



**PARENT HANDBOOK  
2019-2020**

**9525 Glade Road  
Walkersville, MD 21793  
Phone: 240-236-2100  
Fax: 240-236-2101**

**School Website: <http://ges.sites.fcps.org/>**

**Lorcán ÓhEithir, Principal  
Heather Putnam, Assistant Principal**

**Frederick County Public School website: <http://fcps.org/>  
Links: Find Out First**



# GLADE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Walkersville, MD 21793  
240-236-2100 • Fax: 240-236-2101

Lorcán ÓhEithir  
Principal

Heather Putnam  
Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the Glade Elementary staff, it is our privilege to welcome you and your family to the 2019-2020 school year! We look forward to our partnership in providing your child with the highest quality instructional program possible. Our goal is high student achievement and character development through effective, meaningful instruction and positive, consistent support.

Contained within the following pages is the **2019-2020 Student and Parent/Guardian Handbook** for Glade Elementary School. It will provide you with useful information about the school's operation. We hope that you will consult this reference throughout the year as questions arise. In addition, the Calendar Handbook of the Frederick County Public School System will be distributed to students on the first day of school and you should read it carefully. It is the official source of information for our school system.

Our entire staff and community share the same goal of providing the best educational program for each child. Active partnership, understanding and cooperation will make this goal a reality. To enrich your child's educational program, become directly involved through daily support. Please visit frequently and ask our teachers and staff members for assistance whenever needed.

Therefore, in pursuit of our common goals, we extend our whole-hearted cooperation and our best wishes for a very successful school year at Glade Elementary School.

Together in Education,

Lorcán ÓhEithir  
Principal

Heather Putnam  
Assistant Principal

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### **A. Visiting the School**

- Parents are always welcome to visit the school and their child's classroom. As a courtesy, please let the teacher or the office staff know that you plan on visiting in case there is an alternate class schedule or special activity on the day you plan to visit.
- **For the security of our students (your children) and our staff**, all visitors must report to the main office. Please ring the outside bell for admittance.
  - Our front office staff will ask you to identify yourself and provide a reason for your visit before unlocking the front door.
  - Please be advised that you will be asked to present your driver's license or other form of personal identification upon entering the front office. This is a new school system security requirement. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
- **Please make sure you use the computer system to sign in and print out a visitor's sticker prior to going to the classroom.**
- As you leave, it is important to sign out at the office.
- If you are seen in the school without a visitor's badge, you will be stopped and asked to report to the office to follow proper procedures. State law requires these procedures.

### **B. Student Information/Emergency Card**

- On the first day of school, every student will receive a preprinted student information card. Families are to make any changes of information directly on the card and return it to school promptly.
- Any change in address will require a proof of residency such as:
  - Signed lease/rental agreement
  - Gas/electric/water and sewer bill
- The health information card will be a blank form that families are required to fill out. The form is also found on [www.fcps.org](http://www.fcps.org) if you wish to type the information, print it out, and return it to school.
- You will need to ensure that your child's cards are correct and current throughout the school year.
- The school office and the health room each maintains these cards for every child and refers to them anytime there is a question, concern or emergency.

### **C. Lunch/Breakfast Program**

- Lunch meals may be pre-purchased through the cafeteria. Check the [FCPS Food and Nutrition](#) website for current prices of breakfast, lunch, milk and snacks.
- If a child forgets his/her lunch money, (s)he will be allowed to charge a lunch. This charge must be reimbursed the next school day.
- Free and reduced cost lunches are offered to those families who qualify. Applications and guidelines will be sent home on the first day of school.
- Staff members are available to assist with opening packaging or drink containers, but it is helpful if you work with your child to do this himself/herself.
- Parents/guardians are always welcome to eat lunch with their child/children. Your child's teacher can give you the time of day that his/her class is scheduled for lunch.
  - We ask that you refrain from bringing fast food lunches (i.e. McDonald's lunch) for your child to eat during your lunch visit. This often causes some distraction to other students in the cafeteria.

