GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL PTA

GHS PARENT SURVIVAL GUIDE 2026-2027

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GHS DAILY OPERATIONS

Most of the information on the GHS website, on the links below, will be updated around August 21, 2026 and when appropriate throughout the school year.

GHS website

The **GHS WEBSITE** is where you will find just about all the information you need about the school. If you haven't taken time to look through the website – or if it's been a while – it is worth doing that to familiarize yourself with the incredible amount of information available.

Calendars

The GHS PTA School Events Calendar is a list of virtually all of the key events for parents to be aware of at. GHS throughout the year.

There is a Greenwich Public Schools (GPS) searchable online calendar which has key dates and district and Board of Education (BOE) meetings and events. There is also a one-page printable **2026-2027 GPS Calendar**.

BUS ROUTES

You can find the bus routes and times on the GPS district "Transportation" webpage.

School Day Start and End Time:

Buses drop off students between 7:20 – 7:35.
"Cardinal Kickoff" time from 7:30-7:50 am gives students time to have breakfast, meet with teachers, have club activities, socialize, get organized for the day, etc.
Students are to be in class by 7:55 am.
Last class ends 2:25 pm.

Block and Bell Schedule

GHS operates on a rotating "Block Schedule" that is optimized to provide students with more opportunity to take more classes. Students have 8 blocks (classes) in their schedules, with 6 instructional class periods per day. The block schedule rotates through all 8 blocks in the students' schedules over an 8-day period, with the daily schedules labeled "A" through "H".

The block schedule is changing slightly for the 2026-2027 school year to add more consistency in the day-to-day schedule.
Blocks 1 and 2 will only meet in the first 2 periods of the day.
Blocks 3 and 4 will meet in the first 4 periods of the day.
Block 5 will meet in periods 3, 4 or 5
Block 6 will meet in periods 3, 4, 5 or 6
Blocks 7 and 8 will only meet in the last 2 blocks of the day (periods 5 or 6).

You can find the bell schedule (the time for each class period), the block schedule, lunch wave schedule, and much more on the GHS "Schedules" webpage.

Cardinal Café

The cafeteria is open for breakfast and lunch. Here are the Menus (scroll down to the section "Lunch Menus – 2026-2027" and then click on the "High School" tab).

Lunch Schedule

Period 5 is the 85 minute long "lunch block" period, which runs from 12:00 – 1:25. During period 5 there are four distinct 25 minute "lunch waves" which give students a specific time to eat, based on the class they have during the lunch block period. You can find more details on the GHS "Schedules" webpage.

LUNCH MENUS AND PRICES

You can find up to date information on the GPS district "Food Services" webpage.

Cell Phones and Digital Devices

In June 2026, the BOE voted to have the Superintendent put in place regulations that ban student use of all cell phones and personal devices "from bell to bell" – the entire school day, including lunch.

This will be the first school year under these new regulations, but it is expected that students caught using cell phones or digital devices will have those confiscated. It is also expected that parents will have to reclaim confiscated digital devices.

Closed Campus

There is expected to be an increased focus on enforcing the closed campus policy in the 2026-2027 school year.

GHS has long had a policy that only seniors are allowed to leave campus at any time during the school day, including lunch and the last period of the day (no leaving early, even if it is an open block). However, it has become fairly common to see students from all grades go off campus, particularly at lunch or when they have an open block.

Attendance Procedures

Please review the Attendance Section of the GHS Student Handbook. It is expected that there will be more focus on student attendance in the 2026-2027 school year.

To report an absence please call the house attendance line before 12 PM on the day of the absence:

Bella	(203) 863-8883
Cantor	(203) 863-8847
Clark	(203) 625-8053
Folsom	(203) 987-1370
Sheldon	(203) 625-8065

Daily Bulletin

GHS posts a Daily Bulletin on the school website. There you can find information about the days events and upcoming happenings at GHS. Daily Bulletin

Dropping off Items or Lunch for Students

Parents can drop off items at the main security desk and it will be held for student pick up.

Uber Eats and other food deliveries are not allowed in the building. Student must meet the driver by the front doors, or the driver can leave the delivery wherever they find room in the front of the school. For detailed visitor information see this link: visitor information

Media Center

The media center hours are 7:30 – 2:25 and the phone is (203) 625-8001 Library

New Student Information

For new student registration click on the link for most up to date requirements Registration

Parent Portals

The parent portals will allow parents to access information about your child's academic records and class/courses, and to receive information from the District and schools. You can find the link to the portals here for all the portals. The specific portals are ASPEN (for grades and class schedules), Google Classroom and SCOIR (college planning – only accessible to juniors and seniors).

