

Gateway Polytechnic Academy



Student Handbook

Office Hours & General Information

Gateway Polytechnic Academy

5149 S. Signal Butte, Mesa Arizona 85212

480-987-7440

Fax: 480-986-1848

Office Hours	7:45 – 4:00
Office	987-7440
Attendance	987-7441
Transportation	987-5982
District Office	987-5935

SCHOOL HOURS

Teacher Work Day 7:30 – 3:30

All Day Kinder. – 6th grade 8:10 – 2:45

Early Release : All Day Kinder. – 6th grade 12:20 pm

Students are not allowed on campus prior to 7:45 a.m.

Gateway Polytechnic Academy

Mission Statement



It is our goal to bring to the Gateway Corridor Community a school that is on the cutting edge of science and technologies while embracing the whole child.

Mission:

- We will ensure that every child learns
- We will provide opportunities for students to embrace 21st century skills
- We will provide experiences that make well rounded global citizens

All students shall have the opportunity to achieve their potential through varied educational programs designed to meet their needs. Through communication and collaboration we create an enthusiastic learning climate.

.... Engineering Tomorrow's Leaders Today

Dear Parents:

Gateway Polytechnic Academy (home of the Aviators) welcomes you to the 2015-16 school year.

The staff and I are excited to have you and your child(ren) here. We have been preparing for your arrival with great intensity.

Gateway Polytechnic Academy is a team that is committed to helping your child(ren) become learners. The concept of learning is a journey not a destination. You, the parents are an integral component of our team. To begin the journey of becoming a learner we must work together. The staff of Gateway Polytechnic Academy will model a love of learning. We will communicate with you on a regular basis through newsletters, the Web site, e-mails, and individually. We ask that you contact us regularly also. This will allow us as parents and staff to stay on top of any issues that might arise with your child's education. This relationship of: the student, parent and teacher are the ingredients of a successful education.

We know that this will be a successful year for everyone.

Sincerely,

Allison Carmichael
and the Gateway Polytechnic Staff

Gateway Polytechnic Academy Staff

Faculty		Staff	
Preschool	Jessica Freeman	Principal	Allison Carmichael
Preschool	Jessica Piccirillo	Secretary	Shirley Penrod
Kindergarten	Jill DeVorkin	Registrar	Barbara Jackson
Kindergarten	Tracy Fuller	Health Aide	Julie Dierking
Kindergarten	Beth Crane	ELL clerk	Rosa Hernandez
First Grade	Ivona Balderrama	Media Aide	Janetta Blair
First Grade	Kelli Gordon	Preschool Aide	Martha Basurto
First Grade	Tara Rasmussen	Preschool Aide	Tezhina Farris-Actkins
Second Grade	Amy Johns	Playground Aide	Sue Aldridge
Second Grade	Zach Hogan	Playground Aide	Marci Stromberg
Third Grade	Kathi Snyder	Custodian	Carlos Parra
Third Grade	Michelle Willson	Computer Tech	Sean Potter
Fourth Grade	Walt Jeffers		
Fourth Grade	Kevin Johnson		
Fifth Grade	Jamie Glen		
Fifth Grade	Whitney Schonhoff		
Sixth Grade	Mari Westerhausen		
Sixth Grade	Linda Winkler		
Music	Sarah Purcell		
Band/Orchestra	Dave Juarros/Sara Lawlor		
P.E.	Tim Warnock		
Reading/Data Specialist	Bernadette Lissner		
Resource	Sarah Beth Belvado		
Speech	Traci Genaw		
Counselor	Jodi Fisher		

Governing Board

President	Laurie Roland
Vice President	Ken Brague
Member	Judah Nativio
Member	Mark Linder
Member	Wendy Baggs

Administration

Superintendent	Dr. Perry Berry
Principal	Allison Carmichael
Secretary	Shirley Penrod
Attendance/Registrar	Barbara Jackson

PTO

President	Amy Nativio
Vice President	Sarah Hawkins
Secretary	Becky Scott
Treasurer	Kristen Vigil

Committees

Book Fair	Jennifer Cook
Box Tops	Patrick Kee & Rachel Whitaker
Fundraising	Patricia Vasquez
Student Recognition	Diane Gardiner
Publicity	Samantha Davis
Spirit Night	Jonique Beach
Teacher Appreciation	Brittany Miller & Tiffany Rust
Yearbook	Molly Vella & Cristie Jensen
Webmaster	Jonique Beach
Volunteer Coordinator	Samantha Davis
Compassionate Service	Stephanie Bodine
Social Committee	Brittany Miller

ATTENDANCE AND TARDY POLICY

Arizona Law (ARS 15-803) states that, ***“Every person who has custody of a child between the ages of 6 and 16 years shall send the child to school for the full time school is in session within the school***

district in which the student resides.” Regular attendance is essential for success in school. A student not only misses work on the day of absence, but also is not prepared for the next day because of missed instruction. Tardiness is disruptive to the learning process.

