

Table of Contents

- 05 Message from the Superintendent
- 06 Administrative Staff
- 07 School Board Members
- 8/9 Division Schools
- 10 Enrolling your student at GCPS
- 11 School Calendar
- 12 Parent Responsibility
- Notification of Rights Under FERPA
- Notification of Rights Under PPRA
- 15 Right To Know
- 16 Volunteering/Communication
- 17 School Cash Online
- 18 Emergency Drills
- 19 Attendance

Table of Contents

- 20 Dress Code/Visiting School
- 21 Cell Phone Policy/Field Trips
- Threat Assessments
- 23 Title I/Search & Seizure
 - 24 Student Records/SRO
- Harassment/Sexual Harassment/Appealing A
 Discipline Action
 - 26 Parent Portal
 - 27 STOPit/ GAGGLE /School Closing
- Family Life / HPE /Art and Music
- 29 Testing
- Literacy Plan/Assessment Plan/School Quality Profiles
- 31 Online Learning
- William Monroe High School
- Greene County Technical Education

Table of Contents

- William Monroe Middle School
- Ruckersville Elementary School
- Nathanael Greene Primary School
- Nathanael Greene Elementary School
- English Language Learners
- **Extra-Curricular Activities**
- 40 Health Services
- 41 School Nutrition
- 42 Special Services
- 43 Technology
- 44 Transportation
- 45 Frequently Viewed Policies

A Message from Superintendent Andrea Whitmarsh



Dear Greene County Public Schools Families,

Welcome to a new school year! It is an honor and privilege to serve as the Superintendent of Greene County Public Schools in this beautiful community. Our commitment to providing an excellent educational experience for every student is unwavering, and I am excited to share our vision for the future with you.

Our strategic plan, Impact 2027, serves as the foundation for our collective efforts and outlines our goals for the next several years. At the heart of Impact 2027 are our core values, which guide everything we do:

- Culture of Excellence: We strive for the highest standards in teaching, learning, and student achievement, continually seeking to improve and innovate.
- Safe, Supportive, and Caring Schools: We are dedicated to creating environments where students feel secure, valued, and supported, ensuring that every child can thrive.
- Exceptional Workforce: Our educators and staff are the heart of our school division. We are committed to attracting, retaining, and developing the best professionals who are passionate about making a positive impact on students' lives.
- Connections and Partnerships with Our Community: We believe strong partnerships with families and the broader community are essential for student success. We invite you to be active participants in your child's education, whether through volunteering, attending school events, or joining our various parent and community groups.
- Resource Stewardship: We are committed to the responsible management of our resources to ensure that we can provide the best possible educational experiences for our students.

Our vision is to empower our community's children for life-long success. By focusing on these core values, we aim to create an educational environment where every student can reach their fullest potential.

As we embark on this new school year, I encourage you to stay connected with your child's school and with our division as a whole. Regular communication between home and school is crucial to the success of our students. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher, school administrators, or my office if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of our students and ensure that Greene County Public Schools remains a place where every child can thrive.

Warm regards,
Andrea Whitmarsh, EdD
Superintendent of Schools



ADMINISTATION

- Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent
- Dr. Kyle Pursel, Assistant Superintendent
- Katie Brunelle, Director of Administrative Services
- Kristie Spencer, Director of Financial and Human Resources
- Dr. Donna Payne, Director of Teaching and Learning
- Dale Herring, Director of Technology
- Dawn Gillette, Director of Student Services
- JoAnne Fox, Online Learning Coordinator
- Jennifer Myers, Coordinator of Innovation and Teacher Support
- Larry Morris, Transportation Director
- Debbie Maunuel, Assistant Director of Transportation
- Guy Laine, Facilities Coordinator
- Bridget Keys, Human Resources Specialist
- Trenton Fisher, Coordinator of Communications
- Michael Kozuch, Finance Analyst
- Lori Shifflett, Receptionist
- Rhonda Houchens, Administrative Assistant and Payroll Clerk
- Ashleigh Norris, Administrative Assistant for Special Services and Licensure

SPECIAL SERVICES

- Dr. Wendy Mitchem, Director of Special Services
- Christi Dojack, Coordinator of Special Services
- Moira Ryan, Special Education Teacher Support and Mentor
- Emily Clayton, EL Coordinator
- Paula Mercado, EL Liaison
- Heather Blades, School Nutrition/Food Service Director
- Amanda Cruey, Social Worker
- Sarah Baran, Social Worker

Greene County School Board



Brooks Taylor

Chairmen, Midway District



Becky Roach

Vice Chairmen, Stanardsville District



Cherish Alberts
Ruckersville District



Kelly Greer

At Large Representative



Cara Bickers

Monroe District

Schools in the Division



In our division are passionately focused on providing individualized education programs for our students. We believe that as a result of our dedicated teaching staff and the quality of our curriculum and programs, Greene County Public Schools' students are well prepared to succeed in the world of work.

William Monroe High School



William Monroe High School offers a number of classes and programs for students to participate in. Students have the opportunity to be involved in extracurricular activities, CLUBs, and other opportunities to interact with their peers. WMHS focuses on post-secondary preparedness for all students with an emphasis on students being enrolled, enlisted, or employed in a career at graduation. Check out our webpage for more information about all the opportunities available to William Monroe High School students.

William Monroe Middle School

William Monroe Middle School is dedicated to fostering academic excellence and personal growth. Our committed faculty creates a dynamic and inclusive learning environment, encouraging students to explore their passions and develop into thoughtful leaders. Emphasizing both rigorous academics and enriching extracurricular activities, we prepare students for success in high school and beyond.

Greene County Technical Education Center



The Greene County Technical Education Center offers a number of Career and Technical Education courses for WMHS students to participate in. Whether students are college, military, or workforce bound, something of interest for all students can be found at GCTEC. See our program guide for more information on pathway offerings and how to enroll.