School Day Cancellations and Delayed Start Times

If there is a delay start time or if school is cancelled – for weather or any other reason – you will receive a call and email from the GPS automated system that will be sent to the main telephone number and email address you provided to the district when you registered your student. Those contacts are also where you will receive other communications and newsletters from the district. If you need to update your contact information or have any questions, you should reach out to the GHS Registrar, Anne Kelly: email: anne_kelly@greenwich.k12.ct.us, phone: (203) 863-8844. The PTA is not able to help with this.

Your contact information with GHS and the GPS district is separate from the contact information you provide to the PTA to receive our school news and for the directory.

Important notices are also posted on the GPS district website

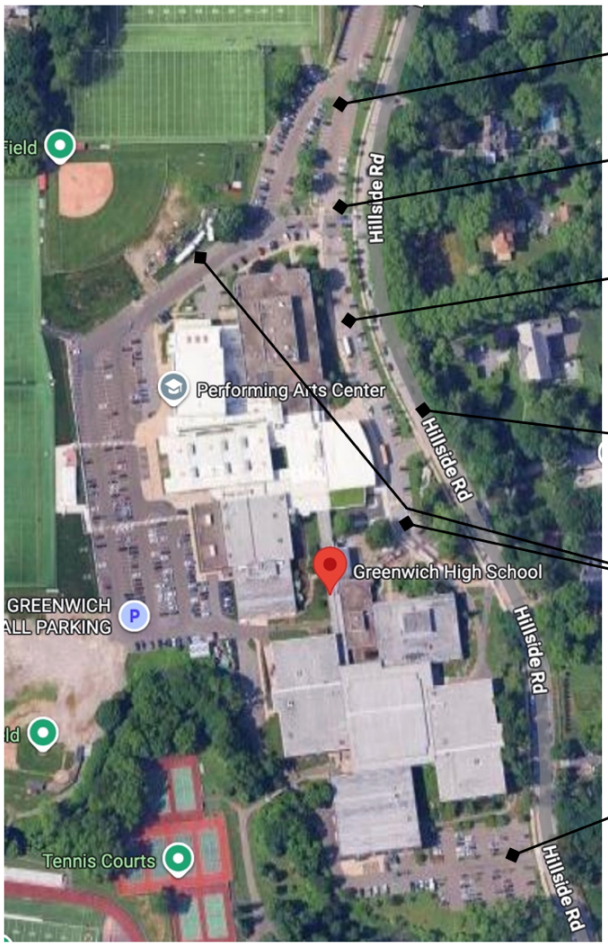
Tech Help

Students and Parents can refer to the Tech Help page on the GHS Website for information on troubleshooting. Students can also fill out the "Tech Help Form" if they need support from a Library Media Specialist.

WI-FI

For Wi-Fi access at all GPS schools, use: Network Name (SSID) Greenwich-Schools-Guest and Password: **gpswifi1**

Parking and Traffic on the GHS Campus



Senior Parking – don't go here if you're not a senior.

Main Entrance and Exit for drop off and pick up. ***NO LEFT TURN*** coming out, onto Hillside.

Bus Circle and Fire Lane
Closed during morning drop off and afternoon pick up. Open to cars at other times.
Never, Ever Block the Lane!

Hillside Rd.
Dropping off, picking up, stopping, and U-turns are all prohibited (and ticketable) on Hillside Rd.

Visitor Parking. About 5 spaces at the front of the school, and about 8 by the athletic fields, clearly marked. Do not park in spaces that are not marked "visitor parking" – you will get a ticket.

Teacher Parking – don't go here if you're not a teacher. Dropping off and picking up in the teacher parking area is prohibited.

Drop Off Traffic



Dropping Off in the Morning

Enter from Hillside Rd and drive all the way to the back aisle of the back parking lot then proceed all the way around (follow the green line — on the map).

Do not drive through the other parking aisles – teachers and administrators are parking, students are walking, it is unsafe and causes confusion and delays.

Drop off at the central entryway rear entrance or at the back of the athletics area (the 2 blue arrows ➔).

