

# Harmony Elementary

## Student Handbook

### 2016-2017

#### **Attendance Policies and Procedures**

School Attendance is important because it underscores the significance of learning and the importance of obtaining an education in our society, in addition to helping students develop good work habits that will carry over in life.

Good attendance also correlates strongly with improved grades. A minimum level of attendance is required for attainment of the Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum. The responsibility of school attendance is that of both parents and students. An up-to-date account of tardies and excused/unexcused absences can be found in the Parent Portal. The Superintendent has designated the minimum levels of attendance in procedure consistent with state standards.

#### **Definitions**

**Truant** – Any child subject to compulsory attendance who during the school calendar year has more than ten days of unexcused absences. Parents will receive a letter notification after 5, 7, and 10 unexcused absences.

**Compulsory Attendance** – Official Code of Georgia (O.C.G.A.) 20-2-690.1(a): *Every parent, guardian, or other person residing within this state having control or charge of any child or children between their sixth and sixteenth birthdays shall enroll and send such child or children to a public school, a private school, or a home study program that meets the requirements for a public school, a private school, or home study program; and such child shall be responsible for enrolling in and attending a public school, a private school, or a home study program that meets the requirements for a public school, a private school, or a home study program.*

**Tardy** – Students are considered tardy to school or class if the student arrives after 8:50 a.m.

**8:20 am** First Bell Rings-Building is open for students.

**8:50 am** Second Bell Rings-Students need to be in classroom preparing for instruction.

**Students entering school after this bell must be signed in by a parent in the front office and receive a tardy slip to be granted entrance to the classroom.**

Instruction is continuous from 8:50 a.m. until 3:20 p.m. Teachers will report attendance electronically at 8:50 a.m.

**Check-outs before 12:06 p.m. and check-ins after 12:05 p.m. will count as a school absence for that day.**

#### **Early Check-outs**

This is defined as when a parent, guardian, or other person having charge or control of a student authorizes a student to leave the facility before the end of the school day. (3:20 p.m.)

**Only previously authorized people will be able to check out a student--a photo ID is required. We request that early check-outs be kept to a minimum to avoid disruption of the instructional day.**

Early check-outs/tardies disrupt not only the learning of the child being checked out, but also that of the other students in the classroom. Early check-outs/tardies are now recorded on progress reports and monitored by the Attendance Assistant Principal. If this becomes habitual, you may receive a call from an administrator.

#### **No child may be checked out after 3:00 p.m.**

**When checking your child out early, please DO NOT park in the front (use the side parking lot). Once buses are on the curb, you are not able to pass the buses and will be detained from leaving.**

#### **2016-2017 Testing Dates**

Regular attendance has a direct influence on student achievement. Please use the below dates for reference when planning appointments or time away from school.

Sept. 21 - 23	Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Gr. 1st, 2nd, 5th
Oct. 26 - Nov. 1	Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) Gr. 2nd & 5th
Jan 17 - Mar 3	ACCESS Test Window for ELL's (English Language Learners)
April 17 - 28	"Window" for GA Milestones Gr. 3rd, 4th, 5th

{Check website for Details}

#### **Absences**

Per state guidelines, all absences will be considered "unexcused" except for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness or attendance in school endangers a student's health or the health of others.
2. A serious illness or death in the student's immediate family.
3. Observing religious holidays, necessitating absence from school.
4. Absences mandated by court order or by governmental agencies.
5. Conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety.
6. Students serving as pages for Georgia General Assembly
7. Students whose parent or guardian is in military service and who is being sent overseas for active duty or returning from active duty (5 days per school year)

**At any time school is closed due to inclement weather, an announcement will be made on all local news stations by 6:00 a.m. This info will also be posted on the GCPS main website.**

## Documenting Absences

**Parents or guardians must submit a doctor's excuse, a written excuse, or an on-line excuse explaining the reason for the absence and the date(s) of the absence(s). Visit Harmony website [www.harmonywildcats.org](http://www.harmonywildcats.org). Excuses must be received within 5 days of your child's return to school.**

A letter will be mailed to the parent, guardian, or person having charge or control of the student to notify them if a student has 5, 7, or 10 **unexcused** absences, and stating the possible consequences. After 10 unexcused absences you may be asked to present a physician's note to excuse future absences or attend a meeting at the school.