- If you feel you must bring in a fast food lunch for your child, you will eat with your child in the office conference room or other designated location.
- Please remember to sign in and get a visitor's badge from the office.

#### **D. Computerized Cafeteria Cashier System**

- The cafeteria uses computerized cash registers. All students have been assigned a number, which they must enter into a computer keypad in order to make purchases.
- Extra assistance will be provided to primary students who do not remember or know their number.
- Please have your child practice their cafeteria number in order to facilitate faster lunch lines.

#### **E. Communications**

- Most parent communications from the school will come home on Thursdays. Communication will come home in the form of a Thursday Folder which will be provided to all students.
  - It is important that you read and respond to, if appropriate, all notices that come home on this day.
  - Please remove the contents of the envelope, sign the cover sheet, and return the Thursday envelope to your child's teacher the following day.
- On the third Thursday of each month you should expect the *Glade Gazette* through Find Out First (FOF) that includes important school news, upcoming dates and PTA announcements. This is done to keep you informed about special happenings in our school and community.
  - For those who do not have access to email, a hard copy will be sent home upon request – please call the front office to request a paper copy.
- We will be using FOF to keep families up to date with important information and announcements. Parent/guardian primary email addresses are uploaded from the FCPS Student Information System and can only be updated by contacting the school. If changed in this account they will revert back each night to the address on file in the FCPS Student Information System.
- We maintain a Facebook Group in conjunction with our PTA. This is open only to staff and parents/guardians of current Glade students. Join by searching for our group on Facebook – Glade Elementary School/Glade PTA Facebook Group.

#### **F. Contacting Staff Members**

- Staff members are not able to accept phone calls during the instructional day. Instead, you may leave a message for the staff member, with whom you wish to talk, through their voicemail.
- All staff members have voicemail that you can access through the main school phone number, 240-236-2100.
- In addition you may contact staff members through email i.e. [firstname.lastname@fcps.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@fcps.org).

#### **G. Addressing Concerns**

- Should you have a concern or question regarding your child's instructional program, these should be addressed first to your child's teacher(s).
- School administration is always available to address your concern after you have spoken with the teacher.
- Questions regarding the school program should be addressed to the office.

## **H. Request for Make-Up Work**

- When a student is absent, parents may request make-up work.
- Students who are absent for one day will receive the missed work from the teacher the following day.
- Parents may request make-up work for students that will be absent for more than one day by calling the office.
  - The teacher needs 24 hours' notice to get the work together and to the office. The parent may then pick up the student's missed work from the office the following day.

## **I. Vacations**

- Vacations taken during the school year are not encouraged. However, when vacations are planned, the principal should receive a letter from the parents at least one week before the leaving date. This allows time to inform teachers and to organize their expectations of missed schoolwork.
- Students will be held accountable for work missed during this time.
- Students may be excused no more than twice during school for a combined maximum of five days.

## **J. Parent/Teacher Conferences**

- Parent-teacher conferences are held to discuss your child's progress and to allow the opportunity to examine samples of your child's work to help determine your child's strengths and needs.
  - Since these conferences are scheduled for short periods of time, think about what you want to learn from the conference and make notes of specific questions you would like to ask.
  - Fall conferences this year are on October 23, 24, 25.
- Additional conferences may be held at the request of the parent, teacher and/or administrator at any time. At this time both parent and school personnel may freely discuss any problem that directly affects your child's school performance.
  - If you wish to meet with school personnel, please arrange your visit in advance to ensure that the time is appropriate and does not interfere with planned activities.
  - For example, in the morning before school begins, your child's teacher is busy making final preparations for the school day, greeting early arrivers and tutoring students. Therefore, this would not be an appropriate time for an unscheduled conference.
- Remember, if you are involved with your child's school and teacher in a positive manner you can help your child meet with greater success.

## **K. Support Services**

- Support services include all personnel who provide special services to some students and who provide consultation with classroom teachers to assist students.
- The following services comprise the area of support services: reading, reading and/or math intervention, specific learning disabilities (SpEd), speech, psychological services, pupil personnel, special education pre-K, health tech and nurse supplied by the Frederick County Health Department.

