

Lake Windward Elementary Student & Family Handbook 2019-2020



Learn & Grow * Lead & Show

Address

11770 East Fox Court
Alpharetta, GA 30005

470-254-7050
FAX: 470-254-7069

First Semester

AUGUST 2019						
S	M	T	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

AUG 2-5 Professional Development
AUG 6-9 Preplanning
AUG 12 First Day of School

SEPTEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	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					

SEPT 2 Labor Day (Schools Closed)
SEPT 3 Lake Windward RFF Day (Students Off)
SEPT 12 Family Balance Night

OCTOBER 2019						
S	M	T	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		

OCT 8 Family Balance Night
OCT 11 Teacher Workday
OCT 14 Columbus Day (Schools Closed)

NOVEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	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

NOV 4 Lake Windward RFF Day (Students Off)
NOV 5 Professional Development Day (Election Day)
NOV 12 Family Balance Night
NOV 25-29 Thanksgiving Holidays

DECEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	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				

DEC 20 Last Day of First Semester
DEC 23-31 Winter Break (Schools Closed)

- Preplanning / Post Planning
- Holiday (Schools closed)
- Teacher Workday/Professional Development Day (Students off)
- Lake Windward ES RFF Day (No school for LWE students ONLY)
- Lake Windward Family Balance Night
- First/Last Day of Semester
- * → Inclement Weather Days (if needed)

Second Semester

JANUARY 2020						
S	M	T	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	

JAN 1-2 Winter Break (Schools Closed)
JAN 3 Teacher Workday
JAN 6 First Day of Second Semester
JAN 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (Schools Closed)
JAN 28 Family Balance Night

FEBRUARY 2020						
S	M	T	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

FEB 17 Presidents' Day Holiday* (Schools Closed)
FEB 27 Family Balance Night

MARCH 2020						
S	M	T	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				

MAR 13 Professional Development Day*
MAR 17 Family Balance Night

APRIL 2020						
S	M	T	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		

APR 6-11 Spring Break (Schools Closed)

MAY 2020						
S	M	T	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						

MAY 22 Last Day of School
MAY 25 Memorial Day (Schools Closed)
MAY 26-27 Post Planning*

Please note: The approved Fulton County 2019-2020 School Calendar includes 178 instructional days for students: 86 days for First Semester and 92 days for Second Semester. Lake Windward ES students will have 2 additional days off in the first semester.

School Closings: Local radio and television stations will report school closings along with district communications. The decision to close schools is usually made by 6:00 AM and is based on factors such as transportation, school conditions, weather forecasts and road conditions.



ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT STAFF

Julie Morris Principal	morrisja@fultonschools.org 470-254-7050
Heather Farrar Assistant Principal	farrar@fultonschools.org 470-254-7050
Cindy Bailey Curriculum Support Specialist STEM & Grades 3-5	baileyc@fultonschools.org 470-254-9596
Anne McKown Curriculum Support Specialist Humanities & Grades K-2	mckowna@fultonschools.org 470-254-9594
Sabrina Hill School Counselor	hillsa@fultonschools.org 470-254-9593
Lauree Lau Instructional Support Teacher	laul@fultonschools.org 470-254-9604
Diana Morales Bookkeeper & Principal's Secretary	moralesd@fultonschools.org 470-254-9600
Julie Pitman Front Office Secretary	pitmanj@fultonschools.org 470-254-7050
Nancy Yeo Bilingual Community Liaison	yeon@fultonschools.org 470-254-9599
Janet Adams Data and Records Coordinator & Registrar	adamsj2@fultonschools.org 470-254-9597
Angel Gabrielson Clinic Assistant	gabrielson@fultonschools.org 470-254-9602
Tracy Rhoades Cafeteria Manager	rhoadestl@fultonschools.org 470-254-6998
Mark Connell North Fulton Transportation	connelljm@fultonschools.org 470-254-2970