Work missed because of an excused absence must be made up within the length of time the student was absent. For unexcused absences, teachers are not expected to give make-up work assignments. **Make up work will not be assigned until the student returns from the absence.**

## **Transportation**

State Law provides two ways students can be brought to and from school. One is by school bus, which we most highly recommend. The other is for parents to bring their children to and from school by car. In doing so, parents must follow the car rider plan that is established by the school. That plan is outlined in the following paragraphs. **Parents cannot drop students off in any other location.** Parents cannot come into the building and wait for their children to be dismissed. They must wait in the car rider line. Parents who do not follow these procedures will be reported to the School Resource Officer.

**No changes will be made in any child's transportation arrangements without a written, signed note from his/her parent or guardian.** For your child's safety, we will not be able to make changes via FAX or phone. Please DO NOT call the school to make changes in transportation.

## **Car Riders**

Parents who provide transportation for their children will enter and exit using the driveway north of the building on East Maddox Road. No cars are permitted in the bus driveway. Car riders line up and wait their turn as cars come by the designated area. **Rules and procedures for car riders will be provided when you are issued your car rider number at registration.** For the safety of all students, the rules and procedures must be followed.

**Parents must cooperate with the school and not drop their children off or pick them up anywhere but the car rider lane during the designated car**

**rider times. The bus lane in the front of the building is for buses and bus students only.** State Law prevents passenger cars in this area. Parents should not walk their children to their classroom by parking in the front of the school. Please use lower parking lot (north side of school) and go to the front office for check in.

**Arrival Time - 8:20 am/ Tardy Bell Rings at 8:50 am**  
At 8:45 a.m. car rider doors will be locked. **Car Rider students who arrive after 8:45 must be accompanied by parent to the front office for check-in.**

### **Dismissal Time - 3:20 p.m.**

Each car rider will be issued a number to display on the rear view mirror of their car when picking up children. Students will not be released to enter a vehicle unless the Harmony issued car rider number is displayed on the rearview mirror. Numbers and procedure information is provided on Open House or later by checking with the office.

## **School Bus**

To prevent congestion in the parking lot and car rider line, **parents are strongly encouraged to have their children ride the bus to and from school on the first day and every day of the school year.**

**RIDING A SCHOOL BUS IS A PRIVILEGE.** Improper conduct on the bus will result in the privilege being denied by suspension from the bus.

**Students riding a bus will be expected to ride their designated bus. We cannot accept changes from one bus to another.** (See School Bus Safety Guidelines)

## **Bus Manager Interventions**

Students should communicate problems regarding transportation to the bus driver. Bus drivers and bus managers may use the interventions listed below for students who do not follow bus rules.

A minor offense is considered inappropriate or unsafe student behavior that may be improved with minor assistance from the driver.

**Mandatory Seat Assignment:** Every student will be assigned a seat and those seat assignments will be maintained by the bus driver on a seating chart.

(The assignment of seats at the beginning of the school is part of the prevention step and considered the first step of the "Student Behavior Management" process.)

**Verbal Reminder:** Bus managers will remind the student of bus rule(s) not being followed.

**Talk privately with student:** Bus managers will let the student know inappropriate behavior and what is expected from them.

**Reassign bus seat:** Bus managers will separate the students involved in the inappropriate behavior.

**Parent/Guardian Courtesy Call:** Bus managers will call the parent/guardian to notify them of students' inappropriate behavior, with a request for help to achieve appropriate behavior.

This may be followed up in writing on a Parent Notification Form to alert parents of inappropriate behavior.

**All of the above steps may be bypassed depending on the severity of the inappropriate behavior.**

**Bus Discipline Form sent to Administrator:**

Reasons:

- a. Behavior escalates beyond a driver's control or has not improved after using the appropriate intervention steps.
- b. Major offense.

Violations that should be considered major offenses include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. drugs (including alcohol, cigarettes, lighters)
- b. throwing objects off the bus
- c. fighting (trying to intentionally hurt someone, not pushing or shoving)
- d. weapons, dangerous instruments, and explosive/implosive devices
- e. threats (verbal and physical threats)
- f. electronic communication devices or pocket pagers (Students found in violation shall be subject to placement in an alternative education program.)

**Documentation:** Bus manager will maintain a daily written documentation of all occurrences in the Transportation Logbook.