Schools in the Division

Ruckersville **Elementary**



Ruckersville Elementary School houses Kindergarten - 5th grades with four to five classes at every grade level. Our diverse population of students includes children from fourteen different countries around the world. We strive to create engaging activities at our school to bring students and families into our building beyond the daily classroom learning. We are excited to share playground upgrades, new outdoor learning stations and new programing this year. Everyone is encouraged to get involved with our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and reach out to teachers and administration if you need help or have any concerns. We want to work together to Dream Big and Work Hard this upcoming 24-25 school year!

Nathanael Greene



Primary School Nathanael Greene Primary School is dedicated to serving students from PreK to 2nd grade, with a strong commitment in supporting the development of every child in a safe and inclusive learning environment that promotes a positive culture. Our school prides itself on fostering a collaborative community where every stakeholder is valued. We are committed to nurturing young minds, fostering a love for learning, and preparing students for future success in a diverse and evolving world.

Nathanael Greene Elementary



Nathanael Greene Elementary School serves students in Grades 3-5. Our vision is to inspire, encourage, and empower all students by meaningful, innovative and providing personalized experiences. At NGES we encourage stakeholders to become part of the Nathanael Greene school community. Together we can work as a team to lead our students towards the achievement of their goals and aspirations.

Equal Educational Opportunities

The Greene County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Katie Brunelle, Compliance Coordinator Title IX, Director of Administrative Services --(434) 939-9000

Dr. Wendy Mitchem, Compliance Coordinator Section 504, Director of Special Services --(434)939-9000

Enrolling in Greene County Public Schools

Welcome to Greene County Public Schools! We are happy to welcome you and your family to our school division!

To enroll at GCPS you will need the following documents:

- Immunization records signed and dated by a physician or other health official. For student immunization requirements, please visit the Virginia Department of Health's school requirements site.
- School entrance physical form (for all new pre-K through fifth grade students entering Greene County Public Schools for the first time physical must have been performed within the last 12 months)
- Original birth certificate (student) with a photo ID (parent)
- Proof of residency in Greene County (see "Proof of Residency and Custody" tab)
- Proof of custody (if applicable)
- Copy of current IEP or 504 plan (if applicable)

Once you have gathered these documents please follow the steps provided on our website to complete you child's registration.

https://www.greenecountyschools.com/parents/enrollment

Kindergarten Admission

Kindergarten enrollment is for children who have reached their fifth birthday on or before September 30. If your child's fifth birthday is after September 30 but before December 31, per policy, parents may request early admission

If you have specific questions regarding enrollment, please contact the appropriate school.

2024-2025 School Calendar

2024-2025

July Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30 31

Greene County Public Schools

180 School Days 11 Professional Days

August										
Su M Tu W Th F Sa										
				1	2	3				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

September										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
29	30									

	October										
Su											
		1	2	3	4	5					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19					
20	21	22	23	24	25	26					
27	28	29	30	31							

November										
					1	2				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30				

December										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
29	30	31								

TBD	New Teacher Orientation
8/1 & 8/2	Flex Days
8/5	All Teachers Return
8/8	Open House - All Schools
8/5 - 8/12	Pre-Service Days
8/13	First Day of School
9/2	No School: Labor Day Holiday
9/20	1PM Dismissal
10/11	End of 1st Quarter
10/14	No School: Professional Day
10/23	Report Cards Issued
11/4	P/T Conferences
11/5	Professional Day
11/27 - 11/29	Thanksgiving Break
12/20	1PM Dismissal
12/20	End of 2nd Quarter
12/23 - 1/3	Holiday Break
1/6	Students Return
1/15	Report Cards Issued
1/20	No School: Martin Luther King Day
2/17	No School: President's Day
3/7	End of 3rd Quarter
3/14	1Pm Dismissal
3/19	Report Cards Issued
4/7 - 4/11	Spring Break
5/23	Last Day of School
5/23	1PM Dismissal
5/27 & 5/28	Professional Days

	1PM Dismissal: 9/20, 12/20, 3/14, 5/23
NOTES:	1st Semester Ends: 12/20
	2nd Semester Begins: 1/6
	Teacher Flex Days
	Parent/Teacher Conferences
	Professional Days
	Open House-All Schools
	Vacation Days
	Report Cards Issued
	1PM Early Dismissal
	End of Grading Period

January										
			1	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
26	27	28	29	30	31					

February										
Su										
						1				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
23	24	25	26	27	28					

March										
Su										
						1				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29				
30	31									

April										
		1	2	3	4	5				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26				
27	28	29	30							

Mav										
Su M Tu W Th F S										
				1	2	3				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

June						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

PARENT RESPONSIBILITY

22.1-279.3. of the Code of Virginia; Parental responsibility and involvement requirements.

A.Each parent of a student enrolled in a public school has a duty to assist the school in enforcing the standards of student conduct and attendance in order that education may be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to persons or property, and supportive of individual rights.

B.A school board shall provide opportunities for parental and community involvement in every school in the school division.

C.Within one calendar month of the opening of school, each school board shall, simultaneously with any other materials customarily distributed at that time, send to the parents of each enrolled student (i) notice of the requirements of this section and (ii) a copy of the school board's standards of student conduct. These materials shall include a notice to the parents that by signing the statement of receipt, parents shall not be deemed to waive, but to expressly reserve, their rights protected by the constitutions or laws of the United States or the Commonwealth and that a parent shall have the right to express disagreement with the school's or school division's policies or decisions.

D.The school principal may request the student's parent to meet with the principal or his designee to review the school board's standards of student conduct and the parent's responsibility to participate with the school in disciplining the student and maintain order, and to discuss improvement of the child's behavior and educational progress.

E.In accordance with 22.1-277 and the guidelines required by 22.1-278, the school principal may notify the parents of any student who violates a school board policy when such violation could result in the student's suspension, whether or not the school administration has imposed such disciplinary action. The notice shall state (i) the date and particulars of the violation; (ii) the obligation of the parent to take actions to assist the school in improving the student's behavior, and (iii) that, if the student is suspended, the parent may be required to accompany the student to meet with the school officials.