QUICK FACTS WHOM TO CONTACT

Curriculum Concerns:	(1 st) Classroom Teacher	
	(2 nd) CSTs	Cindy Bailey STEM & Grades 3-5 baileyc@fultonschools.org Anne McKown Humanities & Grades K-2 mckowna@fultonschools.org
Discipline Concerns:	(1 st) Classroom Teacher	
	(2 nd) Assistant Principal	Heather Farrar farrar@fultonschools.org
Bus Concerns:	Assistant Principal	Heather Farrar farrar@fultonschools.org
Cafeteria Questions:	Cafeteria Manager	Tracy Rhoades rhoadestl@fultonschools.org 470-254-6998
Records/Contact Information:	Data Clerk	Janet Adams adamsj2@fultonschools.org
Medical Concerns:	Clinic Aide	Angel Gabrielson gabrielson@fultonschools.org 470-254-9602
General Information & Transportation Changes:	Front Office	Julie Pitman pitmanj@fultonschools.org 470-254-7050

Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

School hours are 7:40 AM – 2:20 PM, with staff supervision starting at 7:10 AM. Parents may walk their child to class on the **first day of school** only. After that, students will walk themselves to class. Staff members are available to assist students in the hallways. We ask that **students not be checked out after 2:00 PM** as we prepare for our dismissal procedures at that time.

Bus Transportation (Back of school only)

Students are given bus numbers for their designated bus. Students must get on and off only at their designated bus stops. Proper bus conduct is expected as behavior of students on school busses is an extension of classroom behavior. Students are subject to disciplinary procedures when bus safety rules are violated. This may include suspension from the bus and/or school. The North Fulton County Transportation Department answers questions concerning bus schedules and routes. Parents may contact them at 470-254-2970.

Carpool (Front of school only)

ALL families will receive a carpool number during Sneak Peek. This carpool number will be used to connect students to correct cars at dismissal time. Students will need to learn their number as this is how they will be called to cars. Other important carpool notes:

MORNING CARPOOL

- Students are not allowed to be dropped off prior to 7:10 a.m.
- All parents should remain in the carpool line to drop off their children.
- Your child should be ready to exit your car as you approach the drop-off area.
- Never try to pass a car that is dropping off or picking up students.
- U-turns are not allowed at any point during the carpool process (drop off or pick up).
- At no time should you double park or park in the fire lane. Please be sure to always park in a marked parking spot.
- If carpool has finished for the day when you arrive, you must come to the front office to sign your child in.

AFTERNOON CARPOOL

- Carpool numbers should be displayed on the passenger side dashboard.
- Please make sure you are in the carpool line no later than 2:30 p.m. for pick-up.
- If someone is picking up a student without a carpool number, or if you do not have your carpool number you will be asked to park and go into the office to show ID.
- Please do not park your car and walk up to the carpool holding area and take your child from this area. Students waiting in the carpool pick up area should be picked up by car.

Day Care Vans

Day care vans pick up at 2:20 PM in the designated area in the carpool line.

Walkers

Lake Windward ES has a large walking community. Please be mindful of this while you are driving on campus during arrival and dismissal times. We request that students who walk to school be accompanied by an adult.

Change of Regular Dismissal

If a student is not to go home in their usual manner, the student must bring in a signed note on the date of the change. **If dismissal plans change during the school day, please notify the school office via a phone call by 1:30 PM.**

Any student leaving before the regular dismissal time must be signed out through the office by a parent, legal guardian or parental designee.

Students will not be released to a parent from the classroom. All students must be checked out from the front office.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to the learning process. To maximize instructional opportunities, regular school attendance is expected. The school day begins at 7:40 a.m. and ends at 2:20 p.m. Adult supervision of students begins at 7:10 a.m. Students should not arrive prior to this time. Students, who arrive in class after 7:40 a.m., are tardy and should get a tardy slip from the office before going to class. Parents need to escort their child into the office to complete the tardy slip.

Absences

Students should be present every day unless illness or other extenuating circumstances exist. The Georgia Board of Education lawfully excuses students for the following reasons: personal illness, death in the immediate family, religious holidays, and other educational days as pre-approved by the school principal. The principal has, at his/her discretion, by Board Policy to further approve a maximum of six (6) days per student per school year in extenuating circumstances. **Parents/guardians must complete the request form (found on the LWE website) at least two weeks prior to the absence.** Submission of parental/guardian request does not grant automatic approval. A school administrator or designee will contact the parents/guardian upon the final decision. All other absences will be considered unexcused.