A written note or call to the office explaining the absence or lateness must account for every absence or tardiness. Your call to us will save time and help protect your child. **It is vital that we have one or more telephone numbers to contact you during the school day.** If your contact numbers change, let us know right away. A student arriving after the **late bell rings (8:15am)** must report to the office to obtain a late pass which is then given to the teacher. This allows the office to correct the attendance report.

To report an absence or tardy please call the attendance line at (480) 987-7441

WHEN A STUDENT IS ABSENT OR TARDY

1. A parent/guardian should call the attendance office as early as possible. Siblings may not excuse absences.
2. Call **before 8:15 am.** Please specify the student’s name, teacher and reason for the absence. **Please do not email teachers regarding absences, as the teacher may have a substitute who does not receive the message.**
3. If the parent/guardian cannot call the attendance line, a note must be sent in upon the student’s return to school, explaining the absence. Illness absences lasting three (3) days or longer may require a doctor’s excuse.



Morning Drop - Off

All students 1st – 6th grades not riding the school bus may be dropped off at front entrance, and go to the playground. (Once the building is complete) Students are not allowed to be in the building or hallways until 8:10 a.m.

Parking is not allowed in the drop off lane!

If you need to come into the school, please park in the front parking lot.

Please do not drop off students before 7:45 a.m., as we do not have adult supervision available.

AFTERNOON PARENT PICK – UP

Students who do not ride the bus may be picked up from the main entrance of the school. Parents should pull as far forward as possible in the drop-off/pick-up lane, in single file, and **wait in the vehicle for the student.**

All students will be released at 2:45 p.m. Each student will wait quietly in the atrium until their name is called and then enter their waiting vehicle from the passenger side door. **NO** student will be allowed to cross traffic or leave with a person or persons waiting outside their vehicle.

If you wish to come in and pick up your child, they may be picked up from the preschool entrance at the east door. Please park in front parking lot to retrieve your child.

All Kindergarten students not riding the bus may be picked up at the Preschool entrance. Please park in the front parking lot, and then come and pick up your child.

BIKE RIDERS: Students that ride their bike to school are required to wear a bike helmet.



Meal Prices:

	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Full Pay	\$1.15	\$2.50
Reduced	No Charge	\$0.40

We provide meals at a reduced rate or free depending on your income level. Meal applications are available at your school, Queen Creek USD Administrative Office, online at www.qcusd.org, and www.ezmealapp.com.

All meals are provided under the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program Federal guidelines. This means all meals are planned according to the requirements provided by USDA. All school meals must meet specific calorie targets, fat percentages, fiber, vitamin and mineral targets.

The Food Service Department is a self funded department in the district. This means we operate based on the money we generate; we do not receive funding from the district. In order to operate we generate money from the meals we provide the students, any caterings we do and selling a la carte items.

All a la carte items we offer for sale during the meal service are in compliance with the Arizona Nutrition Standards. This means all items are within the following guidelines: Less than or equal to 300 calories, less than 35% total calories from fat, less than total calories from saturated fat and trans fats combined, less than 600mg sodium, less than 35% total sugar by weight and at least 1 gram of fiber. The juice we offer is 100% juice; the Slush Puppy is also 100% juice.

Students are allowed to purchase a la carte items from their meal account. If you would like for us to limit their purchases you just need to contact the cafeteria.

www.EZSchoolPay.com is a free online service you can use to keep track of your child's meal balance and transactions. You can set up a low balance reminder on your account so the system can email you when your balance gets low. You can also utilize www.EZSchoolPay.com to pay for your child's meals online. There is a \$2.50 convenience fee for an online payment.

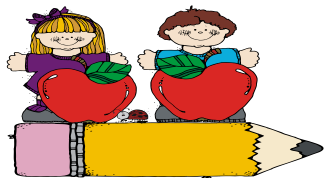
Payments for meals can be made online at www.EZSchoolPay.com using your Visa, Master Card or Discover cards. You can also send payment via cash or check. There is a \$20 fee for any returned check.

We have a no charge policy for meals. If students do not have enough money in their meal account they will be given a cheese sandwich on a whole wheat bun, fruit and milk. Students will receive hand stamps when their balance is low as a reminder to parents. The hand stamp is a red happy face.