F.No suspended student shall be admitted to the regular school program until such student and his parents have met with school officials to discuss improvements of the student's behavior, unless the school principal or his designee determines that readmission, without parent conference, is appropriate for the student.

G.Upon the failure of a parent to comply with the provisions of this section the school board may, by petition to the juvenile and domestic relations court proceed against such parent for willful and unreasonable refusal to participate in efforts to improve the student's behavior, as follows;

- 1. If the court finds that a parent willfully and reasonably failed to meet, pursuant to a request of the principal as set forth in subsection D of this section, to review the school board's standards of student conduct and the parent's reasonability to assist the school in disciplining the student and maintaining order, and to discuss improvement of the child's behavior and educational progress, it may order the parent to so meet or
- 2. If the court finds that the parent has willfully and unreasonably failed to accompany a suspended student to meet with school officials pursuant to section F, or upon the student's receiving a second suspension or being expelled, it may order (i) the student or his parent of participate in such programs or such treatment as the court deems appropriate to improve the student's behavior or (ii) the student or his parents to be subject to such conditions and limitations as the court deems appropriate for the supervision, care and rehabilitation of the student or his parent. In addition, the court may order the parent to pay a civil penalty not to exceed \$500.

H. The civil penalties established pursuant to this section shall be paid into a fund maintained by the appropriate local governing body to support programs or treatments designed to improve the behavior of the students as described in subdivision 3 of subsection G. Upon the failure to pay the civil penalties imposed by this section, the attorney for the appropriate county, city or town shall enforce the collection of such civil penalties.

I.All references in this section to the juvenile and domestic relations court shall be also deemed to mean any successor in interest of such court.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 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 U.S. Department of Education.

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. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.

Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which 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 (34 CFR § 99.31):

- School officials with legitimate educational interest;
- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- 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 officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- 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, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

For additional information or technical assistance, you may call (202) 260-3887 (voice). Individuals who use TDD may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. Or you may contact us at the following address:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202-5920

Greene County Public Schools 40 Celt Road Stanardsville, VA 22973 Phone - (434) 939-9000Fax - (434) 985-4686

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER PPRA

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) (20 U.S.C. 1232h; 34 CFR Part 98) applies to programs that receive funding from the U.S. Department of Education (ED). PPRA is intended to protect the rights of parents and students in two ways:

- It seeks to ensure that schools and contractors make instructional materials available for inspection by parent if those materials will be used in connection with an ED-funded survey, analysis, or evaluation in which their children participate
- It seeks to ensure that schools and contractors obtain written parental consent before minor students are required to participate in any EDfunded survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:
 - Political affiliations
 - Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student and his/ her family
 - Sex behavior and attitudes
 - Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior
 - Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships
 - Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program)

Parents or students who believe their rights under PPRA may have been violated may file a complaint with ED by writing the Family Policy Compliance Office. Complaints must contain specific allegations of fact giving reasonable cause to believe that a violation of PPRA occurred.

For additional information or technical assistance, you may call 202-260-3887 (voice). Individuals who use TDD may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Or you may contact us at the following address:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 202-5920

RIGHT TO KNOW

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Greene County School System is making every effort to provide the best educational experience for your child. To that end, the system works very hard to recruit and employ the best teachers for your children.

You, as a parent or guardian of a child in the Greene County School System, have a right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) your child works with each day. You have a right to request the following information regarding a teacher

1. Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.

2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.

3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field or discipline of the certification or degree.

In addition, if your child is provided services by a paraprofessional, you may request information regarding that person's qualifications as well.

If you are interested in obtaining the above information, you may make a written request to:

Dr. Kyle Pursel, Assistant Superintendent Greene County Public Schools 40 Celt Road Stanardsville, VA 22973

This information will be forwarded to you in a timely manner.

We look forward to working with you now and in the future to make our schools the best they can be.

GENERAL INFORMATION

HOW CAN I VOLUNTEER

At Greene County Public Schools we belive in sharing the responsibility for the education of all students with our community. Parent and family volunteers are necessary to the success of our schools and organizations. There is a great deal of research that suggests that parenting and parental involvement are the most significant factors in student success.

Some ways parents can be involved:

- Join your schools PTO/PTA or organizations booster club
- Contact your child's teacher or administrator and ask how you can help
- Set goals with your child and their teacher

All volunteers should complete the volunteer packet and background check form prior to working in the building. *Link to volunteer paperwork*

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR SCHOOL

Greene County Public Schools is committed to listening to parents and community members with the goal of making decisions in the best interest of children. As in any professional organization, we want our staff to treat all adults with respect and patience. We, in return, expect the same courtesy from parents and/or community members. We understand that we are accountable for providing a quality educational experience for students, but also recognize that educating students is a shared responsibility involving schools, parents and the community at large.Parents can expect to hear back from teachers or administration within 24 hours.

Chain of Communication:

When a parent has a question regarding an incident in the classroom or particular actions by a teacher, the parent should:

- First, contact the teacher directly by phone, email or written letter.
- Second, contact a building administrator if you still have questions or concerns.
- Third, contact the school board office and speak to Mrs. Katie Brunelle, Director of Administrative Services.
- Fourth, contact Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent, if you still have questions or concerns.



General Information

School Cash Online

SchoolCashOnline

Secure Online Payments for School Items & Activity Fees

Login Page

Already have an account? Log in here

Parent Help Desk

Use this link to access the parent helpdesk

What is SchoolCash Online?



SchoolCashOnline allows parents to easily make online payments for school fees for their students.

- Track school items and activity fees.
- Stay connected by receiving email notifications of new fees.
- 3. View and print receipts.

How to Register

There are two ways for parents to create an account:

- Our SchoolCash system sends an invitation email to priority one contacts**, who can click a link to start the registration process and attach their student(s) to their profile. They can then optionally make their students available to the profiles of a family member, assuming that family member has created an account.
- Any parent can create an account by visiting our district's SchoolCash Online page: https://greenecounty.schoolcashonline.com

**At the time of registration(new students)/re-registration(returning students) families would have selected this individual as the first person for schools to contect.