A STUDENT WHO IS ABSENT OR TARDY MUST BRING A WRITTEN EXCUSE SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN THE DAY THE STUDENT RETURNS TO SCHOOL. Written excuses are kept on file at school. A student must be in attendance more than one half-day (11:10 AM) before he/she can be counted present during that day.

It is imperative that parents send in a signed written excuse (NOT via email or phone) on the day a student returns to school. As documented in the Fulton County Code of Conduct and Discipline Handbook: *It should be noted that O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.1 states that any parents, guardian or other person residing in this state who has control or charge of a child or children that accrues **five unexcused absences** during one school year will be deemed to have violated this Code section and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to fines, imprisonment, community services, or any combination of these penalties.*

Whenever a student is absent due to medical issues and is seen by a doctor, please make sure to send in documentation provided by the doctor in addition to the parent's signed written excuse for the absence. Should a student reach ten excused absences, medical documentation for any further absence may be required.

Tardies

Students should arrive on time. Students who are tardy (7:40 AM or later) must report to the office with a parent/guardian and sign in, give a reason for tardiness and obtain a tardy pass. If a student's bus is late, the student will not be marked tardy.

Birthdays

Each day birthdays are recognized on our closed-circuit televised morning news show. Students will receive a birthday pencil and sticker from the front office on their special day. Parents may send "birthday snacks" if arrangements with the teacher are made in advance. Some children enrolled in our school do have potentially life-threatening food allergies, so you need to speak with your child's teacher prior to bringing in any food items to be aware of any such allergies. Please make sure the snack is ready to serve and can be served quickly and easily. Birthday "snacks" should be dropped off at the front office for delivery to the classroom. Balloons and party favors should not be included with birthday "snacks". No personal party invitations may be distributed at school.

Cafeteria

When visiting for lunch, sign in at the front office to obtain and wear a Lunch Visitor tag. You may meet your child's class at the cafeteria and sign out before leaving the building. Please do not plan to conference with the teacher or return to the classroom with your child. Parents/visitors **MAY NOT** purchase, share or provide any food item to any child other than their own. Many children enrolled in school have potentially life-threatening food allergies. Teachers emphasize to students that sharing food is not allowed. **Students are not to have carbonated beverages in the cafeteria.** If your child is going to miss his/her lunchtime due to doctor appointments, etc., please plan accordingly.

The school participates in the school lunch and breakfast programs. The prices, at publication time, are as follows:
Student lunch: \$2.45 Student breakfast: \$1.10 Adult lunch: \$3.45 Adult breakfast \$1.60

Parents may prepay for meals or food/beverage items up to one full school year through our prepaid meal system. You can visit **MyPaymentsPlus** to make prepayments to your child's account at www.mypaymentsplus.com. For payments made at school, cafeteria cashiers may not check student accounts or take payments during daily serving hours. This service is available from 7:40 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Parents may not eat lunch with the students for the first two weeks of school. Teachers eat with the students for the first week and the students are learning the routine the second week of school.

Families meeting specific income requirements may be eligible for Free and Reduced-Price Meals and can apply for this program through applications available at our school. Households should complete one application listing all household members and identifying students who attend a Fulton County School (FCS).

- Parents/guardians must complete one application per household indicating the school attended for each student
- The application should be returned to the school cafeteria manager of the youngest student
- New students to FCS will pay for meals until the household application is approved
- Returning FCS students will maintain last year's meal status until the application is approved
- The approval process will be completed within 10 days

For more information about Free and Reduced-Price Meals or the new application process, contact the FCS School Nutrition Program at 404-669-8960.

The cafeteria menu is available on the FCS website. Our cafeteria manager is happy to work with you and your child.

Classroom Observations

The faculty and staff work closely with parents to provide the best education possible for your child. However, parents are **not** allowed to visit classrooms unannounced. Also, parents are not allowed to visit classrooms in the morning, prior to school starting, or after dismissal. If you would like to visit your child's class for an observation, please contact one of the Curriculum Support Teachers (CSTs) or Instructional Support Teacher (IST) to set up an appointment. Classroom visitations are not a time for parent-teacher conferences. The instructional program must continue during your visit. Observations in classrooms can be arranged by following these procedures:

Visitations need to be scheduled through the CST/IST, at least 24 hours prior to observation.