## **L. Health Services**

- Hearing and Vision Technicians will screen only the Pre-K and Kindergarten students who had not been screened the prior year for vision and hearing problems. They will be screening all First Grade students. Unfortunately, they will not be accepting any referrals from parents or teachers.
  - The results of these examinations will be recorded and kept on file. Parents will be notified if a follow-up examination by a physician is needed.
  - Families financially unable to provide adequate medical care can obtain help by contacting the Frederick County Health Department at 301-694-1029.
- Medications may not be distributed to, or used by, students at school unless they have a medication distribution form signed by a physician on file in the health room.
  - Students should never carry or use over the counter medications while at school. These include cough drops.
  - If there is a change in the medication distribution, a new form must be submitted to the school.
  - It is the parent's responsibility to arrange for medication to be provided for their child in the health room.
  - Medication should not be sent to school with your child.
- If a child becomes ill during the school day, the classroom teacher may send the student to the health room. In non-emergency situations, the health nurse or technician will determine whether or not a phone call is made home to the parents.
- Physical Activity Restriction- if your child has an injury that results in them not being able to physically participate in P.E. or recess please contact the Health Room for the appropriate Physicians form.
- Additional questions regarding the health room services may be addressed to the school nurse, 240-236-2056.

## **M. Allergy Alert/Health Concerns**

- Many students who attend Glade have severe allergies and other health issues, and if exposed to certain materials or foods, may develop a severe reaction. In some cases, these reactions are life threatening.
- For these reasons, several precautions are taken to ensure the safety of students with known allergies and health issues.
  - Latex products, including balloons of any type, are not allowed within the school.
  - Due to peanut allergies, there is a *peanut-free table* in the cafeteria for students who have severe allergies to products with peanuts or peanut oils.
  - Other precautions may be requested to prevent students' exposure to peanuts or peanut-based products, which may trigger a life-threatening allergic reaction. These precautions may include, but are not limited to, frequent washing of hands and not bringing in peanut-based food products.

## **N. Guidance**

- Guidance curriculum is leveled by grade. The school counselor teaches this curriculum to whole classes as well as to students in small groups in order to meet a variety of needs.
- Please contact the counselor or school administration now if your child has a particular need or if there is a change going on in the family. Counselors can provide children with additional support needed to help them get through the problem.

## **O. Chorus and Band**

- The Glade Elementary Chorus is open to students in Grades 4 and 5 in the fall. Mrs. Cheek and Mr. Stevens, our general music teachers, direct our chorus. There will be two performances for the public during the year in December and May. Students may also audition for the FCPS County Honors Chorus.
- Instrumental music instruction is open to students in Grades 4 and 5. Students may select from a variety of instruments. They receive instruction on Thursdays during the school day from our instrumental music teachers Jilby Cheston and Vicki Crum. The band will present two evening performances for your enjoyment in January and May.

## **P. Field Trips**

- Field trips are an important part of the curriculum. Selected trips at each grade level connect with classroom instruction and provide concrete experience outside of the classroom.
- Student behavior may influence whether or not the student had earned the privilege to participate in an outside of school activity.
- Permission slips must be signed and returned before a student may go on a field trip.
- Field-trips fees should be [paid online](#) or by check.
- Teachers will make a request for parent chaperones prior to trips. The selection of volunteers will be by lottery. Prospective chaperones should not send payment for a field trip until the teacher has notified them that they have been selected.

## **Q. Fire/Bus/ and Emergency Drills**

- We practice emergency drills in the event of an actual crisis situation. These drills include lockdowns, severe weather drills, and evacuation drills. Your child will practice these procedures and know the expectations in advance.
- The dates of some of these drills will be communicated to families beforehand.
- To prepare the children for evacuation of the building in case of fire, a minimum of 5 drills per year will be held on an annual basis.
- These drills are to be held during various times of the school day and in varying weather conditions.
- Bus drills will occur twice a year, usually in the fall and spring.
- A comprehensive safety plan has also been developed for our school. All staff members have been trained to follow the safety plan in case of an emergency, and the plan is practiced with the students.