**Consequences**

When student behavior on the bus escalates beyond a driver's control or is not improved after using the appropriate intervention steps, the bus manager will submit a Bus Discipline Form to the school office. Consequences including parent conferences and/or bus suspension may be enforced at the discretion of the local school administrators according to the severity of the offense. Safely transporting children to and from school will not be compromised.

**Elementary Student Conduct Behavior Code**

The following rules apply when a student is:

- a. on school grounds,
- b. at a school activity, function or event that is held off school grounds, or any place where the student is under the jurisdiction of school authorities; or
- c. on the way to and from school.

We want all students and classrooms to be the best possible places for students to learn. That means everyone must show respect for self and others, and

for the school itself. The Gwinnett County **Discipline Information for the Parents of Elementary School Students** will be distributed to parents at the beginning of the school year. Please read it thoroughly as it will give you specific information regarding discipline policies in the Gwinnett County Public Schools.

**A student who makes poor choices may receive one or more of the following consequences:**

- \*Verbal Reprimand
- \*Parent/Teacher Conference
- \*Counseling
- \*Parent/Teacher/Administrator Conference
- \*Time-Out within the Classroom or with Administrator
- \*In-School Suspension
- \*Out-of-School Suspension
- \*Disciplinary Panel Hearing
- \*Expulsion from School

Students are not allowed to bring toys or other specified items to school or on the bus unless their teacher has directed them to do so. (Example: Show and Tell or special incentive days such as Game Day, etc.)

**Electronic battery operated games, collector's cards, discs, or cartridges are not allowed.** Gaming devices do not fall under the umbrella of "Bring Your Own Device" registration. These items are distracting for your child and others. **All Cell phones must be kept in the student's book bag at all times,** unless they are being used for instructional purposes. Teachers or administrators may ask the child to leave a confiscated item at school until the end of the school year or until a parent can come to school and pick the item up.

Student Ambassadors and Bus Star Helpers are role models and leaders in our school. If a Bus Discipline Form or Administrative Referral Form is made, the child may be removed from his/her office.

**Dress Appropriately**

Clothing should set the tone for learning. If children wear play clothes, they are ready for play. If they are dressed for work, they are ready for work. Clothing can also give a child a sense of pride and self-worth. All clothing must be appropriate for the school setting and activities.

**Pants**

Pants must be of appropriate size and fit. For safety reasons, pants must be worn at the waist and cannot extend beyond the shoe sole.

**Shirts**

No "spaghetti straps" or exposed midriffs. If your child raises his/her hand and their stomach shows, the shirt is too short.

No t-shirts with cut off sleeves or with inappropriate messages (to be determined by an administrator on individual basis).

## Shorts, Dresses, and Skirts

Clothing must be of appropriate length (end of child's fingertips).

## Shoes

- Must be tied if they have laces
- Must be appropriate to the activity - tennis shoes for PE at all times

## Clothing Items Not Allowed

- Baggy Pants
- Holes & cuts intentional or otherwise
- Hats or caps except on special days
- Gang related symbolism or clothing with references to alcohol/drugs

If students do not follow the school dress code, they will be sent to clinic for a change of clothing OR a parent will be called to bring a change of clothes.

## Physical Education

Any student not able to participate in PE should bring a statement from the doctor stating the reason for not participating. Make sure your child is dressed appropriately and wears the appropriate tennis shoes (no flip flops, boots, high-heeled shoes, or open sandals). Safe play and sportsmanship are encouraged during Teacher-Directed PE. No contact sports are allowed.

## Personals

No personal gifts will be exchanged at school. This should be handled outside of school to avoid hurt feelings. Birthdays will be recognized at Harmony on the morning television program, and students may stop by the office for their birthday token. A parent may bring a store-bought ready-to-serve treat to the cafeteria during lunch (due to various allergies).

## Cafeteria

We will continue to use the computerized micro cash register system. Each child will use their student ID number when purchasing food. This number is available at registration or by calling the cafeteria office at 770-271-4898. We recommend you log into your child's account quickly and securely by going to [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com) to pay for meals in advance and to set up low-balance reminders and auto-payments. A student may purchase meals with cash or check.

Student lunches are \$2.25, breakfast \$1.50. Extra entrees may be purchased for \$2.00, extra milk and side dishes are \$.40 each. Adult lunches are \$3.00. Bottled water is available for additional charge.

