the NJ Code of Criminal Justice).

No Smoking Policy:

Smoking is prohibited on all Galloway Township Public School grounds. Violators are subject to fines and penalties. P.L. 2001, c. 226 prohibits the smoking of tobacco products anywhere on school grounds, including sidewalks, athletic fields, parking lots, and automobiles on the parking lots. Any person smoking on school premises in violation of this act is subject to a fine not to exceed \$100.

Animal Policy:

For the safety and health of all our students, no furred or feathered animals will be permitted in school unless there is written permission from the building principal. Parents will be notified of any presentation involving animals, and must provide a written request to the school principal if they do not want their child to participate. Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to be accompanied by their service animals in all areas of the school facilities where members of the community, participants in services, programs or activities, or invitees, as relevant, are allowed to go. For further information, please see [BOE Policy #5142.01](#) and [Policy #5145.4](#).

Rights of Parents/Guardians & Court Orders:

The Board of Education recognizes that the parents/guardians of each child are ultimately responsible for the care and custody of that child, and that both parents share the responsibility equally. The Board recognizes as well, that when only one parent has legal custody of that child, the custodial rights and responsibilities of the other parent may be limited. Copies of restraining orders or custody orders must be presented at the time of registration, when changes to the order occur, or when a new order is in effect. Please contact your school's secretary or the district registrar at ext. 1015 to submit these documents.

Physical Education (PE)/Recess Exclusions:

Students are required to participate in physical education each time it is held. State law requires that all students, unless medically excused by a certified physician, must participate in physical education classes. Students may be excused for a one-day period based on a parent/guardian note specifying that the student is either injured or ill. For extended exclusions beyond one day from PE and recess, a healthcare provider note is required and must specify the duration and reason for the exclusion.

Please note: A child excused from Physical Education may not participate in recess. In middle school, if a student is excused from physical education, the student may not participate in after-school sports for the time period specified in the note received.

Promotion/Retention Policy:

The Board of Education has established rigorous promotion policies based upon high standards of achievement and adherence to the compulsory attendance laws of the State of New Jersey ([See BOE Policy #6146.2](#)). Students must meet all of the requirements of the promotion and retention policy each year, and be in attendance at least **162 days** with all their absences being for legitimate purposes, parental or doctor's excuses provided.

Eighth grade students must meet the prescribed academic requirements in order to participate in the annual promotional

ceremony. Promotional Ceremonies are held for each Team in June. *More details regarding dates, times and ticket redemption will be sent home from the middle school as the dates get closer.*

Homework, Behavior, & Other Information

Homework

The Board of Education believes that homework, like other aspects of our educational program, should reflect research and best practice. Ensuring that homework is *meaningful in its nature* and *manageable in terms of its scope* are the two guiding principles that govern this policy. In the spring of 2017, the district conducted a parent/guardian/student survey regarding experiences with homework. The results were reviewed by the administrative team and District Community Advisory Team. While no changes to the policy were needed based on the survey, key points are reviewed each year with teachers, students, and families.

Guidelines for Assigning Homework

1. Based on the instructional objectives and the need for practice, the teacher will determine if homework is needed on a daily basis. Homework may be the same for the entire class or may reflect individual student needs. Students' development level needs to be considered; differentiation should occur when possible and necessary.
2. Written assignments should reinforce learning, not provide new skill instruction. For practice, the number of items that are similar in nature should be limited. (e.g. assign 6 double digit multiplication problems not 20 of the same type)
3. When homework does need to be given, teachers should assign a maximum based on the ten-minutes per grade concept. In grades where students have more than one teacher assigning homework, teachers must make every effort to coordinate their assignments.
4. For middle school students in high school level courses (i.e. Algebra I and Spanish I), the maximum may be 10-20 minutes greater than what peers taking the regular middle school curriculum experience.
5. At the elementary level, weekend homework should only include studying, reading, and long term projects. At the middle school level, weekend homework may be given. Written assignments should not be due on a Monday or the day after a holiday. Tests and quizzes may be given on Mondays, but not the day after a holiday. Holidays include Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break.
6. Students should receive timely feedback on all their homework.
7. Homework may not be assigned for punitive reasons.