## **R. Lost and Found**

- To help alleviate the problem of lost articles, please put your child's name on lunch boxes, book bags, and outer garment wear.
- If your child loses something, (s)he should check in the Lost and Found, which is located in the school cafeteria, to see if the item has been turned in.
- You are more than welcome to visit the school to check the Lost and Found to retrieve any lost articles. Please encourage your child to check the Lost and Found often.
- Unclaimed items will be donated to a charitable organization twice a year.

## **S. Volunteers**

- Volunteers are a valuable part of our school program. In the beginning of the school year, each teacher will send home an interest survey, providing you with information about volunteering. We encourage you to help in whatever way you feel comfortable.

- As a volunteer, you are responsible for signing in and out of the building by visiting the front-office whenever you are volunteering in the school. Staff will use the Raptor System to sign you into the building.
- Required training will be provided in the fall to communicate other volunteer responsibilities.
- Working parents also make valuable contributions to a student's educational experience by attending after-hours activities such as band and chorus concerts, Reading Night, Science Fair, our book fairs, and the many other evening activities that our school offers.
- We always welcome volunteers during recess and lunch times.
- Please work with our Volunteer Coordinator, Heather Putnam, to determine how we can best accommodate your schedule.

#### **T. Parties**

- Students may not distribute invitations to private parties, nor may students have parties in school to celebrate their birthdays or other special occasions.
- Due to the increasing numbers of students with food allergies and Health Department regulations, our school does not permit families to bring in edible snacks for birthday students. Instead consider stickers, pencils, erasers and other non-edible items (toys are not permitted). We truly appreciate your consideration with this matter.
- At the beginning of the school year, your classroom teacher will ask for volunteers to be homeroom parents. Homeroom parents will work with classroom teachers in planning classroom celebrations. These will be the Fall Harvest party on Friday, November 1st and Valentine's party on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Money should not be solicited from parents or students for teacher gifts or other reasons.

#### **U. Play Dates**

- Please arrange these dates before the start of the school day. Our school secretary is NOT responsible for making arrangements during school hours. Also, according to the FCPS Transportation Office students are not allowed to ride buses home with other children unless it is an emergency.

#### **V. Electronics**

- Please have students refrain from bringing electronics i.e. handheld video games to school. They are a distraction to instruction and we cannot guarantee their security.
- Such items will be confiscated and parents/guardians will need to come to the office to retrieve these items.
- We understand it may be necessary for some students to have cell phones for emergency purposes. As per FCPS regulation, during the school day and during bus transportation students are required to keep such items completely turned off and concealed in their book bags.
- Students utilize technology throughout the school day for academic purposes. The technology is made available through substantial investment from school and community funds. Students are expected to use technology with appropriately at all times. Students will bring home a document at the beginning of the school year outlining the expectations. It will require your signature and return to our front office.

#### **W. Inclement Weather**

- Occasionally, schools may be closed all day, delayed in opening, or close early because of inclement weather. A variety of communication modes are used to announce these closings and/or delays. The most detailed and current information is available on

Frederick Cable Channel 18 and on *Find Out First*. Information is also provided on several radio stations. These can be found in the Calendar Handbook.

- On days when school is delayed two hours, Pre-kindergarten students and Special Education pre-kindergarten students will attend abbreviated sessions.
- Morning session will start two hours late with the rest of the students and will be dismissed one hour later than usual.
- The afternoon session will start one hour later than usual and students will be dismissed at the regular time. This will provide an equitable 1 ½ hour session for both a.m. and p.m. students.
- It is extremely important in these situations that up to date information is kept on the students emergency information cards.

#### **X. Before and After School Care**

- There is a before and After School Care Program located at Glade which is sponsored solely by the YMCA. For more information, you may contact them at 301-663-5131.