Catering for parents. In an attempt to keep money in the district, the Food Service Department provides parents birthday packages that can be delivered to your child's classroom to celebrate their birthday. Packages range from \$0.50 to \$2.00. All items offered are lower in calories and sugar, but full of fun and celebration. They also come with a Happy Birthday flyer, or a flyer that can be customized for any occasion.

You are welcome to eat with your child at any time. Please check with your child's teacher to find out what time he or she eats lunch. When you arrive at school, please sign in at the school office, and get a visitor's badge before heading to the cafeteria.

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STUDENT CHECK-OUT

A request to have a student excused from class early should be sent with the student the morning of the requested dismissal. The time and reason for leaving should be included. When possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside of school hours. **REMINDER:** When a student misses instruction it cannot be replaced!

The student will remain in the classroom until the teacher is notified by the office to release the student. We require all parents or authorized people to remain in the office while waiting for the student. This will minimize class disruption and maximize student learning. The student must be signed out in the "Student Check-out" notebook.

All transportation changes **MUST** be preceded by a note or phone call from the parent or guardian. You must call the office **no later than 2:15 p.m.** in order to allow the office staff enough time to locate the student and give them the message. If you call after 2:15 p.m. we cannot guarantee that the message will be delivered.

Telephone Calls

Students are not permitted to use the office or classroom telephone for any personal calls, except in an emergency and with staff permission. In the event that a student receives a call, he/she will be called out of class only in the case of an emergency. If you would like to speak with your child's teacher, please feel free to call, however, your call will be forwarded to voice mail. The teacher will make every effort to return calls the same day.

Students **may** use the phone for:

- * Medication
- * Glasses
- * Hearing aids
- * Permission to stay after school to complete an assignment.
- * Relaying messages from the teacher to parent.

Students **may not use** the phone for:

- * Permission to stay after school for an after school activity.
- * Permission to go to a friend's house after school.
- * Permission to get off the bus at a bus stop other than their own.
- * **Please make arrangements prior to the start of the school day for these issues.**

PARENTVUE

ParentVUE is a program used by all schools in the Queen Creek Unified School District. This program allows parents and students to check current grades, homework and attendance online at any time. Each parent has their own password, so the information contained in the program is always private. Everything is updated live, so you never need to upload anything. You may access ParentVUE from any computer with internet connection. A letter will be sent home with your personal activation code and instructions.

Gateway Polytechnic Academy has a Health Aide on duty to administer the health program. The Health Office is an emergency station. Any serious illness or accident will require parental contact and referral to emergency medical services (911). Students who become ill or injured at school are to report to the health office or other school personnel immediately. Parents must keep emergency cards updated with current phone numbers at all times to be used in the event of an emergency.

- Students may be dismissed from class at any time if the teacher considers it necessary.
- Students who are ill or injured will be sent to the health office for attention.
- Students are to come alone to the office unless it is necessary for someone to help them.
- A student may visit the health office at any time without a permission slip in case of an emergency.



MEDICATION



If it becomes necessary for a student to take ANY form of medication at school, a consent form is to be completed and signed by a parent or guardian. Medication consent forms can be obtained in the Health Office. ALL medication, including over the counter medication, must be brought in to the Health Office by an adult.

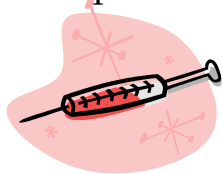
Students are not permitted to transport medication to or from school under any circumstances!

Prescribed medication must be in its original pharmacy container and should state:

*** The student's name * Dosage * Times to be administered**

Expired Medication will not be given.

All medication is kept in a locked cabinet and is dispensed by the nurse, nurse's aide or by a responsible adult staff member.



IMMUNIZATIONS

House Bill 2295 – Chapter 209, 1990 Law **requires** that pupils be suspended from school upon enrollment if documentary proof of immunization is not submitted, unless the student is exempt due to certification that immunization is detrimental to the student's health. This requires exclusion of students who lack documentary proof of immunization during outbreaks of communicable immunization and/or preventable diseases. Contact the school nurse for more information.