Make-up Work Due to Absences

1. If a student is absent from school for any reason, make up assignments, class work and tests must be completed within a reasonable length of time. In most cases, a reasonable length of time shall be the same number of school days as the days missed. The teacher should advise the student and, as needed, the parent/guardian of the timeline.
2. If a student is going to be out of school due to a family vacation, the parent/guardian shall notify the teacher (s) in advance. Together, the teacher and parent/guardian will determine whether the assignments will be given in advance or upon the student's return. In either case, the time frame for the make-up work will be as indicated in the aforementioned item.
3. If a student misses class due to enrichment, intervention, or reward programs/activities, consequences (e.g. missing recess to make-up the work) may not be given to the student. The student should be provided make-up time equal to the number of classes missed.

Incomplete Work at the End of a Marking Period

1. When a student does not complete required work missed for absence or other reasons, he / she will receive an "Incomplete" for the marking period. Pupils will be given 10 school days following the end of the marking period to make up the missed work. The grade for the marking period will be calculated based on the work submitted.
2. If work is missing during the final marking period of the school year, the grade will be left to the

discretion of the teacher.

Student Codes of Conduct:

In order to provide all our students with a safe and orderly environment in which to learn, we must have the cooperation of all students and all parents/guardians. **We expect all students to conduct themselves as responsible individuals who show respect for self, peers, and adults while in class, during lunch and recess, in the halls, on the bus, etc. If misconduct occurs in the community and continues into the school, causing a disruption in the educational process, the district can impose discipline on students for conduct away from school grounds.**

Parents/guardians are requested to assist in keeping their children within these codes to develop a sense of pride as well as contribute to the attitude of the student body as a whole. **A good partnership may require you to say “no” at home so the school can devote its time to instruction.**

Follow these links for Student Codes of Conduct:

[All Elementary Schools](#) (Grades PreK-6)

[Galloway Township Middle School](#) (Grades 7&8)

If you have any questions regarding school discipline, please visit our website at: www.gtps.k12.nj.us, or contact your child’s principal. Remember, school rules are set up first and foremost for our students’ safety so that they can concentrate on their studies. Your support helps us keep the district a place “where children and learning come first.”

School Bus:

Students are not permitted to ride on any bus other than their regularly assigned bus. In the event of an emergency, a request must be made by the parent/guardian in writing **and submitted to their school office prior to the school day the bus change would occur.** This allows for parental contact to be made. Additionally, students who are bus riders may not walk and/or ride a bike to/from school. Riding the school bus is a **privilege**. It is imperative that all students observe the rules of proper conduct while riding the bus. To ensure the proper safety of all passengers, students must follow these guidelines:

The driver is in full charge of the bus and the students.

1. When you get on the bus, go to your assigned seat and buckle your seat belt. Students are required to wear seat belts. Bus drivers may not leave their seat to buckle the belt for students.
2. Every student must be seated before the bus starts moving. You must remain seated during the entire bus ride.
3. Voice volume must be kept similar to classroom voices and language must be school appropriate.
4. Actions like throwing things or putting your body parts out the window are not allowed.
5. Just like at school, you may not hit or touch another student in a harmful manner.
6. Take care of the bus – do not leave trash, damage the bus, etc.
7. Serious misbehavior by students will result in suspension from riding the bus. If this occurs, parents/guardians will be responsible for providing transportation to and from school.
8. If a student does not follow the rules, the student will receive consequences as per the Code of Conduct. Note that riding the bus is a privilege that you keep by behaving properly.
9. Everyone – adults and students – need to do the right thing for the bus trip to be safe.