***If you do not want your child to purchase breakfast and/or lunch, please notify the cafeteria manager directly.***

You may apply for free or reduced meals by visiting <http://gwinnett.school lunchapp.com> or completing a paper application. The application process is easy, quick, and confidential. Students receiving reduced price meals should prepay to protect their identity. Reduced breakfast is \$.30 & lunch is \$.40 each. Only the cash register can tell if the meal is full-price, reduced, or free.

**Breakfast** is available from 8:20 a.m. until 8:45 a.m.

If you choose to pay with a check rather than on [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com), it should be made payable to Harmony Elementary Lunchroom for the amount desired. We are prohibited by county policy to give change back from a check. You may pay for all your children's lunches with one check. Be sure to place the check in an envelope with all the student's names and teachers on the envelope and the check. Students should deposit their envelopes in the wall mounted mailboxes located in the halls – one outside the cafeteria and one in the car rider hall. If it is for more than one student, please give information for all students.

## Guests for Lunch

We encourage our parents to join their children for lunch. **Please notify the teacher** by note or email if you are planning on eating with your child in the event there is a schedule change. It's also helpful for the cafeteria staff to know ahead of time so they can plan accordingly.

Please enter the building at the front office, sign in and obtain a visitor badge. You may wait in the bench area by the side cafeteria door. Due to space restrictions, we ask that parents sit with their child at the reserved table. Please allow only your child to sit with you and observe the 10 minutes of quiet time.

**Harmony prohibits bringing fast foods from such restaurants as McDonalds, Wendy's, etc. into the cafeteria. Carbonated drinks are likewise prohibited.**

## Lunch Charges

Students who forget their lunch or money may charge their lunch. **This privilege is limited to \$10.00 of charges.** Charge Slips are given to your child at the time a charge occurs. It is your child's responsibility to bring the slip home the day of the charge. Please send payment the following day. Students will also receive a charge letter in Friday Folders.

If a student has \$10.00 of charges and fails to bring in lunch money, he/she will be given an alternative meal to help sustain him/her for the day. **Please make sure your child does not need to charge!**

## Snacks/Ice Cream

Students will have an opportunity for a daily snack break. Please send in a nutritious snack. Some examples are cheese and crackers, fruit, granola bar, etc. Candy is not considered a nutritious snack. Water is the only beverage allowed in the classrooms (colorless drinks only).

In accordance with the GCPS Board Policy, only ice cream may be sold to elementary students. Ice cream is \$1.00 and may be purchased in the cafeteria during your child's lunch time on Friday.

## **Media Center**

The media center has books and magazines for assigned study and recreational reading. It is open for use the entire school day, and a short time before and after school.

Students are responsible for returning the books they check out within two weeks. Students who lose or damage a library book (beyond use) are required to pay \$15.00 to replace a hardcover book and \$5.00 to replace a paperback book.

Students in grades K-1 are allowed to check out one book at a time and students in grades 2-5 are allowed to check out two books at a time. Students who have an overdue book or need to pay for a damaged/ lost book will not be able to check out another book until the previous book is returned or paid for in full.

Students are encouraged to use the media center for research. Gwinnett County provides research databases that can be accessed from school and from home through MY eCLASS.

**Community of Readers (COR)** is our school-wide genre based reading program that encourages students to read from a variety of literary forms. It is designed to encourage a love of reading in our students and to help them become better readers. For further information, and a list of the genres, go to the Harmony web site and click on Media Center, then Community of Readers.

## **Technology**

Students have many opportunities to use technology to enhance the curriculum. Students have access to computer software and the Internet connectivity in their classrooms, media center, and technology labs. Software is educational and supports the curriculum. Adult supervision is required for students to access the Internet.

All students who have access to the Internet will be required to have on file an updated (yearly) AUP (Acceptable Use Policy), completed through MyPaymentsPlus. Safeguards are in place to help prevent access to inappropriate information and pictures on the Internet.

## **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)**

We are very excited that Harmony is a part of the Gwinnett County Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative. Students will be able to bring devices from home to connect to the GCPS network. More information regarding BYOD and the instructional use of devices can be found on the Harmony web

site. It is strongly suggested that devices have a screen size 7 inches or larger. Gaming systems are not approved devices.

## **Parent Portal**

Please take the time to register for the Parent Portal.

This online tool is valuable for staying up to date on your child's education. Additionally, students have access to a MY eCLASS student portal. The student portal contains online textbooks, leveled readers, math games, grades, and the Gwinnett County Research Library. Please review these resources with your child.