**The Queen Creek Unified School District
does not provide medical insurance for students.**

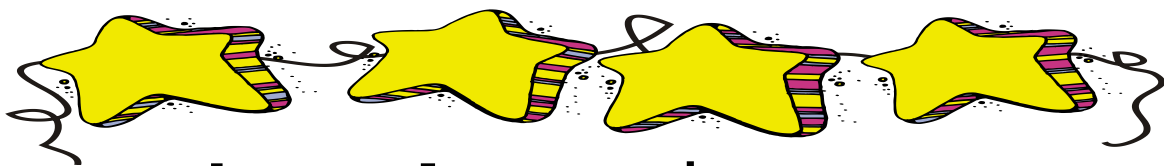


Queen Creek Unified School District provides a variety of special education programs and services for students. In keeping with state and federal mandates, the type of special education program which best meets each student's individual needs is determined at a meeting attended by district personnel and the student's parents or guardians. Our main goal is to serve our students in the least restrictive environment.

Services are provided for all identified students ages 3 – 22. Parents or guardians who require further information on these programs and services should contact the Department of Special Programs at 987-5990.

E.L.L. English Language Learner

Todos los estudiantes que entran en el distrito y que su primer lenguaje no inglés, serán elegibles para nuestro programa de ELL (English Language Learner). Un cuestionario está incluido en el paquete de registro de su hijo/a para ser llenado por los padres. Por favor de llamar al número 987-7440 para más información.



Enhanced Learning Program Program for Gifted Students

Queen Creek Unified School District provides an Enhanced Learning Program (ELP) for students in grades K-6. The E.L.P. is a pullout program where students work with the ELP Teacher for two to four hours a week depending on the student's grade level.

A student may be referred for the Gifted Program by parents, classroom teachers, the principal, the school psychologist, or a resource teacher.

Standardized test scores above the 90th percentile will be major criteria for screening consideration. A student recommended for screening will be tested by school personnel using the COGAT Test. Students will be eligible for placement in the Gifted Program if they score at the 97th percentile on any of the placement measures of the approved test. If you have any questions, please call the principal at 987-7440.

Title One

The Title I program of Queen Creek Unified School District is supported by federal funds to serve the needs of identified students. The focus of this program is to strengthen early literacy and reading skills. For a student to qualify for Gateway Polytechnic Academy Title I program, they are considered to be the most

in-need of intervention services based on a ranking using scientific based assessment measures. These assessments include one or more of the following, depending on grade level: DIBELS, AIMS, Stanford 10 and/or classroom assessment data. The selected students receive 30 minutes of instruction in a small group setting each day.

First and second grade students participating in the Title I program are working with the Early Success Reading Program. The program focuses on phonemic awareness development, phonics instruction, application of decoding skills to reading and comprehension.

Students in 3rd and 4th grades who attend Title I classes are working with the *SOAR TO SUCCESS* reading program. This reading intervention program produced by Houghton/Mifflin is designed to accelerate learning for students who are experiencing difficulty in reading. This program helps students learn to apply and use various reading strategies such as, comprehension, word decoding, and summarizing by using short yet meaningful text.

If you have questions regarding to the Title I services please call the office at 987-7440.



Gateway Polytechnic Academy Discipline Plan

At Gateway Polytechnic Academy, we work hard to give your child a good education.
Our school discipline plan is designed to ensure that:

- * No student prevents a teacher from teaching his/her students.
- * No student prevents or interferes with other students' efforts to get an education.
- * No student engages in activities that aren't in his/her best interest and safety or in the best interest and safety of others.

The teacher will explain the class and school rules to your child. We encourage you to review these again with your child. We believe it is important for parents and teachers to work together to help children make good choices about their actions and to take responsibility of their own behavior.

We look forward to working with you to provide your child with a productive and enjoyable year.

Positive Recognition

Students who behave appropriately at school will be rewarded with:

- * A sense of personal pride.
- * Individual recognition from teacher (notes, compliments, etc.)
- * Positive recognition from parents.
- * Special class activities.
- * Student of the Month recognition.
- * Opportunity to attend recess.
- * Attendance at classroom holiday parties.



If a student is sent to the office because of inappropriate classroom behavior, the following will occur:

1. First Office Visit
 - a. Principal counsels.
 - b. Principal may contact parents.
 - c. Copy of discipline memo sent to parent for signature.
2. Second Office Visit:
 - a. Principal counsels.
 - b. The principal contacts parent by phone and/or conference.
 - c. Copy of discipline memo is sent to parent for signature.
 - d. In-school suspension for a longer time if necessary.
3. Third Office Visit:
 - a. Principal counsels.
 - b. Principal contacts parents.
 - c. 1 – 10 days, out -of -school suspension.