#### **Y. Other School Phone Numbers**

Guidance – 240-236-2109

Health – 240-236-2056

Cafeteria – 240-236-2066

## **ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

### **A. Arrival & Dismissal**

While walking to and from the building all students must walk on the inside of the yellow sidewalk line closest to the school.

### **B. Bus Rider Information**

To ensure that students who ride the bus arrive at their destination in a safe manner, several measures are taken to maintain appropriate student behavior while riding. At the beginning of the school year, bus drivers will *distribute a behavior contract for parents to review with their child*. This will ensure that all families are aware of bus expectations. Buses may also have video cameras, which can be used as a monitoring tool.

To ensure a safe and orderly bus ride, these rules must be followed by all students:

- ◆ Follow specific directions from the bus driver the first time they are given.
- ◆ Stay in your seat at all times while the bus is moving.
- ◆ Keep your body parts, personal property, and your voice to yourself.
- ◆ Eating, drinking, or vulgar language is not allowed on the bus. If a student disregards these rules, the following actions are taken:
  - Verbal warning
  - Driver Action – Written communication to the parent, probation period or special seating assignment.
  - Bus Referral – School administration will be notified and appropriate action will be taken as outlined in the FCPS Discipline Guidelines.

Unless otherwise notified, students will be sent home on their regularly assigned bus each day. Students will not be allowed to ride a bus not assigned to them without special circumstances and permission granted by school administration. In all circumstances, if a student is not to go home according to that which usually occurs, that student must have a written note signed by the parent.

## **C. Car Rider Information**

### **Morning Drop Off**

- ◆ Please stay in a single file line while dropping your child off **in the back of the school**. Children are not to be dropped off and left outside the school unsupervised before 8:30.
- ◆ As each child is dropped off, please move forward toward the entrance and then let your child out.
- ◆ Do not leave your car unattended at the curb or pull alongside another vehicle. If you need to come into the school, please park your car in one of the visitor parking spaces in the parking lot in front of the building.

### **Afternoon Pick-Up**

The procedure is the same as in the morning with the following exceptions:

- ◆ An adult will assist your child into the vehicle.
- ◆ If your child is not waiting, please give their name to the staff on duty and pull into a parking space. The staff member will call the office and have your child paged to come to your car.

\*Pay attention to the posted signs in the front of the school, which states the hours you may/may not park your car out front.

## **D. Walkers & Bike-riders**

Walkers are to leave by the Pre-Kindergarten door and follow the sidewalk path towards the playground to their homes.

## **ATTENDANCE**

As part of our efforts to promote consistency within the Walkersville Community, the following procedures will be in use throughout grades Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. Our community believes strongly that school attendance and school success are closely related. Academic deficiencies occur when a student's instructional program is interrupted by chronic absenteeism. No amount of make-up work can replace the quality of learning achieved in the classroom. Therefore, we have designed attendance procedures to encourage families to take full advantage of learning opportunities for students.

### **Attendance Recording**

- I. The school year consists of 180 regularly scheduled days. The school day is from 8:55 AM to 3:30 PM for kindergarten through fifth grades. Sp-Ed. /Regular Ed. Pre-Kindergarten from 8:55 AM to 11:30 AM, or 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM depending on the session your child attends.
- II. State law requires all children to be in school each day. Illness, medical/dental appointments, out-of-town trips for up to 5 days per year, and family emergencies are all acceptable reasons for excused absences. However, you must provide a written note indicating the reason for the absence. An email to Glade Elementary ([Glade.ES@fcps.org](mailto:Glade.ES@fcps.org)), attendance secretary, may be sent in lieu of a handwritten note. **If an excuse is not received within 2 days of the absence, it will be recorded as unexcused.** We will require a doctor's note after 10 days of absence from school for medical reasons.
- III. Attendance is reported at the county and state levels. Statistics show that student achievement is directly related to attendance. We encourage you to have your child attend school regularly. Attendance is closely monitored by the school administration. The procedures outlined in the FCPS Calendar Handbook will be strictly enforced. The FCPS attendance regulation can be found by visiting: [FCPS Regulation 500-25](#) .