Additionally, in an effort to provide students with a quiet activity on the bus, **we allow students to listen to electronic devices on the bus.** Students must wear ear buds or some other type of ear phone. It is important to note that students are responsible for their electronic device, and it must be kept in their book bag or locker during the school day. The school is not responsible if the device is lost or taken.

Violation of these rules will result in disciplinary action according to our bus code. If a student is suspended from the bus it is the parent/guardian responsibility to provide transportation. Students suspended from the bus are

still required to attend school.

Dress Code:

Another measure to maintain a safe, orderly learning climate for our students is a dress code. This code provides guidelines for students to follow in dressing appropriately for the school setting. If a student is not dressed in an appropriate manner, an administrator will speak with the student and contact the parent/guardian as needed. Please note that the district is not requiring specific clothing or telling a student what they must wear; rather, the list below explains what may not be worn.

- Jewelry/accessories which could be used as a weapon may not be worn.
 - This includes “wallet chains”, spiked collars, and the like.
- Sunglasses and hats may not be worn indoors.
- Clothing with slogans or pictures must be respectful for the school environment and for all staff and students.
 - Alcohol and tobacco logos, foul language, drug references, sexual innuendos, demonic messages, or etc. are unacceptable.
 - Maintain respect for Federally protected classes which include: race, color, religion or creed, national origin or ancestry, sex (including gender, pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity), age, physical or mental disability, veteran status, genetic information, and citizenship.
- Any clothing, including accessories, which promotes, represents, or symbolizes a gang or gang mentality may not be worn. .
- Shirts, tops, etc. must cover a student’s undergarments.
 - Shirts with sleeves less than two inches wide may not be worn.
 - Clothing that exposes the back, chest, or midriff may not be worn.
- Pants, jeans, shorts, etc. must fully cover undergarments.
 - Pants/jeans may not hang or drag on the floor.
- For safety reasons, flip-flops/sliders may not be worn. Sneakers are best for students who participate in outside recess.
- Outerwear/coats must be kept in the classroom closet/coat area or locker and not be worn indoors.

Textbooks, Electronic Devices, and other Instructional Materials:

Textbooks will be provided by the Board of Education for all students (based on the grade level and content area). As previously noted, a variety of technological devices are also used by students on a regular basis. Students will be responsible for the proper use and care of all materials issued to them and will be financially liable for loss or damage. Books issued to students are to be covered to reduce damage.

Personal Property:

Electronic devices **are permitted** on the bus and in school at the student’s risk. For the safety of our students, cell phones **may be brought to school**, but must be left in the locker and/or bookbag; they may be used before or after school hours and if otherwise granted permission by an administrator or teacher. Misuse of any electronic device is subject to the code of conduct.

Student Support Services:

Special Education:

The district ensures that all students with disabilities as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) receive a free, appropriate public education from preschool to grade eight. The district ensures that these students with disabilities are educated in the least restrictive environment and that the provision of Special Education and Related Services are given to children on an individual basis. In order to render these services, the district has six (6) full time Child Study Teams, five (5) Speech Therapists, two (2) Occupational Therapists, one (1) Physical Therapist, and a Director of Special Education. The district ensures that each eligible student has an individual education program (IEP) and this program is evaluated on a yearly basis. Child Study Team members include: a school psychologist, a learning disabilities teacher consultant and a school social worker. Child Study Team members are full time employees of the district. If you as a parent have any questions regarding your child's IEP, the case manager is the appropriate individual to make contact with. The district ensures that the rights of students with disabilities are protected and the district ensures that all services are provided at public expense with no charge to the parent. All programs are administered, supervised and provided by appropriately certified professional staff members.

Specialized Programs:

GEM (Galloway Enrichment Model):

The Galloway Enrichment Model is provided for those students who have been designated via a matrix selection process as Gifted and Talented which is defined by the NJ Department of Education as "Those exceptionally able students who possess or demonstrate high levels of ability, in one or more content areas, when compared to their chronological peers in the local district and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities." In addition to classroom instruction and arts and humanities offerings, our district provides a Primary Enrichment Program (PEP) in grades K-3, GEM in grades 4-6, and subject specific accelerations in mathematics, science, and Spanish in grades 7 & 8 along with a wide range of arts and humanities offerings.