Do not drop off anywhere else – it's just plain rude and causes delays for everyone.

Exit following the red line —
Do not drive through the other parking aisles and remember, **no left turn onto Hillside Rd**!

THE GHS PTA

GHS PTA PRESIDENTS EMAIL CONTACT

2026-2027 GHS PTA PRESIDENTS: John Fisher & Beth Acerbo
ghspta@ghspta.org

GHS PTA WEBSITES – There Are Two GHS PTA Websites!

The GHS PTA's primary website can be found here:
https://greenwichhspta.membershiptoolkit.com/

On that website you will find a wealth of information including the GHS calendar, directory (available to you after you make a membership donation to the GHS PTA), volunteer opportunities, up-to-date GHS information, along with much helpful information under separate tabs and links, including Teaching & Learning, Student Life, Athletics, Calendars, PTA.

There is also a **GHS PTA WEBSITE** hosted on the Greenwich Public Schools website which contains additional information about who we are and what we do, at:
https://ghs.greenwichschools.org/pta.

GHS PTA Newsletter

Once you submit your directory information, you are automatically signed up for the PTA distribution list.
You will also receive important information emailed to parents from:

- The GHS Administration
- The District Administration
- The "Big Red News" from the PTA

GHS PTA Meetings – 2026-2027

A list of just about all of the most important events throughout the entire school year – PTA events and school events – can viewed here (be sure to check the **2026-2027 GPS Calendar** for official school dates, including when the schools are off or have early release days).

During the year, the PTA holds 4 PTA meetings that include presentations on topics that are important to GHS parents:

Thursday, September 10 at 9:15 AM – Welcome Back PTA Meeting and Coffee
Wednesday, January 13 at 6:30 pm – Current Trends in College Admissions
Monday, March 8 at 7 PM – PTA General Membership Meeting – Special Speaker
Monday, May 17 at 9:15 AM – PTA General Membership Meeting – Election

The PTA also occasionally holds additional information sessions on important topics. An example of that is the PTA hosted Overview of the National Honor Society, which will be held on Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:30 PM in the PAC.

GHS Volunteers

Everything the PTA does at GHS (and it is a lot!) is done by parent volunteers. If you want to volunteer and make a difference at GHS, please click on the link to sign up to Volunteer

Remember, upon arrival at our school, all volunteers must check in at the security desk (located in the glass corridor) – do not enter GHS through any other doors, except for very rare exceptions when we provide explicit directions.

How to Access the GHS PTA Parent Directory

Only PTA members have access to the directory. To join the PTA and access the directory please sign up on the GHS PTA membership toolkit webpage.

For the staff – you can access here: Staff Directory

Outreach

For those families that need financial assistance please contact your Guidance Counselor. Assistance included PSAT/SAT test prep, chorus, band and orchestra uniforms, academic field trips, grade level field trips, prom tickets, cap & gown, and yearbook. Please click on this link for details Outreach Information

The Community Pantry

The GHS PTA Community Pantry is located in Folsom House and is available for all families experiencing food insecurity.

Students who want to ask about the Community Pantry are encouraged to please contact your Guidance Counselor or the Folsom House administration.

The Community Pantry was started by some amazing GHS administrators and faculty who recognized the need. The GHS PTA took on maintaining the Community Pantry in 2025-2026.

Food insecurity is not uncommon at GHS, with almost 20% of the student population eligible for the free or reduced lunch program.

The GHS Community Pantry is made possible through financial donations from the GHS community, and by an incredible group of volunteers. Community Pantry donations and expenses are only used for food and personal hygiene supplies and are completely separate from PTA membership donations, which are used to enhance the educational experience of students.

Board of Education Meetings

The Board of Education (BOE) meetings are another source of district information. All BOE meetings are open to the public, but the monthly BOE Business meetings -- which are typically on the 3rd Thursday of the month -- have time for public comments. Zoom links, agendas, minutes, videos of previous meetings, and other materials can be found under the Board of Education tab on the District website.
Link: Board of Education Greenwich

STUDENT LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

GHS Clubs

Contact Information:
Karen Foster, Director of Student Activities
karen_foster@greenwich.k12.ct.us
(203) 625-8047

For information on clubs and activities: GHS CLUBS

Starting a New Club

Students who are interested in starting a new club that does not conflict or overlap with an existing club, must complete the new club proposal form, describing the club's activities and events, and creating a mission that involves more than fundraising or awareness. Club founders must find a faculty advisor and provide a list of 10 students who are interested in joining. For more information, see the Clubs & Activities tab on the GHS website.