1. Classroom observations are typically 30 minutes.
2. Check in at the front office as least 5 minutes prior to scheduled observation.
3. The CST or IST will escort you to the classroom and remain with you during the observation.
4. We ask that you **not** interact with students or the teacher during your observation, as instructional time is very valuable.
5. Please maintain confidentiality regarding the performance level and placement of individual students in the classroom.
6. If you have any specific questions after your observation, please schedule a conference with the teacher, CST, IST, assistant principal or principal.

Clinic

We care about the safety and well-being of your child. Please take a few moments to make sure we are aware of your child's allergies, diseases or medical conditions. Stop by, or call the clinic, so we can have a written record of your child's condition and your specific instructions for their care. Please notify the front office and clinic if your emergency numbers, work numbers or home numbers change. It is imperative that we can contact a parent/guardian in case of emergency.

Students, requiring daily medication, must come to the clinic to have it dispensed. Written permission is required to administer any kind of medication. **Students taking prescription medication must have a permission form signed by the doctor and on file in the clinic before they can take the medication.** Over-the-counter medications require a form signed by the parent/legal guardian and to be on file in the clinic. Forms are available at the front desk and in the clinic.

If your child is home with a fever (100.4 or higher), please do not send your child to school until they have been 'fever free' (without the use of medicine) for 24 hours. There is also a 24 hour no-vomiting policy.

Communication

Communication, between school and home, is very important. There are several methods of communication available to parents.

- WEB PAGES – Information concerning the district and school are available via our county web page at www.fultonschools.org. The website includes school updates, current information about the school/school system, dates to remember, etc.
- FRIDAY FOLDERS – Students bring home folders weekly that may contain important school announcements, PTO information and/or graded papers.
- SCHOOL MESSENGER – Important school/county announcements as well as emergency information will be announced through email and/or phone calls via School Messenger. If you do not receive information from this system, please contact the data clerk to ensure we have accurate contact information.
- PHONE CALLS – Teachers are unable to come to the phone during instructional time. Parents can call and leave a message with the front office secretary. Teachers will pick up messages during their planning time or at the end of the day. Please be aware that it may be late afternoon before your message is picked up.
- EMAIL – Each certified teacher has an email set up through Fulton County Schools. Email addresses can be found on the Lake Windward school webpage.
- WRITTEN NOTES – Please be sure to let your child know he/she has a note for the teacher. The office must approve notes concerning changes in transportation home.
- CONFERENCES – Fulton County sets aside one day in the fall for parent conferences. Additional conferences are scheduled at teacher or parent request. Please contact your child's teacher to schedule a conference.

Counseling

Counseling services are available to all students in the school. We have one counselor as well as a part time school social worker and part time school psychologist. The role of the counselor is to help remove barriers that may be standing in the way of students reaching their maximum potential. Counselors collaborate with students, staff and parents to build a pathway towards success. Counseling services include assistance with educational planning, interpretation of evaluation scores, occupational information, career instruction, study skills and social concerns. Our counselor provides monthly classroom curriculum lessons as well as short-term individual counseling and small group counseling on an as-needed basis.

Discipline

To promote a positive school climate, each grade level/classroom has a discipline plan, appropriate to the age and ability of the students. Students are aware of the procedures and these policies are shared with parents at the beginning of the school year. In addition to the grade level/classroom plans, Lake Windward, as a school utilizes PBIS practices (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports). Students have the chance to earn Great Gators for following the schoolwide guidelines as they maneuver in the hallways, cafeteria, playground, specials, etc. Great Gators will be able to be turned in for rewards at various times throughout the school year.

A student who is involved in serious disruptive behaviors may receive consequences, as outlined in the Fulton County Board of Education's Policy JD and Procedure JD. A link to the Fulton County Code of Conduct and Discipline Handbook is provided to each family at the start of the school year, a paper copy may also be requested. All parents are encouraged to become familiar with the discipline guidelines and consequences for violations.