Severe Misbehavior

The following types of misbehavior are considered severe:

1. Fighting
2. Disrespect or defiance of authority.
3. Damaging school property.
 - * In the case of damage of school property, the student will be required to pay for damages.
4. Possession of any physically dangerous items, such as, tobacco, drugs, alcohol, fireworks, or weapons, the consequences for severe misbehavior is that the student is sent immediately to the Principal. (See Third Office Visit.)

Behavior Outside the Classroom

Students will:

1. Show respect to each other and to all adults on campus.
2. Keep hands and feet to themselves. Fighting is not allowed at school, or on the way to or from school.
3. Walk quietly in the building and on the sidewalks
4. Play safely on the playground equipment.
5. Stay clear of all “water” (rainy days, sprinklers and irrigation).
6. Use appropriate language. (Profane, threatening or abusive language is not allowed.)
7. Follow all bus rules.
8. Treat the cafeteria with respect and display good manners at all times.
9. Treat all school property and classroom materials with respect.

GUM CHEWING IS NOT ALLOWED ON CAMPUS!



Student Appearance

Wearing neat, clean clothes helps children feel good about coming to school to learn. Clothing that distorts the student's identity or disrupts the learning process will not be allowed.

Students will **not** be allowed to wear:

- * T-shirts displaying alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, or any sexual connotations.
- * Fish-net shirts.
- * See-through, bare-midriff shirts, shirts with spaghetti straps, or clothing that is backless or revealing is not appropriate.
- * Hats of any kind, inside the building.
- * Sagging pants (These can cause injuries while playing on the playground, during P.E., and when boarding the bus.)
- * Footwear that can be dangerous
Examples are, but not limited to: Flip Flops, shower shoes, platform shoes, high heels, backless sandals or shoes.
- * Short shorts (shorts need to be a modest length).

Tennis shoes are required to be worn on P.E. days for safety reasons.

When necessary, parents will be contacted for a change of clothing.

Toys, trading cards, radios, CD players, iPods, Tablets, cell phones, and any other type of electronic games are not allowed on campus. These items will be taken from students bringing them to school and will be kept by the principal until a parent comes to pick up the item.



Lost & Found

Please put your child(ren)'s names on clothing, backpacks, lunchboxes, and personal things brought to school. Taking some time to do so may save the cost of buying replacements. Found items are stored at school and eventually donated to charity if not claimed. Please visit the school office if something is lost at school.

Evacuation Plan

Gateway Polytechnic Academy has an Emergency Evacuation Plan in effect. Fire drills occur on a monthly basis, and four lockdown practices occur annually. Bus evacuation drills are held twice a year for all students.



Field Trips

Field Trips to nearby points of interest are scheduled by various classroom teachers throughout the school year. These trips are designed to supplement different aspects of the classroom curriculum and introduce students to the resources of the community. Parents will receive notices of field trips well in advance of the scheduled trip date and will be asked to sign a field trip permission form. Sometimes a fee may be requested from each student to help defray transportation or admission costs.

Volunteers are allowed on field trips based on need and occupancy ratios. Chaperones are required to ride the bus and pay for their own admission fee.

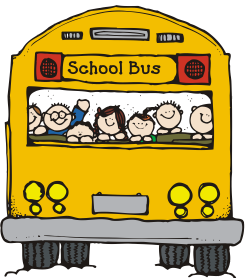
ALL STUDENTS MUST RIDE THE BUS TO AND FROM THE FIELD TRIP WITH THEIR CLASS.

(If a parent needs to take their child home from a field trip site, they must sign out their child at the school office prior to the trip, and with the teacher at the field trip site.)

NOTE: Due to liability, siblings are not permitted to attend field trips.

Student Transportation Discipline Procedure For School Bus Ridership

For a safe and enjoyable ride to and from school, children should be reminded **frequently** about the rules for good behavior on the bus.



- * The bus driver is the authority on the bus.
- * No animals, insects, or reptiles are allowed on the bus.
- * No glass items are allowed on the bus.
- * No electronic games/devices are allowed on the bus.
- * No firearms or weapons are allowed on the bus.
- * Keep all body parts inside the bus at all times.
- * All conversation should be done in a QUIET manner.
- * Students should remain seated at all times.

Students are NOT allowed to ride a bus other than their assigned bus.

Students are not allowed to get on or off at a different house/bus stop unless a written request or phone call is received from the parent or guardian no later than 2:20 p.m.