Intervention:

Our intervention programs are state, federal, and locally funded programs for students who require assistance in the areas of ELA and mathematics. Identified students receive assistance during the school day through our intervention program as well as through various before or after school programs. Additionally, our summer learning program offers support for identified Title 1 students.

ESL (English as a Second Language):

English as a Second Language is for students who are identified as having difficulty meeting academic requirements of the classroom because their native or dominant language is other than English. An English as a Second Language Program shall be provided in conformity with state guidelines.

School Counseling and Mental Health Support:

Student counseling services are provided by both School Counselors and Mental Health Specialists. These services may include individual and/or group sessions which are targeted to enhance a child's academic success and overall mental health.

School Counselors and Mental Health Specialists collaborate with all relevant stakeholders. This includes students, parents/guardians, and educators in order to identify early warning signs of student distress. These staff members have a primary obligation to the students, who are treated with dignity and respect as unique individuals. Our School Counselors and Mental Health Specialists aim to provide support to students and to their

families in obtaining outside services if the need presents itself. The parent/guardian role is vital to the success of each student, and this is acknowledged by our staff.

All students have the right to privacy that should be honored to the greatest extent possible, while balancing other competing interests (e.g., best interests of students, safety of others, parent rights and adhering to laws, policies and ethical standards pertaining to confidentiality and disclosure in a school setting.) Primary ethical obligation for confidentiality is to the students, but School Counselors and Mental Health Specialists balance this obligation with an understanding of parents'/guardians' legal and inherent rights to be the guiding voice in their child's life.

Contact a School Counselor or Mental Health Specialist if you believe your child may be in need of academic and/or behavioral/social-emotional support. They will collaborate with you to determine a plan to move forward. Visit the Community Resources section within this handbook for additional resources.

Intervention & Referral Services (I & RS):

Intervention & Referral Services (I & RS) and our Preschool Intervention and Referral Specialist (PIRS) assists teachers with strategies for working with students who are experiencing learning or behavioral problems. The building principal or assistant principal chairs a committee of professional staff members who offer structured support and assistance to teachers by providing instructional strategies to promote student success. Parents/guardians will be notified when consultation with I & RS/PIRS occurs. If you have questions or concerns about your child's educational progress, please contact your school administrator.

504 Plans:

A 504 plan can help students with learning concerns participate in general education programs and appropriately access the general education curriculum. Protected by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a 504 plan have specific accommodations created for them and shared with their teachers.

If your child has a medically diagnosed concern that is impacting their learning, contact your child's principal to explore ways that a 504, if deemed eligible, may assist them throughout their academic day.

Home Instruction

When a child is expected to be out of school for at least a two week period of time because of certain illness or immobility, parents/guardians may request that a teacher be furnished for home instruction. A certificate must be obtained from the attending physician with a statement of the nature of the illness and the estimated length of confinement, and that the child is capable of receiving instruction without endangering the child's health. Please contact the principal of your child's school for additional information or to request this service.

Community Resources

AtlantiCare Community Resource Guide: [English](#) | [En Espanol](#)

GTPS Community Resource Packet: [English](#) | [En Espanol](#)

[The Source - A Resource Guide for People of All Ages in Atlantic County](#)

Grading, Report Cards & State Mandated Testing:

Grading:

Starting with the 2020-2021 school year, our district utilized a revised grading system for grades K-8. The reasons for the change in our grading system are based on our beliefs about:

- ★ the importance of accurately reporting student progress in understanding standards and skills to students and their parents/guardians;
- ★ equity in terms of educational practices between and among teachers and schools.