Dress Code

Students are expected to dress and groom themselves in such a way as to reflect neatness, cleanliness and good taste. All students are to be modestly dressed and groomed so as not to distract unreasonably the attention of others, or to cause disruption or interference with the educational program or the orderly operation of the school. The school administration will determine the appropriateness of any mode of dress or grooming. For safety reasons, it is recommended that students do not wear flip flops to school.

Drills

In order to provide a safe learning environment for our students, we practice soft and hard lockdown, evacuation and shelter drills. Staff and students participate in these on a regular basis for them to know the correct procedure in case of a real emergency. Visitors and volunteers are expected to participate in the drills if on campus during a drill.

Early Intervention Program (EIP)

The Early Intervention Program provides additional instruction to support K-5 students who are performing below grade level and who meet eligibility criteria to develop the necessary academic skills to reach grade level performance. Supplementary instruction is provided by a certified teacher in a heterogeneous regular classroom or in a small group setting.

Electronics (Cell phones, iPads, Smart Watches, etc.)

In an effort to keep interruptions and distractions during instructional and non-instructional time during the day to a minimum, students who bring cell phones to school need to keep them turned off and kept in a backpack during the day, including the bus rides to and from school. If a student does not follow the guidelines, the device may be confiscated and a phone call to the parent will be made to come to school to retrieve the device.

Emergency Evacuation/School Closings

In the event of an emergency (fire, gas leak, bomb threat, explosion, etc.), which necessitates the evacuation of the building, evacuated students will go to Webb Bridge Park or another location on campus away from the building and then will be transported to Webb Bridge Middle School. Do **not** try to contact the school. **Students will be released from Webb Bridge Middle School to a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult, who is delegated by the parent and listed on the registration form.** A picture ID is requested of the parent/guardian or other designated individual. Stay tuned to WSB-750 AM and/or WSB-TV for all emergency broadcast information.

In case of a tornado, students will be moved to an area designated for safety during a tornado. If the decision is made to close the school due to inclement weather, local television and radio stations will broadcast the information. Radio station, WSB-750 AM, will broadcast emergency closings or early school dismissals.

English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

The Fulton County ESOL program provides support for English language acquisition and development of skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing through content based instruction. By combining language-rich classes with standards-based instruction, teachers create an environment that is both nurturing and academically rigorous as they prepare students to fully participate in mainstream classrooms. The school system is required by law to identify and screen students who may qualify for the ESOL program. If the student qualifies, the parent/guardian is notified and services are begun. Students who qualify for ESOL services will be tested annually with the *ACCESS for ELLs* test to measure growth and to determine continued eligibility for the program.

Field Trips

Field trips are planned to supplement and enrich state standards and units of study. Every student must have written permission from a parent or legal guardian before he/she can attend a field trip. A donation may be requested to help pay for the trip, however, no child will be denied permission to attend due to inability to pay.

Parents who are interested in being a chaperone for field trips must have completed the Volunteer Training procedure in order to be considered to chaperone. Siblings are not permitted to attend field trips. At the teachers'/administration's discretion, students with multiple discipline reports may be prohibited from attending field trips.

Gifts for Fulton County Employees

Fulton County Board of Education Policy requires that gifts meet the following guidelines:

- An individual gift with a value of \$25.00 or less
- A group gift with a value of \$10.00 or less per contributor
- Neither gift to exceed \$500.00

Grading

Elementary students in Fulton County receive 4 grading reports each school year. At the end of each semester, a cumulative grade will be given. The grading scale is listed below for students in kindergarten and first grade.

S	Satisfactory
N	Needs improvement
U	Unsatisfactory
NG	No Grade

Letter grades (A,B,C and F) and numeric grades will be used on report cards and transcripts for students in second grade through fifth grade. The following academic grading scale shall be used:

A	90 and above
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
F	Below 70
NG	No Grade

Homework

Please contact your child's teacher with questions concerning homework. Homework is any assignment that is to be completed at home. This does not refer to the completion of daily class work. Homework may not be assigned each night.