Procedures Followed Upon Student Misbehavior On School Vehicles

<u>First Offense:</u>	Driver discusses situation with student.
<u>Second Offense:</u>	Driver gives a copy of the referral to the student to be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to the driver. Referral must be returned by the date specified or bus privileges will be denied.
<u>Third Offense:</u>	Referral is submitted to the Transportation Office, student is denied bus-riding privileges for a specific amount of time. Parents and school will be verbally notified by the Transportation Department.
<u>Fourth Offense:</u>	Student is removed from ALL bus privileges, including field trips and athletic events for which transportation is provided, for a specific amount of time.

The Transportation Department will administer disciplinary measures.

The Transportation Office can be contacted at 987-5982.
Office hours are 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Severe Clause:

ANY INFRACTION, WHICH JEOPARDIZES THE SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF ANY PASSENGERS, WILL BE REPORTED DIRECTLY TO THE AUTHORITIES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

COMPUTER LAB



Students in grades Kindergarten through 6th grade are provided the opportunity to use and learn about computer technology. Classes are scheduled to work in the computer lab one to two times a week. The state of Arizona Education Department has adopted standards for the teaching of technology. These standards will be integrated into the curriculum of Kindergarten through 6th grade. Each time a class visits the computer lab the classroom teacher will teach a skill or standard appropriate for the grade.

The section on the Policy & Acknowledgement Form must be signed by the parent/ guardian and the student. If there is not a signed technology form on file, the student will not be allowed to use the computers either in the lab or in the classroom until a signed agreement is returned.



HOMWORK

Homework for students at Gateway Polytechnic Academy is designed to reinforce the importance of school work, improve study habits, supplement regular class work and help broaden the scope of student knowledge. Each student will have a specified amount of homework four nights a week. Students are also expected to read independently for a minimum of 15 minutes every night. If the parents hear from their son or daughter that they do not have homework, it is suggested that parents contact the student's teacher.

A student with an excused absence **will** have two days for each day absent to make up all of his/her work. A student with an unexcused absence will be expected to do all the work and may (at the teacher's discretion) receive credit. A suspended student must take responsibility for doing all assignments during his/her suspension and turn in the work the first day back.



Those parents requesting homework for students, may call the office between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. (noon), at 987-7440, and pick up any homework between 2:50 - 3:30. This will give the classroom teacher time to assemble the homework without taking time away from teaching their classes.



Library Services

The Gateway Polytechnic Academy Library will be open at 8:15 a.m. and will remain open throughout the day until 2:45 p.m. Students are encouraged to use the library as much as possible. From time to time, it may be desirable for the student to visit the library during class time to do research. In such cases, the student should first get permission from the teacher, check the library schedule to ensure they will not be disrupting a class, and then upon entering the library, inform the librarian of his/her particular need.

A student is responsible for replacing lost or damaged books.

Students will be allowed to check out two books a week. Both books the student has previously checked out must be returned in order to check out new books.



Visitors and Volunteers...

We have a need for volunteers in the classroom to participate in many special activities. Any parent interested in volunteering, please contact your child's teacher or call the office at 987-7440.

Gateway Polytechnic Academy is very fortunate to have many parents who are willing to give their time to help support the teachers, and students in our classrooms. We are happy that parents feel comfortable and welcome here. However, in an effort to cut down on the number of non-instruction related classroom interruptions, we ask that **you have an appointment with the teacher before entering your child's classroom.** We thank you in advance for your cooperation and continued support here at Gateway Polytechnic Academy!

For security reasons, **ALL** visitors must check in at the office and obtain a visitor/volunteer badge before proceeding. If you need to speak to your child's teacher during the school day, **PLEASE MAKE AN APPOINTMENT!** This will minimize disruption of instruction and help maximize learning.

Children from other school are not allowed to visit. Younger siblings are **NOT** allowed in the classroom during the instructional day, including classroom parties. **Please** do not ask for an exception to these policies. Teachers have other tasks that could be completed at home for those parents who don't have child care available, and would still like to help in some way.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

GPA is proud to offer Discovery Kids, an on-site, before and after school care program. This licensed program provides quality, caring, enriching and engaging activities for children both before and after school. Morning sessions run from 6:30am until the start of school, and after school until 6pm on days school is in session. During breaks and intercession, full-day options are available at www.qcusd.org. Please call the Community Education office at 480.987.5900 for more information.



Academic Awards

A list will be published at the end of each nine-week (quarterly) grading period. This list will acknowledge those 3rd and 4th grade students who have achieved Principal's List and Honor Roll status.

Top Gun requirements:

A student must receive **ALL A's** (no B's, C's, or U's), with 95% accuracy in the areas of Reading, Communication, Math, Social Studies, and Science. If a student receives an "N", The teacher will refer the decision to the principal and he shall decide whether the student will qualify.