Our grading practices are grounded in the Pillars of Equity:

- Pillar 1: Accurate measure of academic levels
- Pillar 2: Resistant to biases that might reduce accuracy
- Pillar 3: Motivational for students

Aligned with these pillars, grades should be based on valid evidence of a student's content knowledge and not reflect a student's environment. Therefore, our reporting separates academic progress from what could be termed "soft skills" or "social skills."

1. Grades are based on content knowledge, so extra credit would not be added to grade averages.
2. Lateness is reported in the student skill area, not the academic area. Grades are based on student work, not the timing of the work.
3. Homework, participation and effort are reported in the social skills area, not the academic area.

Grades K-4 will continue to indicate student progress on a range of subject indicators such as reading comprehension, fluency, phonics, etc.

Grades 5 will generate a numeric grade in addition to student progress indicators for ELA, math, science, and social studies

Grades 6-8 will generate a numeric grade for each course.

Grades K-5 will rate social skills: uses time wisely and respects the rights of others. The rating scale will be O for Outstanding; S for Satisfactory; and N for Not Yet. All grades will include comments about students' work habits.

All grades, K-8, will generate report cards each quarter. With the OnCourse portal, there is no need for a mid-marking progress report as parents will be able to access their student's progress throughout the semester. You can view grades/progress via the [OnCourse Connect Parent Portal](#).

Report Cards:

In grades K-8 report cards are issued four times during the school year and reflect academic and behavioral progress during that marking period.

When it is time for the first report card distribution, we will provide you with reminders about grading practices as well as how to access your child's report cards. You can view your child's(ren's) report card via the [OnCourse Connect Parent Portal](#).

2023-2024 Report Card distribution dates are as follows:

Marking Period 1: November 21, 2023

Marking Period 2: February 6, 2024

Marking Period 3: April 18, 2024

Marking Period 4: June 14, 2024

Note: If the school calendar is adjusted, these dates may change.

Parent Conferences:

Each school schedules parent-teacher conferences during the school year and notifies parents/guardians of the available dates/times. This method of direct contact between home and school is most beneficial in analyzing and understanding the student's progress and development. Options for in-person and virtual (Google Meet) conferences will be offered. Of course, communication between the school and home is encouraged at any time there is important information about a student's progress to share and discuss.

District Testing Information:

Under the provisions of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act which was most recently re-adopted as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), every state is required to administer annual standards-based assessments of all children in grade 3 through grade 8 that are aligned with that state's content standards and that assesses students' critical thinking skills in three fundamental areas of learning: language arts literacy, mathematics, and science (grades 5 & 8 only). New Jersey now utilizes the NJSLA (Student Learning Assessment) for this purpose. For some students with disabilities, an alternate assessment known as the Dynamic Learning Map (DLM) is used. Additionally, English Language Learners who receive ESL services take the Access for ELLs assessment.

Dates and other information for NJSLA, Access for ELLs, and Dynamic Learning Maps will be sent to families closer to the testing dates.

General District Information:

School Messenger:

School Messenger is a communications system that allows the Superintendent, Principal of the school, or other administrator to send **messages via telephone, email, and SMS (text)** that get sent to every student's household.

We use this system to make daily attendance calls, general information/announcements, and also for emergency situations like snow days, late buses, and the like. Because of this, it is VERY important that we have the correct contact number(s) and email for every student. To help you provide us with the correct information, we ask that you give phone numbers for:

- **Daytime emergencies;** including anything that happens during school hours (approximately 7:30am - 4:30pm)
- **General information;** including "good" news items (usually an evening call), *and*
- **INCLEMENT WEATHER** calls, which are sent to your home at approximately 5:00 am on the morning of the closing. **BE AWARE that if inclement weather is imminent, you may receive a call in the evening before the day of the actual closing.**

You may receive multiple calls like this during the school year, and that they are meant for your information. If after receiving a call, you need further clarification, please call your child's school.