Questions regarding technology at Harmony can be sent to [techsupport@harmonywildcats.org](mailto:techsupport@harmonywildcats.org).

## **Counseling**

The purpose of the Counseling Program is to help each student grow socially, emotionally, and academically throughout the school year in the following ways:

1. Conducting individual counseling sessions with students when requested by teachers, parents, or students. The counselor may also conference with a student when he/she feels it is necessary.
2. Teaching classroom lessons (approximately 10 -12 per year) to all grade levels. The lessons cover Gwinnett County's Office of Advisement and Counseling's Standards and Competencies in academic, career and personal/social development.
3. Conducting small group sessions with students who need academic, social or attendance support (pending parent permission).
4. Consulting with teachers, parents, and administrators about a student's social-emotional, behavior, or academic concerns in order to promote his/her success.
5. Monitoring student attendance and meeting with students and/or parents regarding attendance issues when necessary.
6. Facilitating and supporting student leadership programs.

## **Clinic and Medication**

The clinic is a service provided for your children, operated and maintained partly from your contributions at the beginning of the year. If your child has any specific medical needs (such as allergies, asthma, diabetes, etc.), you must have an action plan completed and on file in the clinic that allows us to address their specific needs.

We make every effort to keep the students in class; therefore, teachers are provided with bandages in their classrooms. For issues that cannot be taken care of in the classroom, first aid will be administered in the clinic. Should your child need medication at school, **you** (the parent/guardian) will need to provide the medication to the clinic in the original container.



Parents may write, email, or call the school to request a teacher conference. Parents may email school employees by using the teacher's name and the Gwinnett suffix.

(Ex: First Name\_LastName@gwinnett.k12.ga.us) Note: Some teacher's email may contain a middle initial. Email addresses can be found on the Harmony website.

The Georgia State Board of Education requires a minimum of two parent teacher conferences per year. These are scheduled for the fall and spring of each year. However, any time you feel the need for a conference with your child's teacher, please do not hesitate to schedule one. Student Support Team Meetings may also be scheduled at parent request.

### **Communication Resources**

Additionally, there are several communication resources established by Harmony to support home/school communication. Information about signing up for these communications can be found on the Harmony website.

**Remind 101** - Receive text message notifications of news and happenings, including school closings and delays.

**Email Notification** - Receive email notifications of news and events.

**Mill Creek App** - Our free app is available for download through Google Play and App Store. The App contains contact information, calendar of school events, quick links (ie. submit an online excuse), and important documents.

**Harmony Highlights** - Our newsletter that is published monthly to communicate important information from our staff to our parents. This is located on the homepage of our website.

**Parent Portal** - Registering for the Parent Portal grants you access to your child's attendance, test, course, and discipline history, as well as grades and class notes.

**Grade Level and Teacher Communication** - Weekly Teacher newsletters are located on each teacher's C & I Course Page. This page is accessed by first logging into your child's My eCLASS account and clicking on the green C & I tool. My eCLASS log in information can be found inside each agenda.

### **Homework**

Homework is a necessary part of each pupil's educational program. Students may be expected to spend time in addition to scheduled class instruction to achieve satisfactory work. Homework provides the student the opportunity to practice newly introduced concepts, as well as the enrichment, extension, and remediation of the Academic Knowledge and Skills. Homework assignments/projects are communicated

via the Agenda Book and/or your student's C&I tool found at MyeCLASSGCPs.com.

The amount of time students spend on homework varies by grade level. Please check with your child's teacher regarding the grade level's homework policy. Additionally, every child should spend time reading nightly.

### **Textbooks**

Gwinnett provides textbooks for all students in the district at no cost. Every student is obligated to give his/her books the best of care. They are to be used and not abused. Textbooks are now scanned to individual students through a county-wide tracking system, holding students accountable for any lost or damaged textbooks. Parents can view this information on the parent portal.

The county has provided a variety of digital texts and electronic textbooks. This content is available through your child's My eCLASS account. Electronic textbooks have a read aloud feature and additional content.

### **Withdrawal Procedures**

1. Please notify the teacher or registrar at least one week before your child is to withdraw, if possible.
2. Registrar will complete the GCPs Elementary Withdrawal Form for your signature. You are responsible for the return of textbooks, library books, and any outstanding charges (cafeteria, lost books, etc.) at this time. You will be given a copy of the withdrawal form to take to the new school.
3. Upon receiving a signed "Release of Record" form from the transferring school, the student's records will be released to the new school.