NOTE: Only the priority one contact can add students to their profile. Priority one contacts must add additional users in order for them to submit payments.

Troubling Shooting Support

The Parent Help Desk for SchoolCash Online contains a FAQ and troubleshooting information.

https://helpdesk.supportschoolcashonline.com/en/support/home?email=&board_name= Greene%20County%20Public%20Schools&mw=0&mp=0

Should you have any additional questions and concerns that cannot be answered at the Help Desk, please contact your school's bookkeeper.

****REMINDER:** As you register your student please use your students Identification number (lunch number) and the student last name as is appears in powerschool.

General Information

Emergency Drills

Safe School Drills will be held periodically throughout the school year. The purpose of these drills are to prepare students and staff for emergency situations. Greene County Public School staff and/or emergency personnel will be giving students directions when there is a need to conduct a drill or evacuation. Safe school drills include the following:

FIRE DRILL: When the alarm sounds, please leave the room in a safe and orderly manner. Directions for leaving the room will be given to students by teachers during the first week of school. If the alarm sounds during a change of classes, students should leave the building using the nearest exit. Staff and students will be notified when it is safe to re-enter the building. Unless otherwise instructed, students will return to the classroom last occupied.

EVACUATION DRILL: In the event the building needs to be evacuated during the school day, students and staff will participate in a practice evacuation drill at the beginning of the school year. Students will receive details regarding these drills from their teachers.

INTRUDER DRILL: To enhance student safety and staff preparedness, students will participate in multiple intruder drills. Details will be provided to students by teachers.



TORNADO DRILL: An announcement will be made over the intercom alerting teachers and students to begin this drill. Students will move into the hallways or into interior classrooms away from outside doors. Students will sit along the wall with their hands and arms protecting their heads. Students will be notified by intercom or in person at the conclusion of this drill

ATTENDANCE

What You Can Expect

School attendance is critical for your child's academic achievement and personal development. In accordance with <u>Virginia Code § 22.1-254</u>, youth who have reached their fifth birthday on or before September 30th and who have not yet reached their eighteenth birthday must attend school. Students are expected to arrive on time and attend all classes each day.

Did you know?

- Regularattendanceinelementaryschoolimprovesthechancesthatachildwillreadon grade level.
- Studentswhoattend90%ormoreoftheschoolyeararemorelikelytograduatefrom high school on time.
- Absencescanbeasignthatachildislosinginterestinschool, strugglingwithlearning, dealing with peer conflicts, or facing a more serious challenge.

VerifiedAbsences. Parents and guardians are expected to contact your child's school by phone, note, or e-mail to notify the school of their absence. Parents are encouraged to provide official documentation of illness or other appointments for their child's school record. All parent notifications and documentation will be logged as parent verified/excused (PV) absences in the PowerSchool database. Parents wishing to request a prearranged absence must make the request in writing to the building principal. A Supplemental School schedule will be created with the parent and student to support lost learning time.

Unverified Absences

When a student does not report to school on a regularly scheduled school day and no information is provided by the parent or guardian about the reason for the absence, school personnel will attempt to contact the home phone or email to obtain verification. If there is no indication that the parent or guardian is aware of and supports the absence, it will be logged as an unverified/unexcused (UNV) absence in the PowerSchool database. Please view Policy JED and this linked document to learn more about GCPS policies and procedures for addressing unverified/unexcused absences.

Chronic Absence

Chronic absenteeism is defined as a student missing 10% or more of the school year at any given point in time for any reason—as few as two days per month! We are committed to supporting students and their families with attending school all day, every day. When your child is approaching this level of absenteeism, your school team will reach out to schedule a phone call or meeting to create an Attendance Support Plan with you. All students will be provided with the opportunity to attend our Supplemental School program after school or on Saturdays.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Each parent/guardian has the responsibility for making sure their child is appropriately dressed for school. Following these simple rules will serve as a guide for appropriate school dress:



Students who do not meet the dress codes will be asked if they have a change of clothes in the building. If not, parents will be called to either bring in a change of clothes, or to pick up the student to go home and change.



VISITING MY CHILD'S SCHOOL

All visitors to our buildings must enter through the main office. There will be a buzzer and intercom system located at the main doors to communicate with you as you arrive at the main entrance. Please be prepared to show identification once you have been admitted into the building.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Students may possess cellular telephone, smart phone, smart watch, tablet, or other communications device on school property, provided that the device must remain "off and away" during school hours with the exception of the lunch period for high school students.

At no time may any device be used with an unfiltered connection to the Internet. The division is not liable for devices brought to school or school activities.

Students shall comply with all staff directions regarding communications devices. If students violate the "off and away" expectations, they will be asked to relinquish their devices to administration for the remainder of the day. If this behavior continues, confiscated devices will only be released to parents/guardians at the end of the day.

POLICY JFC-R

Field Trips/Chaperone Policy

Students, staff and chaperones participating in the field trip must use school-sponsored transportation to and from the event.

Parents who wish to chaperone a field trip are required to have a background check as stated in the GCPS Volunteer Handbook and must be approved by school administration. If a parent has submitted the background check but it has not been returned, he/she may attend and ride the bus, but cannot chaperone other students.

In instances where chaperones are limited, chaperones who have returned background checks will be prioritized. If a parent has not submitted the necessary paperwork required for a background check, they will not be permitted to attend as part of the field trip.