Note: You may opt in to receive text notifications from the district at any time by texting the word "Yes" or "Y" to our district short code from your device: 67587

Emergency Closing of Schools:

Emergency closing, delayed openings, and early emergency dismissals will be announced via School Messenger (see above for explanation), the district website (www.gtps.k12.nj.us), and our social media accounts: @GTNJSchools on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter \(X\)](#).

Communication in on-going emergencies will be done through School Messenger, and/or the district website and social media accounts. Please consult them for district plans and reactions to school, local, state, and/or federal emergency situations.

Please **DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL**. It is important to keep the school lines open.

Please also note: As part of the Greater Egg Transportation Consortium, the school district may have the option to call for a two-hour delay in opening school. If the notification you receive indicates a two-hour delay, simply add two hours to the time your child normally reports to the bus stop or the time your child typically walks or is driven to school. The school day ends at the normal dismissal time when a delayed opening occurs.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 USC § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the US Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents/guardians certain rights with respect to their children's education records:

- Parents/guardians or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records

maintained by the school.

- Parents/guardians or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading.
- FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions:

- School officials with legitimate educational interest
- Other schools to which a student is transferring, including disciplinary records, with respect to a suspension or expulsion by local educational agencies
- To any private or public elementary school or secondary school for any student who is enrolled in or seeks, intends, or is instructed to enroll in on a full or part time basis in the school
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school
- Accrediting organizations
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena
- Appropriate school officials in cases of health and safety emergencies
- State and local authorities, with a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific state law

For additional information or technical assistance, you may call (202) 260-3887. Individuals who use TDD may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. You may also contact them in writing: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, D.C., 20202-5901

Notice of Privacy Practices:

On April 14, 2003, the Health Information Patient Privacy Act (HIPPA) was passed. It applies to all protected health information as defined by federal regulations. This notice describes how medical information about you and your child may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please be assured that your child's medical information is important and confidential. Our ethics and policies require that the information be held in strictest confidence.

We maintain Board of Education policy and regulation as well as district protocols to ensure the security and confidentiality of your child's personal information. We have physical security in our buildings, passwords to protect databases, and compliance audits. Access to the information is limited to those who need it to perform their jobs. For additional information, please see the notice posted in the School Nurse's Office.

School Board Elections:

Every year, the community is invited to vote on new school board members for the next school year. These elections now occur in **November**, and polls are usually open from 7:00am until 9:00pm. We encourage the public to become an integral part of our decision-making process by participating in board meetings, asking questions, and voting in the elections! Your support allows the school district to continue to remain a place "where children and learning come first!"

Only registered voters may participate in the elections. The deadline for registering is twenty-one (21) days prior to the election date. To register, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years of age on the date of elections
- A county resident for at least 30 days prior to the election date.
- Get your **Voter Registration Application** at any of the following locations:
 - o The NJ Division of Elections (44 South Clinton Avenue, PO Box 304, Trenton, NJ 08625)
 - o The Commission of Registration (Historic Court House Complex, 5903 Main Street, Mays Landing, NJ 08330)
 - o Municipal Clerk's Office (300 East Jimmie Leeds Road, Galloway)
 - o Our website: [School Board Elections - Galloway Township Public Schools](#)
- If you are serving overseas, attending college/university, or will otherwise be absent the day of the elections, you

may choose to “**Vote by Mail**” (formerly known as “Absentee Ballot”). Applications for this may also be found at any of the above listed locations.

Food Services:

For the 2023-2024 School Year, Galloway Schools will again participate in the National School Lunch Program. Lunch will be provided at a fee of \$3.50 for Elementary students and \$3.75 for Middle School students.