- Homework for grades K-1 should range from 10-20 minutes.
- Homework for grade 2 should range from 20-30 minutes.
- Homework for grade 3 should range from 30-40 minutes.
- Homework for grade 4 should range from 40-50 minutes.
- Homework for grade 5 should range from 50-60 minutes.

Upper grade students will also have long-range assignments, such as reports and projects. Students' grades on make-up work will not be penalized if the work is submitted, as directed by the teacher. Homework for absent students can be requested by calling the front office before 9:30 a.m. Homework will be ready for pick-up in the front office at the end of the school day. Classwork is **not** provided for students during family trips. The work is collected and students are allowed to make the work up when they return.

BALANCE: In an effort to promote and encourage overall balance, Lake Windward will also participate in Family Balance Nights. No homework will be due and no assessments will occur the day after these evenings.

Lost and Found

Lost items are located outside of the custodial suite. Please help us get items back to students by putting names on lunch boxes and in jackets, coats, etc. At the end of each semester, items not collected will be donated to local charity organizations.

Media Center

Lake Windward has an open Media Center policy and is equipped with various resources such as books, videos, leveled readers, electronic books, iPads, other electronic devices and parent resources. Students may exchange books before and after school and during times designated throughout the school day by the classroom teacher. Students may keep the books checked out for two weeks at a time. Students do not have to wait for a designated day to exchange books. Students may also use the Media Center in small groups to work on research projects assigned in class.

Parties

Students have three class parties during the school year (Winter Holiday Celebration, Valentine's Day and an End of the Year Party). The Classroom Coordinators and teachers organize these parties and solicit volunteers to assist. Only designated volunteers may attend the party as helpers. We like to limit the volunteers to two per classroom.

Pets and Animals

Classrooms may have pets that are kept at the discretion of the classroom teacher and administration. If your child has allergies, please notify the teacher immediately.

Pictures

Individual student pictures are taken during the Fall and Spring. Class pictures are taken in the Spring.

Report Cards/Progress Reports

Progress Reports are sent home periodically during the year. If you have questions concerning your child's grades, please contact the classroom teacher. Teachers are more than happy to discuss your child's progress and curriculum.

Response to Intervention Team (RTI)

The RTI team is a multi-disciplinary team consisting of teachers, administrators, specialists, and parents who work together to develop effective instructional strategies and/or interventions to help all children succeed in school. The process includes the following stages: identification of needs, formulation of an action plan, implementation of strategies, and monitoring of progress.

The team's efforts may include some or all of the following activities:

- Review of student records
- Analysis of student work
- Observation of the student in the classroom
- Development of written plan of interventions and data collection
- Review of progress after the designated intervention period
- General screening in the areas of hearing and vision

The RTI committee may consider an academic achievement, and/or ability screening as a further means of gathering information. Any parent or school staff member may initiate a referral to the RTI team.

School Governance Council (SGC)

Fulton County Schools became a charter system a few years ago. This means that each Fulton County school now has more local decision-making authority and the flexibility to implement innovative ideas and strategies to create educational opportunities that meet the needs of their students and school communities. Each charter system school has a School Governance Council (SGC) that plays a critical role in the success of each school. Each SGC is comprised of:

- 3 parents/guardians
- 2 teachers
- 2 community members
- 2 school employees
- principal (non-voting)

The SGC works with school leadership and the community to help determine the long-term direction of the school, design innovative solutions to increase academic achievement, and serve as school ambassadors to the local community.

Security

All entrance doors are locked at 7:40 a.m. in order to provide a secure school environment. You should enter the building through the doors located near the flagpole. You will need to use the intercom to request entry into the building and a front office staff member will buzz you into the building. The first time you come to volunteer, you will need to give your driver's license to the front office staff member to scan. After that initial screening, you will only need to check in as a volunteer using the computer in the front office. After signing in, you will need to wear the printed I.D. badge when you are in the building. Visitors without an I.D. badge will be asked to return to the office to obtain one.

Parents are not permitted to take homework, lunches, glasses, etc. to class. If you need to get something to your child, please bring it to the front office, before 9:30 a.m., so we may deliver it to your child.