Threat Assessments

Assessment and Care Team

School Safety

- A threat is a concerning communication or behavior that suggests a person may intend to harm someone else or themselves. The threat may be spoken, written, or gestured. It may be observed by or communicated directly to the target of the threat, or it may be observed by or communicated to a third party.
- Threat assessment is mandated in all public K-12 schools and institutions of higher education in Virginia. Threat assessment in Virginia is a fact-based process relying primarily on an appraisal of behaviors to identify potentially dangerous or violent situations, and to address them in a professional and timely manner.
- It is important to remember that the role of the threat assessment team is protective and preventative. The team's goal is to maintain the health, safety, and well-being of all persons involved, while also connecting the subject(s) of concern with appropriate intervention.
- At Greene County Public Schools, our threat assessment team is known as the "Assessment and Care Team" (ACT) and includes, at a minimum, building and central office administrators, school counselors, school psychologists, and school resource officers.
- Upon receipt of information that a student has said or done something that indicates inflicted or desired harm to themselves or someone else, an initial report will be made, safety measures (if needed) put into place, and two members of the ACT will decide if a full assessment is warranted.
 - If the individual appears to pose an imminent threat of serious violence, the team leader or school administrator (or designee) shall notify law enforcement.
 - Upon a preliminary determination that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others, the threat assessment team shall immediately report its determination to the superintendent or designee.
 - If it is determined that there is no identifiable threat/concern or that there is a low level of concern, the appropriate member of the team shall ensure that the individual is referred to the appropriate school- or community-based resources.
- After assessment, a member of the team will contact the parent to notify them of the level of concern and recommended actions.

Title I and Your Rights

Nathanael Greene Primary School and Nathanael Greene Elementary School are designated as Schoolwide Title I Schools. This designation provides additional funds to ensure high-quality education, professional development, and support family and parent engagement. All teachers and paraprofessionals in Title I schools are required to be properly licensed and endorsed. Parents have the right to request information on Teacher Qualifications and must be informed if their student is taught by a teacher for more than 4 weeks that does not meet certification/licensing requirements.

Search and Seizure

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched by a school official whenever the official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated or is about to violate the law or a school rule and that the search will yield evidence of the violation.

All individual searches of students must be based on reasonable suspicion. In order to be permissible, the search must be:

- 1. justified at its inception and
- 2. reasonably related in scope to the circumstances justifying the search.



An individual search is justified at its inception when a school official has reasonable grounds, totality of based on the the circumstances, for suspecting that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. A search is reasonable in scope when it is reasonably related to the objectives of the search and is not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the suspected infraction.

A personal search may include requiring a student to be scanned with a metal detector.

POLICY JFG

Student Records

The GREENE COUNTY School Board maintains accurate and complete records for every student enrolled in the public schools in accordance with all federal and state laws.

The superintendent and/or designee(s) is responsible for the collection of data, record maintenance and security, access to, and use of records, confidentiality of personally identifiable information, dissemination of information from records, and destruction of records, including the destruction of personally identifiable information regarding a student with a disability at the request of the parents. The superintendent also provides for notification of all school division personnel of policy and procedures for management of education records and notification of parents and students of their rights regarding student records, including the right to obtain, upon request, a copy of this policy.

Policy JO

School Resource Officer



The School Resource Officer (SRO) is an officer of the law and as such must enforce legal statutes. The SRO has the authority to stop, question, interview and take enforcement action if needed without prior notification to the principal but every effort will be made to notify the principal or designee as soon as possible. He must act in conjunction with the law that obligates him to bring forth consequences that may be stronger or lesser than the school would prescribe.

STUDENT COOPERATION WITH OFFICERS OF THE LAW

When it becomes necessary for any law enforcement officer to interrogate (including the administration of Miranda rights) a student on school premises, the principal or designee shall be contacted immediately. The principal or designee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent or guardian and have a parent or guardian in attendance for the conference. If the parent or guardian cannot be present for the conference, then the principal or designee shall be present throughout the interrogation.

Harassment and Sexual Harassment

The GREENE COUNTY School Board is committed to maintaining an educational environment and workplace that is free from harassment. In accordance with law, the Board prohibits harassment against students, employees, or others on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, military status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law or based on a belief that such characteristic exists, hereinafter referred to as protected group status, at school or any school sponsored activity.

Policy JFHA/GBA

APPEALING A DISCIPLINE ACTION

If a parent/guardian chooses to appeal a suspension decision, the appeal procedure is as follows:

- Any appeal of a short-term suspension, ten (10) days or less, must be made in writing to the school with five (5) school days of receipt of the short-term suspension notification.
 - Decisions made by an assistant principal are appealed to the building principal.
 - Decisions made by the building principal are appealed to the Superintendent's designee.
 - The decision of the Superintendent's designee to uphold a suspension of ten (10) days or less may not be appealed to the School Board.
- Decisions made by the Superintendent to uphold long-term suspensions
 of 11 to 45 days may be appealed to the School Board. The request for an
 appeal must be made in writing to the Superintendent within five (5) days
 of receipt of the notification of the Superintendent's decision.
- In-school suspension and detention decisions may only be appealed at the school level, not to the Superintendent or designee.

PARENT PORTAL

Parent Portal is a way for parents to check their child's grades online. Parents will be able to sign up and get their access cards at Open House or at any time in the Main Office. Please note that parents will need to show photo identification to pick up their access card.

How to Create a Parent/Guardian Account:

Use this procedure to create a new parent/guardian account. In order to create an account you must have the Access ID and Access Password for each student you have enrolled in school. You will then associate each child with your parent/guardian account using the individual Access IDs and Passwords. The Access IDs and Passwords are assigned by the school.

Follow these steps to create your Parent Single Sign-On account:

Greene County Public School parents are able to access real-time information for their student such as:

- * Current grades in all classes (Grades 1-12)
- * Grades and/or completion status of individual assignments (Grades 1-12)
- * Attendance
- * Grade History (Grades 1-12)

You will also be able to choose what alerts are sent to you, when the alerts will be sent, and how the alerts are sent to you.

The Parent Portal is an excellent tool for helping parents monitor their child's progress. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity. Sign-up is easy and takes only a few minutes!