Your child may be eligible to receive **free or reduced status** under the National School Lunch Program; please take the time to fill out and submit an application. **Note:** Families that qualify for reduced status will receive free meals. Applications available on the district website or directly on our NEW portal **SchoolCafe** at <https://www.schoolcafe.com/GALLOWAYTOWNSHIPPUBLICSCHOOLS>. Please note: we are now using Family/Household Applications. You only need to submit one application for all the students in your household who attend Galloway Township Public Schools. **If your income changes, you are encouraged to complete a new form.** If you would like assistance in completing the application, please contact the district Director of Food Services, 748-1250, x. 5046. The information you provide is private. **Updating your eligibility status also directly affects your participation in additional Federal/State programs that offer additional food assistance.** The district totals for free/reduced meals also impact Federal and State Aid.

Breakfast will be provided to all students at no cost regardless of free/reduced status.

For further information or if you have any questions, contact the district Director of Food Services, 748-1250, ext. 5046, or visit the new “Food Services” section of our website: [Food Services Department](#).

Snacks: Students will once again be allowed to purchase snacks during their lunch period. In order to purchase a snack, the student must have funds credited to their lunch account for payment OR cash with them at the time of sale. Elementary students only: if paying with cash, the full amount provided will be added to their meal account for future purchases, no change is given.

Before & After School Child Care Program:

The Galloway Township Board of Education offers a Child Care Program (CCP) for all elementary school students enrolled in our district. Children in grades PreK-6 may attend both Before and After School programs. A before school program at your child’s school is provided from 7:15 a.m. until school begins for \$6.00 a day per child (\$10 per day/per child for preschool students). The after school program at your child’s school is available from the time school ends until 6:00 p.m. for \$10.00 a day per child. We also offer the after school program on **some** early dismissal days, which is indicated on the school calendar/website. You must be registered in the program in order to attend. Snacks are provided to every child, or your child may bring a snack/drink from home (particularly if your child suffers from allergies).

The Child Care Program provides staff members who will offer help (not tutoring) with homework and learning concepts. In addition, recreational activities are provided - art projects, organized games, and community service projects, for example - and there are plenty of opportunities for children to socialize with their peers. All children must be registered in order to participate.

The district utilizes RevTrak for CCP registration/payment, which can be accessed directly here: <https://gtps.revtrak.net/child-care/>. We also accept child care assistance through Rutgers Southern Regional CCR&R ([CLICK HERE for more information](#)). For further questions or information contact **Mr. Todd Loveland at 748-1250, x. 1029**, or visit the Child Care section of our website: [Childcare Program - Galloway Township Public Schools](#).

Our Extended District Family

The GFSA (Galloway Family-School Association):

The Galloway Family-School Association (GFSA), is the name of the entire group of FSA's that operate in each school. These parent volunteers take time out of their schedules to arrange book fairs, candy sales, and other fundraisers. They also purchase special items for the schools, like signs, playground equipment, and assembly programs. The FSA's are always on the look-out for volunteers. You can find out more about each school's FSA by visiting [your child's school website](#).

Galloway Township Education Foundation:

The Education Foundation is a group of community members that provide educational opportunities for our students and teachers by awarding grants, purchasing land for the district, technology and other materials for students, supporting district initiatives, and much more. The Education Foundation holds fundraisers throughout the year, like the fall Golf Tournament and the Designer Purse Bingo as well as the Color Run in collaboration with the GFSA and GTEA. Additionally, the Foundation honors educators and community members at the annual "People of the Year Dinner".

Galloway Township Board of Education

The Board of Education invites the public to be involved with the education of their child. Parents and community members are encouraged to attend BOE meetings to make suggestions, share opinions, and join with us as we recognize staff and students for their achievements throughout the school year (click the "*Board of Education*" button from the district homepage).

Board of Education:

Suzette Carmen, President
Richard Dase, Vice President
Madeline Avery
Dr. Ebenezer Bilewu
Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Belinda Chester
Susan Coll-Guedes
James Gentile
Dr. Sherri Parmenter

Board members hold this elected position for three years, after which they can run to be re-elected to the board. YOU decide who holds these positions by voting in November's School Board Elections. You can download forms, check polling locations, and find out so much more online. Go to the district website and click "*Budget Central*" to start your search.