National Honor Society

The Greenwich High School chapter of the National Honor Society recognizes students for exemplary scholarship, community service, character and leadership. Membership is a privilege, not a right, and Juniors must apply; membership is not automatically granted.
This link above provides the criteria for entrance into the Greenwich High School National Honor Society. If you still have a question after reading through the site, please send an email to Ms. Maxon, the National Honor Society Adviser.

Eligible candidates will meet the following criteria:

- GPA must be 3.55 or higher by the end of junior year.
- Community Service must total at least 45 hours by the packet submission deadline; 15 additional hours can be earned the summer after junior year for a total of 60 required hours. Students with fewer than 45 hours in April of junior year are not eligible.
- Leadership and character must be demonstrated consistently from 9th-11th grade.

Eligible student candidates are notified in February of Junior year that they are invited to apply. There is only one opportunity to apply.

Proms

Proms are popular!
The Junior Prom for this school year will be held Saturday, April 24, 2027
The Senior Prom will be Saturday, June 5, 2027

Spirit Wear

A selection of GHS spirit wear is available at the School Store during school hours. The school Store is located right by the Student Activities in the student center.
You can also shop online at the sideline sports shop: Sideline Sports

Student IDs

Over the last 2 years GHS/GPS implemented a system for students to have digital student IDs on their cell phones. There has been an option for students to opt out of the digital ID and use a physical ID card. With the new bell-to-bell cell phone ban, there may be a return to the physical ID card in the 2026-2027 school year.

GHS students who need to replace a lost or damaged ID card should go to the student activities office.

Student Parking (Seniors Only)

On campus parking is only available with a school-issued permit. For most of the school year Only Seniors are eligible to receive a parking permit for most of the school year.
Junior parking becomes available mid-May when most seniors are on senior Internship or project.
There is no on-campus parking for Sophomores and Freshmen.

Directions and information about getting student parking permits can be found on the student parking page of the GHS website. Completing the parking permit application process and paying the required permit fee in advance is required in order to get a parking permit.

Student Work Permits, Volunteer Opportunities, and Jobs

Students can find information on how to get work permits, volunteer opportunities, and a link to an online job board called StarterYou all on the Student Employment & Volunteer Opportunities page on the GHS website.

Students should also check in with Student Activities Office to see what might be posted there.

ATHLETICS AND SPORTS

ATHLETICS

The Greenwich High School athletics program is amazing, and has received prestigious awards recognizing the outstanding performance by the program and our student athletes, including, just this year:

- **The GametimeCT Cup**:
  Honored as the top athletic program in Connecticut on June 30, 2026, based, in part, on the 14 CIAC state championships across 11 different sports in the 2025-26 school year.
- **The MaxPreps Cup**:
  Ranked 4th best high school athletic program nationwide for 2025–2026 with 2,308 points, marking the highest national finish in both GHS and Connecticut state history.

You can read more about these GHS Athletics program awards in local media articles on Patch.com and CT Insider.

If you are new to GHS athletics and sports or need a refresher, you should take some time to look through the Athletics Home Page on the GHS Website, where there is a tremendous amount of very complete information about the athletics program and the sports teams.

There is no cost for students to tryout and participate in GHS athletics.
Virtually all of the sports have booster clubs led by parent volunteers. These booster clubs do awsome things to enhance and enrich the athletic experience for student athletes and to build team spirit. They depend on optional, voluntary parent donations; however, they are perfectly aware that families have various financial circumstances and some may not be in a position to donate to the booster club. There is never a requirement to donate, and never a limitation on participating if a family cannot afford to donate.

KEY CONTACTS AND OTHER INFORMATION:

Peter Georgiou, Director of Athletics
peter_georgiou@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Dawn Stevens, Athletics Assistant
dawn_stevens@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Athletic Office: 203-625-8050

Athletic Office Fax: 203-863-8819

Coaches Office: 203-863-8882

Athletic Manager Room: 203-863-8814

Athletic Training Room: 203-863-8856

INFORMATION FOR ATHLETES: Go to GHS Athletics Handbook

REGISTER FOR SPORTS: GHS uses Final Forms to register students for sports and then SportsYou for ongoing communication.