To set up your account:

- * Go to our web site at www.greenecountyschools.com and select the Parents menu option.
- * Select Parent Portal.
- * Select **Create Account**. Enter all information accordingly. You must create your own user name and password.
- * Please enter the below student specific information under Link Students to Account.

Your student's Access ID is
Your student's Access Password is

Once your account has been created, select **Power School Parent Portal Overview** for a tutorial on how to use the Parent Portal.

If you are choosing to download the PowerSchool Mobile app to your phone, you will need to enter the **District Code** of **QTMC**.

Should you have any questions please contact:

Ruckersville Elementary	Megan Ice	434-939-9006 ext. 7900
Nathanael Greene Primary	Shanna Deane	434-939-9002 ext. 3828
Nathanael Greene Elementary	Tina Shifflett	434-939-9001 ext. 2803
William Monroe Middle	Dawn Thomas	434-939-9003 ext. 4905
William Monroe High	Barbara Wertman	434-939-9004 ext. 5908

When you have filled in all the information and added all your children, click "enter," then log in with the new account you just created.

Once you complete the new account set-up and add all your children, you can access the various account settings for email notices, etc. by clicking the "Account Preferences" icon found on the top navigation menu.

STOPit APP

Elementary and Middle School Students

We will utilize the online STOPit reporting system in an effort to mitigate bullying and unkind student behaviors. Both students and parents will have access to the STOPit mobile app and can report anonymously. School officials will review each report, investigate, and act accordingly. Our goal is to create safer school communities both in school and online.

Gaggle

Middle and High School Students

Gaggle is a comprehensive student safety management service used to protect our students against harmful content on school provided devices or devices using school issued accounts. Gaggle flags concerning content in students' school-issued accounts for review and blocks potentially harmful content.

SCHOOL CLOSING OR DELAY

Changes in school hours due to inclement weather will be announced on local radio, television and through School Messenger (Instant Alert System used by Greene County Public Schools) as soon as word is received from the superintendent of schools.

Family Life Education

The GREENE COUNTY School Board provides Family Life Education (FLE) based on the FLE Standards of Learning (SOL) and curriculum guidelines developed by the Board of Education. The School Board reviews its family life education curricula at least once every seven years, evaluates whether the curricula reflects contemporary community standards, and revises the curricula if necessary. A parent or guardian has the right to review the family life curricula upon request.

Policy: IGAH

Health and Physical Education

Physical education provides students with the knowledge, processes, and skills to become physically educated, physically fit and responsible in their physical activity choices and behaviors for a lifetime. Our students will also participate in Health Education. Health education is intended to provide students with skills and understanding to improve, sustain and promote personal, family and community health.

Art and Music Appreciation

Fine arts—dance arts, music, theatre arts, and visual arts is part of the comprehensive education in the public schools. Knowledge and skills that students acquire through fine arts instruction include the abilities to think critically, solve problems resourcefully, communicate effectively, work collaboratively, understand historical and cultural perspectives, and exercise creative thinking by employing originality, flexibility, and imagination.

Gifted Education

GCPS is dedicated to providing engaging and challenging learning opportunities for gifted students in grades K-12. Each student's individual strengths and needs are considered through differentiated curricula, instructional materials, and finished products. Screening for gifted services includes administering the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) in grades two and four. Please click HERE to learn more.



SOL TESTING

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) requires school divisions to administer the Standards of Learning assessments (SOLs) in Reading and Mathematics (grades 3-8), Science (grades 5 and 8), Virginia Studies (grade 4), and Civics (grade 7) each Spring. High school students will take SOL assessments in Reading, Math, and Science to earn verified credits and to meet federal participation requirements. Please see the attached letter for more information.

VKRP and **VALLSS**

The VALLSS (Virginia Language & Literacy Screening System) gives a snapshot of critical literacy skills for students in preschool through third grade. The screener identifies students at risk for developing reading difficulties and provides instructionally useful information to target instruction. A student reading plan will be created for any student not meeting benchmark on the screener.

The VKRP (Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program) provides a picture of school readiness in mathematics, self-regulation, and social skills.





BENCHMARK ASSESSMENTS

Benchmark assessments are given to students at various points throughout the school year depending on course pacing. Benchmark assessments are not graded, but provide useful information for teachers regarding extension, reteaching, and remediation.

Division Literacy Plan

In Greene County Public Schools, our unwavering vision is to create a learning community where every student, from kindergarten to grade 12, not only receives solid core instruction but also thrives in an enriching literacy environment. Our commitment is grounded in scientifically based reading research and evidence-based practices, ensuring that every classroom, every day, provides robust instruction in phonological awareness, systematic phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension in grades K-5. For more information, please visit our website to read the plan in its entirety.

Balanced Assessment Plan

Greene County Public Schools believes that all students should engage in relevant and authentic learning experiences. Our balanced assessment plan includes the use of various types of assessments, both common across grade levels/content areas and specific to classroom instruction. Common performance assessments are implemented at every grade level with a specific focus on the following: Grade 3 Science and History, Grade 5 US I, Grade 6 USII, World Geography (state developed), World History I(state developed), World History II(state developed), Virginia and United States History(state developed) and end of course Writing Grades 9-11. These performance assessments are given in addition to various types of formative assessments and multiple choice/open-ended summative assessments to measure students' understanding of standards of learning and inform instructional planning and curriculum pacing.

School Quality Profiles

The Virginia Department of Education annually makes a School Quality Profile available for each school division in the Commonwealth. You can access this report by visiting www.schoolquality.virginia.gov. The link to the profile is also on each school's website under Parents and on the Division website under Instruction—School Report Cards.

ONLINE LEARNING

<u>SEESAW</u>

"Seesaw is the leading learning experience platform developed specifically for PreK-6 students. Seesaw combines instructional tools, standards-aligned lessons, student portfolios, and inclusive communication features that bring learning to life for over 25 million students, teachers, and families worldwide.