- IV. An adult must accompany late students into the building to insure their safety and sign them in on the computer system. Letters will be sent home for chronic attendance and tardy concerns. These students may be required to stay after school or lose recess when this occurs.

### **Arrival to School**

- I. Students should arrive to school between 8:30 and 8:55 am each morning. This will allow for students to get settled and complete their morning routine prior to instruction beginning at 9:00 AM.
- II. Students should not arrive to school prior to 8:30 AM, as no adult supervision is available prior to that time. **Students will not be allowed in the building prior to that time without purpose or adult supervision.**
- III. **If a student is arriving after 8:55 a parent must accompany the child into the front office.**

### **Dismissal from School**

- I. Dismissal time is between 3:30 PM and 4:00 PM.
- II. If you must pick up your child during the school day, you must come to the office and wait for your child to be called down to the office. Students will not be dismissed directly from the classroom unless otherwise stated as a result of a school program.
- III. Students will not be allowed to leave the school with anyone other than the parent or legal guardian, or a contact person indicated on the student's emergency card. This is the case for normal routines as well as when students have a change in their normal routine. If a student is to leave with someone other than the parent/guardian or contact person, you must provide written permission to the school office. **Without written permission, your child will not be released.**
- IV. If you have a court document that may affect your child in school, please provide a copy of this document to the office.
- V. Whenever a student is dismissed prior to the end of the school day, the student must be signed out in the main office. Frequent early dismissals and late arrivals are closely monitored by school administration.

#### **Excused absences include, but are not limited to:**

- ❖ Illness
- ❖ Death in the family
- ❖ Court summons
- ❖ Observance of a religious holiday

#### **Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to:**

- ❖ Parent indifference
- ❖ Uncertified student illness
- ❖ Truancy

## **EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

\*In **bold** are the 5 expectations for student behavior. Under each expectation is an explanation of what each means.

### **A. Philosophy**

- All students will be prepared for a world of diversity through the development of creativity, independence, and critical thinking skills. These expectations will be held throughout the school day and during before/after school events.
- It is the responsibility of everyone - students, parents, teachers, and community members - to make choices based on the six pillars of character which include: Trustworthiness, Respect,

Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. These pillars of character will be displayed through...

### **Following Directions**

- Stop, look, and listen carefully when instructions are being given.
- Complete all verbal and written instructions when given by the adult in charge.
- Do what you are supposed to do when you are supposed to do it.
- Seek permission to leave the classroom.

### **Supporting Our Own and Others' Learning**

- Be helpful to other students.
- Listen to opinions or ideas of others.
- Avoid possible problems.
- Be honest in completing class work, homework, and tests. Do not cheat.
- Keep yourself from disturbing other students' learning.
- Raise your hand to be called upon.

### **Showing Pride in Ourselves and Our School**

- Keep bathrooms clean and neat.
- Dress and maintain your appearance in a safe, healthy, and non-disruptive manner.
- Refrain from sharing personal belongings with others.
- Keep school and personal property organized and clean.
- Keep hands and feet off the property of others.
- Walk inside the building or on sidewalks.

### **Treating Others the Way We Want To Be Treated**

- Keep unkind words to yourself. No name calling, teasing or swearing.
- Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
- Leave other persons' materials and property alone. Do not steal.
- Be mindful of the feelings of others.
- Refrain from using physical or verbal gestures toward others.

### **Being Prepared For Learning Each Day**

- Be well rested for learning.
- Be on time for school and class.
- Turn completed homework and assignments in on time.
- Bring necessary materials to school each day and have them ready for instruction.
- Put personal belongings in the appropriate area.

## **B. Jaguar SPOT On Behavior**

- There are four school rules we reinforce with our students. Each rule begins with one of the letters in the word SPOT:
  - Show respect for ourselves, others, and property
  - Positive attitude to learning and to others
  - Own our actions and words
  - Take pride in our work
- We expect our students to know these rules and follow them every day.
- Students are recognized for displaying these behaviors by earning “jaguar spots” from adults throughout the building. The jaguar spot is our “currency of kindness.” Students

may use them to purchase items from our school store (“Spot Shop”). Some teachers design classroom incentives and privileges that involve trading in jaguar spots.