COACH CONTACTS: Be sure you reach out to the coach to be on the distribution list and to connect to the sports booster club (many teams have parent booster clubs) Coach contacts

Transportation. Student-athletes must ride the bus to and from all school events. Any parent requesting a departure from this requirement must sign the Alternate Transportation Release Form found **here**

Game Times are continually updated and can be found **here**

Unified Sports pairs athletes with and without disabilities on teams for training and competition, offering a positive, inclusive foundation for athletic and social interaction between special education and general education students. More info can be found **here**

Sports by season – listed below, or click here

FALL SPORTS

Cheerleading	Football	Volleyball – Girls
Cross Country – Boys/Girls	Golf – Boys	Water Polo
Dance	Soccer – Boys/Girls	Unified Sports
Field Hockey – Girls	Swim/Dive – Girls	

WINTER SPORTS

Basketball – Boys/Girls	Fencing – Boys/Girls	Skiing – Boys/Girls
Bowling	Gymnastics	Swim/Dive – Boys/Girls
Cheerleading	Ice Hockey – Boys/Girls	Unified Sports
Dance	Indoor Track – Boys/Girls	

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball	Sailing – Boys/Girls	Volleyball – Boys
Golf – Boys/Girls	Softball	Water Polo
Lacrosse – Boys/Girls	Tennis – Boys/Girls	Unified Sports
Rugby – Boys/Girls	Track and Field – Boys/Girls	

GHS RESOURCES and ADMINSTRATION

All GHS Staff Contacts: GHS Staff Directory

2026-2027 Handbook

This important document provides a **complete overview** of the GHS School organization, Cardinal Rules, GHS Policies and Procedures, Academic information and an overview of important Student Life information: GHS Handbook

Counseling, College and Career Center

Please go to the GHS website for all updated information GUIDANCE

Student Support Services

Student support services, also known as "student services" or "pupil services," include prevention, intervention, transition and follow-up services for students and families. For a full list please go to the Support Services

School Psychologists and Social Workers

Students or parents may make an appointment directly with the school psychologists or social workers. There are a school psychologist and a social worker associated with each house. Their contact information can be found on the Contact Info page of the GHS website – just click on your student's house to find right person.

School Resource Officers (SRO)

The SROs, Fred Reisch and Chris Wallace, are police officers who work with school administrators, faculty, and staff to provide a safe environment at GHS. Fred's email is fred_reisch@greenwich.k12.ct.us and Chris' email is chris_wallace@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Whom to See for Questions and Concerns

Student performance: Teacher
Curriculum/instruction/grading: Teacher, then School Counselor
Requests for homework: Teacher
Counseling related issues: Counselor, then Director of Guidance
Discipline: Assistant Dean or Dean of Student Life
Attendance: Attendance assistant for your house
Medical issues: Nurse
Clubs: Student Activities
Athletics: Coach, then Athletics Director

Stolen items: Assistant Dean or Security
Lost Schedule: School Counselor
Lost/Found: Student Activities or Security
Personal Concerns: School Counselor, School Psychologist or Social Worker
Schedule Problems: School Counselor, then House Administrator, then Director of Guidance
School Records: Guidance Secretary, then School Counselor, then Director of Guidance

Principal
Ralph Mayo
ralph_mayo@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Confidential Assistant to the Principal
Sharon Wilson
sharon_wilson@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Vice Principal
Dana Tulotta
dana_tulotta@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Registrar
Anne Kelly
anne_kelly@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Dean of Student Life
Thomas Pereira
thomas_pereira@greenwich.k12.ct.us

School Resource Officers
Fred Reisch
fred_reisch@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Chris Wallace
chris_wallace@greenwich.k12.ct.us

Director Student Activities
Karen Foster
karen_foster@greenwich.k12.ct.us

College & Career Counselor
Alison Lochridge
alison_lochridge@greenwich.k12.ct.us

GHS Contact Info

GHS Main Office
(203) 625-8000
Nurse's Office
(203) 625-8011

Bella Office
(203) 625-8090
Bella Attendance
(203) 863-8883
Bella Guidance
(203) 625-8089

Cantor Office
(203) 863-8845
Cantor Attendance
(203) 863-8847
Cantor Guidance
(203) 863-8846

Clark Office
(203) 625-8081
Clark Attendance
(203) 625-8053
Clark Guidance
(203) 625-8079