For more information, visit https://seesaw.com/all-in-one-platform."

https://help.seesaw.me/hc/en-us/articles/115003713306-What-is-Seesaw

https://help.seesaw.me/hc/en-us/categories/4525919080333-Families-Students

CANVAS

"Canvas LMS is an open and reliable web-based software that allows institutions to manage digital learning, educators to create and present online learning materials and assess student learning, and students to engage in courses and receive feedback about skill development and learning achievement." https://community.canvas/ms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-is-Canvas/ta-

https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-is-Canvas/ta-p/45

On our Website:

Canvas support (WMHS and WMMS):

Video Presentation of Slides: Back to School Canvas Basics - Parent Edition

Google Slides: Back to School Canvas Basics - Parent Edition

Canvas Login Information for Students & Observer Pairing Information for Parents

Link to GCPS Canvas Login

Students will log in to Canvas using their Google credentials.



ADMINISTRATION

Principal: Kris Wimmer kwimmer@greenecountyschools.com

Assistant Principals: Dr. Kevin Anderson Gina Shipman Jesse Lamm



OUR SCHOOL DAY

School Begins: 7:55 AM School Ends: 3:00 PM

INFORMATION

Principals Welcome

Bell Schedule

Building Map

Code of Conduct

<u>Counseling Lin</u>k

<u>Diploma Types</u>

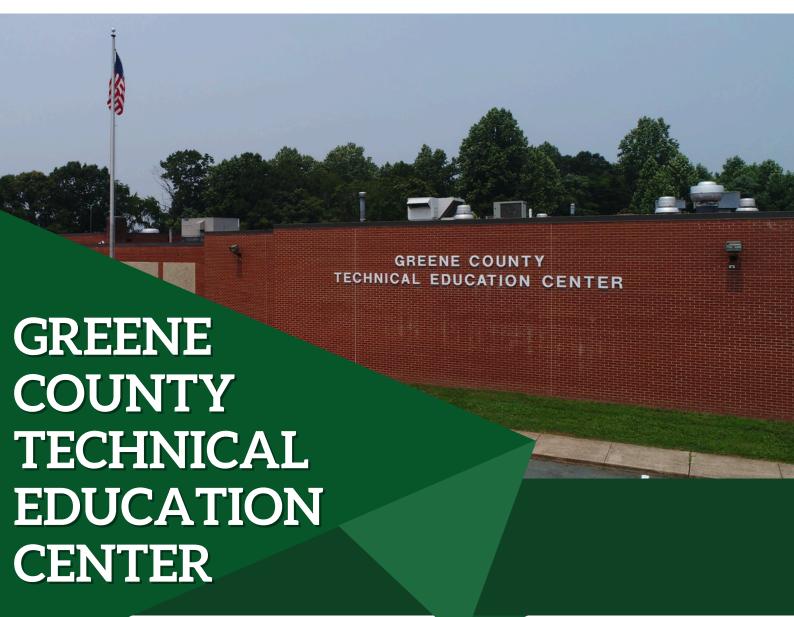
<u>3 E's</u>

Student Parking

Tardies/Early Dismissal

To be a Student in Good Standing WMHS Staff







ABOUT US

The mission of the Greene County
Technical Education Center is to provide
students with an opportunity to develop
life skills .GCTEC provides an
opportunity for secondary students to
receive training in a career and technical
program, which, upon completion, will
lead to employment or further training
in college, an apprenticeship, or postsecondary school.

OUR FACILITIES

The Greene County Technical Education Center is home to ten hands-on learning labs where students are able to explore a number of different career path opportunities. 17 classroom spaces are also home to course pathways from Business to Welding. Once students have honed in on their post-graduate path, they have the opportunity to earn industry credentials in their desired fields of study.



INFORMATION

- Principal's Welcome
- GCTEC Staff
- Program of Studies
- Bell Schedule
- <u>Map</u>
- <u>Credentialing Information</u>
- <u>Student Transportation & Parking Information</u>
- Work Based Learning









INFORMATION

Principals Welcome

Bell Schedule

Building Map

Parent Portal Instructions

Social Probation

Visit or website for more https://wmms.greenecountyschools.com/ Call To Find Out More 434-939-9003

We Are Located At: 148 Monroe Drive Stanardsville, VA 22973





INFORMATION

<u>Principals Welcome</u>

Arriving and Departing School

Character Education

Discipline

Expectations

<u>Grading</u>

<u>Homework</u>

Lost and Found

School Fundraisers

Student Behavior

Student Support Services

Staff LIst

Find us at:





ADMINISTRATION

Principal: ADAM MIDOCK amidock@greenecountyschools.com

Assistant Principal: Linda Hirw lhirw@greenecountypublicschools.com

School Starts at 8:10 AM School Ends at 3:00 PM

I pledge to do my best In reading, math and all the rest.

I'll be responsible in all I do.
I'll respect myself and others

I'm here to learn and succeed. I will do my best -GUARANTEED!