- Jaguar SPOT recipients are recognized every Friday morning on the Glade broadcast. The names of these students are also published on Find Out First.

### **C. Consequences**

By not adhering to expectations, the following steps will take place:

- Verbal Warning
- Time Out and completion of reflection
- Time out of the classroom or environment
- Parent Contact
- Loss of privilege (i.e. assembly, field trip or other incentive activity)
- Guidance Support/Office Referral

*A conference with the student will take place throughout the progression of consequences.*

\*Severe Clause – Certain actions by students will result in an immediate office referral, such as fighting, victimization, and other offenses as outlined in the FCPS Calendar Handbook.

### **D. Student Leadership**

- This school year we will continue to teach students 21<sup>st</sup> century leadership skills in conjunction with our school behavior expectations. We will be utilizing some ideas from the work of Steven Covey and associates – *The Leader in Me* and the *7 Habits of Happy Kids*. *The 7 Habits* is a synthesis of universal, timeless principles of personal and interpersonal effectiveness, such as responsibility, vision, integrity, teamwork, collaboration and renewal, which are secular in nature and common to all people and cultures.
- Throughout the course of the school year, we will be sharing some ideas for parents/guardians/families to support the leadership strategies that your child is learning in school. These ideas will be shared via our monthly *Glade Gazette* parent newsletter.
- **The Glade Elementary Student Council** – During the 2017-2018 school year, we established our first student council leadership group. The founding members were elected (and teacher supported) students from our fifth grade classes (2 representatives from each class). The goals of the student council are to provide leadership opportunities and promote student voice in making our school the best it can be as well as engaging in community service projects. We hope to expand student representation to include third, fourth, and fifth grades this school year.

### **E. Prompting Alternative THinking Strategies (PATHS)**

- Frederick County Public Schools is implementing a curriculum to support social emotional learning in all elementary classes, grades PreK-2, in the 2019-2020 school year.
- The PATHS program teaches and reinforces many key aspects of SEL, shown through research to improve behavior, reduce conflict and improve academics. The program has resulted in students’ increased attention in the classroom, increased ability to organize thoughts, improved behavior, and better use of conflict-resolution strategies. In the 2020-2021 school year, FCPS plans to add PATHS for grades 3-5.

## PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Glade Elementary School has a very active PTA. Their contribution to the students and staff has resulted in additional resources and incredible opportunities for all. Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month and are published in the monthly calendar. Parents and teachers are encouraged to join and support the PTA. Visit the Glade PTA website for additional information: [www.gladeppta.org](http://www.gladeppta.org)

### **Mission of the Glade PTA:**

- The mission of the Glade PTA is to enhance the educational experience of the children and their families by working in partnership with the teachers, educational staff and local community. The PTA gives each child a legislative voice while providing safe, fun and educationally enriching activities, supported by its own fundraising.

### **National PTA Purposes:**

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship.
- To raise the standards of home life.
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

Glade Elementary PTA is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization so your contribution is tax-deductible. The individual membership is \$8.00 while a family membership is \$15.00. These membership fees support national PTA, Maryland PTA, and Frederick County PTA as advocacy agencies for children and education. Our goal is for all staff and all families to belong to our PTA. It is not a PTA without the P and the T.

Each year we fundraise to support Glade Elementary programs by offering Spirit wear, Book Fairs, Race for Education, Family Restaurant and Movie Nights, and our May Fair basket raffle. Being a member of our PTA offers parents the opportunity to join in supporting their child's instructional program. PTA committees shape the direction of Fall Fest, before and after-school clubs, May Fair, Assemblies, Staff Appreciation, and Reflections/Science/Social Studies Fairs. During the year, we depend on parent support and volunteering to make these events happen. Your contribution and time is valued and is what makes our school community vibrant.

John Dye, Glade PTA President  
Lorcan OhEithir, Principal