Principal's List Requirements: A student must receive all A's



Honor Roll requirements:

A student must receive **AT LEAST 3 A's and the rest B's** (no C's or U's), in the areas of Reading, Communication, Math, Social Studies, and Science. If a student receives an "N", the teacher will refer the decision to the principal, and he shall decide whether the student will qualify.

The percentage ranking is as follows: 90-100= A 80-89=B 70-79=C 60-69=D

Gateway Polytechnic Academy

Photo Release

Personnel from the school or newspaper may be photographing, interviewing, or videotaping our students. By law it is necessary to have permission from the parents before we can allow pictures or information to be printed.

By initialing the Policy and Acknowledge Form, the parent/guardian understand that photographs and interviews, including first and last names may be printed for District, school, and/or newspaper use.

Use of Technology Resources In Instruction

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT USER AGREEMENT FOR STUDENTS

Please read the User Agreement for Students document carefully.
When signed, it becomes a binding agreement.

Terms and Conditions

Acceptable use of the electronic information services (EIS) and equipment requires that the use of the resources be in accordance with the following guidelines and support the instruction, research, and educational goals of the District.

The user must:

Use the EIS and equipment for educational purposes only.

Agree not to submit, publish, display, or retrieve any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or illegal material.

Abide by all copyright regulations.

Keep confidential all home addresses or personal phone numbers.

Understand that electronic information system components may be monitored to ensure compliance with District regulations and policies.

Use the network so that it does not disrupt the use of the network by others.

Assume personal financial responsibility for any services or products incurred without district authorization.

Abide by the District's Uniform Code of Student Conduct, including but not limited to: the Uniform Code of Student Conduct, Article B: Behavior, section 4: Vandalism, A.R.S. 15-842: Damage to school property, in addition to all Board policies which may be applicable to any circumstance which may arise.

Safeguard all software and system security.

Each user will be required to sign an EIS and equipment user agreement. A user who violates the provisions of the agreement will be denied access to the information services and may be subject to disciplinary action. The District may log the use of all systems and monitor all system utilization. Accounts may be closed and files may be deleted at any time. The District is not responsible for any service interruptions, changes, or consequences.

Details of the user agreement shall have been discussed with each potential user of the electronic information services. When the signed agreement is returned to the school, the user may be permitted use of EIS resources.

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS

Section 504 is an Act which prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. The Act defines a person with a disability as anyone who:

1. Has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities include activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, breathing, learning and working)
2. Has a record of such impairment; or
3. Is regarded as having such an impairment.

In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504, the Queen Creek Unified School district recognizes a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices in the school system.

The school district has specific responsibilities under the Act, which include the responsibility to identify, evaluate, and if the child is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services.

If the parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, he/she has a right to hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

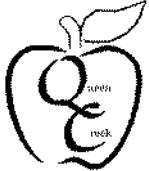
Complaints regarding school facilities may be directed to the principal on your child's campus or the District 504 Coordinator, Steve Ray, at 987-5990

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also specifies rights related to educational records. This Act and Queen Creek Public School Board Policy give the parent or guardian the right to:

1. Inspect and review your student's education record;
2. Exercise a limited control over other people's access to the student's Education record:
3. Seek to correct parts of the student's education record, you believe to be inaccurate, misleading or in violation of student rights, in a hearing if necessary;
4. Report violations of the FERPA to the United States Department of Education, FERPA office:
5. To be informed annually about FERPA rights.

All rights and protections given parents under the FERPA and Queen Creek Schools Board policy transfer to the student when he/she reaches age 18 (except where the student is dependent) or enrolls in a post-secondary school. The student then becomes an "eligible student".

Parents may inspect/review their student's cumulative records by contacting the principal on their campus. Special education records may be reviewed by contacting the Director of Special Services, Queen Creek Public Schools, 20217 E Chandler Heights Rd , Queen Creek, Arizona, 987-5990



QUEEN CREEK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.95
Special Services Department
20217 E Chandler Heights Road
Queen Creek, AZ 85142
Phone (480) 987-5990 Fax (480) 987-7499

Queen Creek School District Child Find

It is the Queen Creek School District's responsibility to inform the general public and all parents within our boundaries of our responsibility to make available special education services for students with disabilities age 3 through 21 years and how to access those services. We are responsible for identifying, locating, and evaluating all children with disabilities including children aged 3 through 21.