### **Student Records**

"Under the Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, parents have several rights. These include: the right to inspect and review educational records of their child, the right to control the release of the educational records of their child, the right to complain to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Office about the school's failure to comply with the law, and the right to be informed of the rights just listed.

To obtain a copy of the Gwinnett County's policies on their compliance with the law, or to request the opportunity to inspect and review your child's records, contact the school.

### **Change of Address or Phone**

If you have moved or will be moving within our district, please let us know so we may update your files with your new address. A change of address within Gwinnett County requires a copy of a lease, deed, or contract, as well as a utility bill for your new residency. If you are moving outside of our school boundaries, please stop by the school to fill out the "Withdrawal" form. We will be happy to provide any documents needed to make the transition a smooth one for your student.

For emergency purposes, we must have updated information on each student. Please notify the school of any changes of contacts, address or phone numbers immediately so we have current information at all times. **To make these changes, come to the school and fill out the “Change of Information” form.**

## **Before/After School Activities**

Harmony offers a variety of before/after school activities. In the past this has included Student Ambassadors, Broadcast Team, Running Club, Book Club, Art Club, Robotics, Math Club and Chorus Club, Chorus productions and remedial tutoring.

Clubs begin and end at different times throughout the year and may involve specific grades. Please be on the lookout, via the Harmony website, for important information inviting students to participate. Please be prompt for the drop off and pickup of your child.

**If you are late for a morning club, you are responsible for signing yourself in at the front office and walking your child to their club. No child is to be dropped off without a school monitor present.**

## **School Contributions**

The school requests instructional funds as approved by the Gwinnett County Board of Education. These funds are over and above any funds provided under the Quality Basic Education Act of 1985. No student will be denied access to or participation in any courses funded by the Gwinnett County Board of Education or by the State of Georgia.

## **Students with Disabilities**

“It is the practice of the Gwinnett County Public Schools to provide instructional and related services appropriate to a free appropriate public education to individuals with documented disabilities. Individuals may contact their local school for information regarding such services.”

## **Parent-Teacher Association**

The Harmony Elementary PTA encourages all parents, teachers, school officials, grandparents, community leaders, and other interested individuals to join the PTA. Our PTA is strengthened by active participation and we encourage all not only to belong to the PTA, but also to participate in all PTA sponsored activities. Your support is essential, and our goal this year is to reach 100% membership. To join, simply access your child’s MyPaymentsPlus account and check the box to add a membership for each child, or for family member, etc.

Objectives of the PTA

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, and community.
- To raise the standard of home life.

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

## **PTA Meetings**

PTA General Session meetings occur once each 9 weeks and are typically held in conjunction with a school event, performance or program. A short business meeting is held prior to the beginning of the scheduled activity. We invite and encourage you to attend. The schedule for the meeting dates and special events is posted on the website – [www.harmonywildcats.org](http://www.harmonywildcats.org).

## **PTA Volunteer Opportunities**

Our school would not be successful in building strong foundations for our students’ success without the commitment and dedication of our volunteers. Volunteers are always needed and welcome throughout the year. Please consider sharing your time by helping in one of the following areas:

5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Activities	Hospitality
BINGO (grade level & Family Night)	Reflections Art Program
Earning for Learning	Room Parent (classroom assistance)
Environmental/Beautification	Spirit Nights
Fall Festival/Spring Event	Spirit Wear
Fundraiser	Volunteer Coordinator
Holiday Shop	Yearbook (design/sales)

## **The Harmony GA School Council**

The Harmony Georgia School Council provides assistance to the principal in bringing about cooperation and coordination of resources for the students of Gwinnett County Public Schools.

We believe this shared decision-making council can arouse citizen interest in education affairs, involve citizens in making decisions confronting their schools, and develop better understanding among school, home, and staff which will ultimately result in the improvement of education.

This council is made up of the principal, two teachers, two parents, and two business partners. All meetings are open and will be posted. Everyone is invited to attend and offer their comments and concerns. Check Harmony’s website for School Council meeting dates/times.

## **HARMONY WILDCAT PLEDGE**

**As a Harmony Wildcat, I will be respectful of myself, others, and property,  
I will be responsible for my behavior and my academic success, and  
I will be a role model in my decision-making.**