INFORMATION

<u>Principal's Message</u>

Building Map

NGES Staff

School Pledge

Grading & Homework Policy

Pick-up & Drop-off

Office Referrals

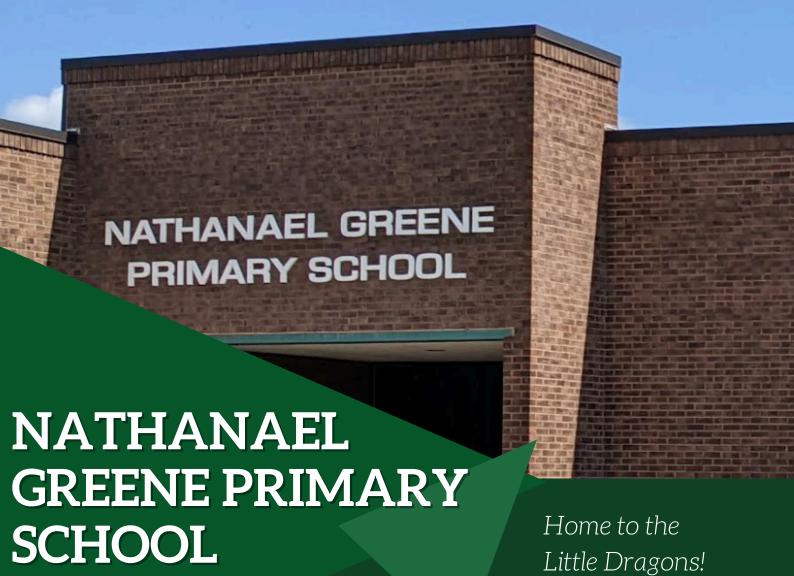
Other Important Facts

Visit or website for more

https://nges.greenecountyschools.com/

Call To Find Out More 424-939-9001

Find us at: 8094 Spotswood Trail Stanardsville, VA. 22973





INFORMATION

Principals Message

Building Map

NGPS STAFF

SCHOOL PLEDGE

GRADING AND HOMEWORK

PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF

OFFICE REFERRALS

OTHER IMPORTANT FACTS

Visit or website for more https://ngps.greenecountyschools.com/

Call To Find Out More 434-939-9002 Find us at: 64 Monroe Drive Stanardsville, VA. 22973





ABOUT US

Paula Mercado GCPS EL Liaison pmercado@greenecount yschools.com 434-939-9006 ext. 7411

Available to assist with Interpretation needs...

- Language Line
- International Rescue Committee



INFORMATION

What do I need to know about EL services

EL Liaison Paula Mercado

Visit our website for more www.greenecountypublicschools.com





Assumption of Risk

Transportation

Injured Athlete

<u>Sportsmanship</u>

Online Tickets

WMHS Athletic Schedules

Fall Athletics-WMHS

Winter Athletics-WMHS

Spring Athletics-WMHS

VHSL Activities-WMHS

WMMS Athletic Teams

VHSL Eligibility

Opponents & Their Address

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION (WMHS/WMMS)

VHSL Physical Form







OUR NURSES

Toni Allen, WMHS Maegan Walton, WMMS Cindy Knight, NGPS Alisha Coleman, NGES Tina Watson, RES Our nursing staff is committed to providing the best possible care for your child while he/she attends Greene County Public Schools. We acknowledge that our ability to provide this care begins with help from parents and/or guardians. We ask you to provide the nursing staff with any information pertaining to the health of your child. This will include forms sent home to be completed by you or information that you want the staff to be aware that may not be included on forms.

INFORMATION

Allergy Care Plan
Allergy Management
Asthma Action Plan
Contract for Self-Carried
Medication

<u>Diabetes Management Plan</u>

<u>General Illness Guidelines</u>

<u>Lice</u>

Medicine Authorization Form

Nurse Contact Information

Required Vacinations

School Seizure Action Plan

School Seizure Questionnaire

Visit our Health Services website for more information https://www.greenecountyschools.com/departments/health-services





ABOUT US

Director of School Nutrition: Heather Blades hblades@greenecountyschoo ls.com

Nutrition Secretary: Joyce Woodson

Our nutrition program takes pride in the food we serve and goes the extra mile to make sure students are seen, cared for, and valued. Nutrition is one of the most basic and most important needs in life, especially among growing minds and bodies.



INFORMATION

Allergy Management

<u>Dietary Modification Medical</u> <u>Statement Form</u>

School Menus

Visit our website for more

https://www.greenecountyschools.com/departments/school-nutrition

Call To Find Out More 434-939-9000



The mission of the Special Services Department is to make a positive difference in the lives of children and youth so they will achieve their highest potential. The staff is dedicated to serve students by providing an extensive support network through commitment, guidance and support for students, parents, and educators in Greene County Public Schools.

ABOUT US

Director of Special Education: Dr. Wendy Mitchem

Coordinator of Special Services: Christi Dojack

Administrative Assistant: Ashleigh Norris



INFORMATION

Child Find

504

Sensory Disabilities

Parent Resources

<u>Special Education Advisory</u> Committee





INFORMATION

1:1 Initiative

Parent Permission
Chromebook Guidelines &
Cyber Citizenship

Device Take-Home Agreement

Acceptable Use Policy

Middle/High School
Elementary School
Primary School

Access to Technology

Visit our website for more

technology@greenecountyschools.com

Email us at



ABOUT US

Director of Transportation: Larry Morris

lmorris@greenecountyschools.c

Asst. Director of Transportation: Debbie Manuel

dmanuel@greenecountyschools.

OUR FLEET

Greene County Public Schools Transportation serves more than 2,500 students within our school division. The Greene County Transportation approximately personnel operating more than 55 buses, cars and vans.



INFORMATION

services to our students, our schools and our community.

Bus Drivers

<u>Transportation Rules</u> Stanardsville Bus Routes

Ruckersville Bus Routes

Here Comes the Bus Information

Student Release Agreement

Nathanael Greene Bus Line-up

RES Bus Line-Up

WMHS/WMMS Bus Line-Up

Inclement Weather Information



FREQUENTLY VIEWED POLICIES

IGBGA: Online Courses and Virtual School

<u>Programs</u>

IGAH: Family Life Education

IKF: Va Assessment Program & Graduation
Requirements

JEA: Compulsory Attendance

JFC: Student Conduct

JFCE: Gang Activity or Association

JFG: Search and Seizure

JFCB: Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity

JFCF: Drugs in School

JFCH: Tobacco Products & Nicotine Vapor
Products

JFHA-GBA: Prohibition Aganist Harassment and Retaliation

JGD/JGE: Student Suspension/Expulsion

JHCD: Administering Medicines to Students

JN: Student Fees, Fines and Charges

JO: Student Records

JOA: Student Transcripts

KG: Community Use of Facilities

KGB: Public Conduct on School Property

KP: Parental Rights and Responsibilities

These policies are provided in this handbook because they tend to be frequently searched by parents and community members. These policies may change throughout the school year so always reger to the GCPS Policy Manual to ensure you are viewing the most up to date information.