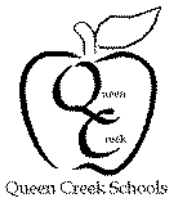
In addition we have a responsibility to provide information regarding early intervention services for children birth through 2 years. We are responsible for referring children from birth through 2 years of age to Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) for evaluation and appropriate services. Our school nurses are Queen Creek School Districts' contact for children birth through 2 years. Children birth through 2 years of age who are receiving early intervention services and will be participating in preschool programs for children with disabilities will be assured of a smooth transition into that program. We will insure that:

1. Transition conferences for children ages two years and six month (2.6) to two years and nine months will be held;
2. By the child's third birthday an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individualizes Family Services Plan (IFSP) will be developed and implemented; and
3. For the child who turns three during the summer, the IEP team will determine the date for services to begin including eligibility for Extended School Year (ESY) services.

We are also responsible for providing a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) which includes special education and related services to children with disabilities at public expense, under public supervision and direction and without charge to the parents.

For all new students to the district, the classroom teacher will complete screening activities within 45 days of enrollment. The teacher will look at the child's ability in the areas of academics, vision, hearing, adaptive, communication, social/emotional and motor skills. If any concerns are noted the child may be referred for additional help.

If you have any concerns about a child you know please contact your individual school site for more information



QUEEN CREEK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.95
Special Services Department
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Queen Creek, AZ 85142
Phone (480) 987-5990 Fax (480) 987-7499

ANNUAL NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

July 1, 2015

TO: PARENTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS
FROM: DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

This is a reminder that all of the information gathered concerning your child will be treated **CONFIDENTIALLY**, and that no records will be released without your expressed written consent.

All records are kept in a locked cabinet located at the District Center. Dora Kisto, Special Education Administrative Assistant, maintains the key. Posted on the file cabinet is a list of school personnel permitted to view the records. Access sheets are included in each file to be signed by personnel if that file is removed for review.

If you have any further questions, please call the office at 480-987-5990.

Annual Notification to Parents Regarding Confidentiality of Student Education Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school within 45 days of a request made to the school administrator. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records without copies. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request in writing that a school correct records that they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions:
 - o School officials with legitimate educational interest
 - A school official is a person employed or contracted by the school to serve as an administrator, supervisor, teacher, or support staff member (including health staff, law enforcement personnel, attorney, auditor, or other similar roles); a person serving on the school board; or a parent or student serving on an official committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks;
 - A legitimate educational interest means the review of records is necessary to fulfill a professional responsibility for the school;
 - o Other schools to which a student is seeking to enroll;
 - o Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
 - o Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
 - o Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
 - o Accrediting organizations;
 - o To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
 - o Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
 - o State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, sports participation (including height and weight of athletes) and dates of attendance unless notified by the parents or eligible student that the school is not to disclose the information without consent.

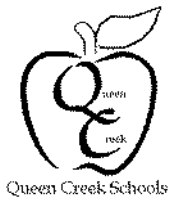
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that protects the rights of students with disabilities. In addition to standard school records, for children with disabilities education records could include evaluation and testing materials, medical and health information, Individualized Education Programs and related notices and consents, progress reports, materials related to disciplinary actions, and mediation agreements. Such information is gathered from a number of sources, including the student's parents and staff of the school of attendance. Also, with parental permission, information may be gathered from additional pertinent sources, such as doctors and other health care providers. This information is collected to assure the child is identified, evaluated, and provided a Free Appropriate Public Education in accordance with state and federal special education laws.

Each agency participating under Part B of IDEA must assure that at all stages of gathering, storing, retaining and disclosing education records to third parties that it complies with the federal confidentiality laws. In addition, the destruction of any education records of a child with a disability must be in accordance with IDEA regulatory requirements.

For additional information or to file a complaint, you may call the federal government at (202) 260-3887 (voice) or 1-800-877-8339 (TDD) OR the Arizona Department of Education (ADE/ESS) at (602) 542-4013. Or you may contact:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202-5901	Arizona Department of Education Exceptional Student Services 1535 W. Jefferson, BIN 24 Phoenix, AZ 85007
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This notice is available in English and Spanish on the ADE website at www.ade.az.gov/ess/resources under forms. For assistance in obtaining this notice in other languages, contact the ADE/ESS at the above phone/address.



Queen Creek Unified School District

Dr. Perry Berry, Superintendent of Schools

July 2015

Re: Parents' Right to Know

As a parent of a student you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum the following:

- Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

A notice will be sent if your child has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a non-highly qualified teacher of a core academic subject (Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies).

Please direct any questions, comments or concerns to the Department of Grants, Curriculum and Instruction, 480-987-7488.

Sincerely,
Dr. Perry Berry
Superintendent

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