Students and parents are **not** permitted to return to the classroom after school since teachers are often involved in conferences and in setting up work for the next day. Afternoon announcements include reminders to students to have everything they need to complete their assignments before leaving school. In case of emergency, an administrator may escort a student/parent to the classroom to retrieve the forgotten item.

Specials

All students have special classes in their weekly schedules. Each week, students will attend one 45-minute music class, one art class and two physical education classes. For PE classes, students should dress appropriately, including athletic shoes, and shorts/pants for girls. A student must have a written note by a parent to miss a P.E. class.

Spirit Day

The last Friday of the month is Spirit Day at Lake Windward. Students are encouraged to wear t-shirts or dress in the school colors, which are green and white.

Student Placement

The school makes every effort to ensure each and every student is placed in a class where his/her needs will best be met. A variety of items influence classroom placement including the number of boys and girls, the total number of students, test results, and Language Arts and Math levels. Due to the complexity of this process, parent requests for specific teachers cannot be honored. Any concerns regarding student placement should be directed to the CST or the principal in writing.

Occasionally, to meet state class size guidelines, new classes need to be formed or existing classes need to be collapsed requiring the reassignment of students to a new teacher. We will make every effort to ensure that such transitions are smooth.

If you would like to request a change of student placement, the procedure is as follows:

- Student must first spend at a minimum 10 days in his/her assigned class.
- A Change of Placement Request is written or emailed to the CST.
- A placement team comprised of the Principal, Assistant Principal, CST, Counselor, Teacher Representative and parents will be scheduled to review placement.
- Final placement decision resides with the principal.

Talented and Gifted Program

The Fulton County School System screens all students twice a year for eligibility for the system's Talented and Gifted Program. The classroom teacher uses the Characteristics Instrument for Screening Students (CISS) form. Students must demonstrate outstanding characteristics and behaviors in five of the ten categories on the screening instrument (CISS) AND have supporting data gathered from test history, grades, products, and/or continuous achievement. Student names are then presented to the local school's eligibility team for possible referral. TAG teachers review all standardized testing results and screen students' scores for automatic referral. A parent must sign a consent form to evaluate their child before any individual student testing is initiated. Results of testing are given to the student's parent(s). This process takes approximately six weeks. If you need additional information, please contact our TAG teacher or the Gifted Program Office at 404-763-5620.

Toys, Games Etc.

In an effort to keep interruptions and distractions to a minimum, we ask that students not bring toys, games, dolls, trading cards, etc. to school unless given permission from your child's teacher. Items brought to school without permission will be turned in to the Assistant Principal and a call will be made to the child's parent/guardian to come to school to retrieve the item.

Transportation

Parents must turn in a written request to the office, by 9:00 a.m. for approval, of changes in a student's regular method of transportation home. The office can only approve a student's riding a different bus if the parent has written a note indicating the change is needed for childcare reasons and has included the address, telephone number, and name of the person taking care of the child. Unless the school is notified in **writing**, students will be sent home in the normal manner. In case of emergency, please contact the office and give the information to the secretary. The information will be relayed to the classroom teacher and student.

Volunteers and Visitors to the Building

For the 2019-2020 school year ALL volunteers must be registered using the volunteer registration system.

We provide many opportunities for volunteers in the school. Each school year, anyone who volunteers or visits a classroom must complete the mandatory volunteer training on Child Abuse Reporting as required by the state of Georgia. We value your time and will try to make this as quick and simple as possible. The training may be accessed through the Fulton County website: <http://www.fultonschools.org/en/community/>

All visitors and volunteers that enter the school are required to bring their government issued identification to sign in at the office. A printed visitor or volunteer badge will be issued and must be worn during your time at our school.

Confidentiality regarding students you are working with or have observed during your volunteer services is required.

- **Chaperoning:** When acting as a Chaperone on a field trip or school sponsored activity, you will be responsible for a group of children. You must have completed the Volunteer Training to chaperone a field trip and use the school-provided transportation unless it is unavailable.
- **Copy Center:** All documents copied must be for classroom use only. Due to copyright laws, workbooks may not be copied in their entirety. Children are not allowed in the Copy Center.
- **Siblings:** Volunteers may not bring young children or other visitors to school when performing duties in the building.