Folsom Office
(203) 625-8054
Folsom Attendance
(203) 987-1370
Folsom Guidance
(203) 625-8055

Sheldon Office
(203) 625-8067
Sheldon Attendance
(203) 625-8065
Sheldon Guidance
(203) 625-8066

OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Need Support Outside of School? Resources in Greenwich and the Area

Crisis Hotlines

- The Rowan Center Hotline website : 203-329-2929
- Child Mobile Psychiatric Crisis Hotline website Call 211 press 1 (In Greenwich 800.203.1234)
- Kids In Crisis 24 hour Hotline and Face to Face: 203.661.1911
- Problem Gambling Hotline: 888.789.7777
- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Call/Text 988
- Substance Use Access Line: 800.563.4086
- Teen Dating Violence/Domestic Abuse 24/7 Hotline at YWCA Greenwich: 203.622.0003
- The Trevor Project LGBTQAI+ Youth Crisis Resources: website Call 1-866-488-7386 or Text 'START' to 678-678

Find Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Services, Education Resources and Naloxone (Narcan) Training

- Drug Free CT website
- FindTreatment.Gov website (1-800-563-4086)
- The Hub website Behavioral Health Action Organization for Southwestern CT

Vaping / Marijuana Support services

- Parents Against Vaping website
- Greenwich Together Vaping Support website
- Greenwich Together Marijuana Support website

Substance Use Services

- Connecticut Counseling Centers website Treatment Referral Phone 203.653 3038 ext. 6606
- Connecticut Renaissance website 203.866.2541
- Greenwich Hospital Addiction Recovery Center website 203-863-4573
- Liberation Programs website 1-855-LIB-PROG (542-7764)

Psychiatric Hospital Services

- Four Winds Hospital: 800.528.6624
- Silver Hill Hospital: 866.542.4455
- Saint Vincent's Behavioral Health Services: 203.227.1251

Supportive Services

- Rowan Center for Sexual Assault: website Ph: 203.348.9346
  email: info@therowancenter.com

- Kids In Crisis: website 203.661.1911 Kids In Crisis provides emergency shelter, crisis counseling, and community education programs for children of all ages and families facing crises. Providers, educators, community members, and family members are encouraged to call the 24-hour helpline 203-661-1911

- Child Guidance of Southern Connecticut: website 203.324.6127
- Domestic Abuse Services YWCA Greenwich: website 203.622.0003
- Greenwich Department of Human Services: website 203.622.3800
- Family Centers Inc.: website 203.629.2822
- Greenwich Center for Hope and Renewal: website 203-340-9816
- Jewish Family Services: website 203-622-1881
- Barbara's House: website 203-869-1276
- NAMI Southwest website
- Laurel House: website 203-324-1618

Filling in the Blanks

- Filling in the Blanks provides weekend meals to eligible children in need. For more information, please visit the website.

Building One Community

- A welcoming resource center for families new to our community that offers English classes, job skills training, family support, and more. Whether you are new to the area or need assistance, B1C is here to help. Learn more at buildingonecommunity.org.

Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich

- A safe and supportive environment for youth to connect, learn, and grow. From after-school programs to sports and leadership opportunities, BGCG helps students establish a strong foundation for their future. Visit bgcg.org to learn more.

Triangle Community Center

- Fairfield County's LGBTQ+ resource center provides support groups, counseling, and community events. It serves as a welcoming space for teens and families seeking connection and support. Learn more at ctpridecenter.org.

The Den for Grieving Kids

- A free program offering support for children, teens, and families dealing with the loss of a loved one. Grief can feel overwhelming, but you don't have to face it alone. Learn more at familycenters.org.

Alateen/Al-Anon

- Support groups for teens and families affected by a loved one's alcoholism provide understanding, strength, and tools to navigate challenges in a safe and nurturing environment. Visit al-anon.org to find a local meeting.

National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)

- If you or someone you know is facing an eating disorder, NEDA provides resources, support, and a confidential helpline. Recovery is achievable. Visit nationaleatingdisorders.org for assistance.

Greenwich Hospital Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Program

- A structured mental health program for teens facing anxiety, depression, and other challenges. It provides therapy and coping strategies while enabling students to remain engaged in school and daily activities. Call 203-863-4673 for more information or visit greenwichhospital.org/services/psychiatry-and-psychology/adolescent-intensive-outpatient-program