

MAY/JUNE 2024
GATOR TALES
CHATHAM GROVE PTA NEWS

GOOD NEWS GATORS!

Thank you all for an incredible school year! It has been an honor to serve as your PTA President. I am excited to see where we will go in the future and cannot wait to continue to be a part of this incredible community! Thank you to all of the 2023-2024 BOD members, committee members, volunteers, and everyone who helped make this year a success for our Gators!

Go Gators! 🐊 Jen Sparks (CGE PTA President)

Important Dates

No Classes

- May 27

Events

- **TBD:** PTA General Body Meeting
- **May 6:** CGE Chalk the Walk
- **June 3:** Lower Grades Field Day
- **June 4:** Gator Chase & Upper Grades Field Day
- **June 5:** Gator Bash
- **June 6:** Kindergarten & 5th Grade Graduation
- **June 7:** LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Let's Celebrate

Staff Birthdays

- See list May - August Birthdays on Page #

Staff Appreciation Days

- May 1: School Principal's Day
- May 3: School Lunch Hero Day
- **May 6 - 10: Teacher & Staff Appreciation**
- May 8: School Nurse Day
- May 9: Speech Pathologist Day

Check out the [Staff Wishlist & Favorites](#) to learn more about your teachers and what they need (check back for updates!)



LATEST NEWS & UPDATES

Join the CGE PTA Board for 2024/2025

Interested in joining the Chatham Grove PTA 2024/25 Board of Directors?

Our school depends on the support and hard work of the PTA, so please consider:

- Joining the Board for next school year!
- Volunteering for a Chair or Coordinator position!
- Sharing a talent, resource or business that you have!

A full listing of positions can be found on the [PTA website](#)

Email Laura Dean @ nominating@chathamgrovepta.com for any questions!

PTA PRESIDENT

VP OF DEVELOPMENT

VP OF STAFF AFFAIRS

VP OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

SECRETARY

TREASURER

AND MORE!

[Please complete the interested form HERE!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

JOIN THE PTA TO CELEBRATE
OUR CGE STAFF!
MAY 6-10

Choose a day or two (or five!) to participate and show your teachers how much they are loved and appreciated!

MONDAY: HIGH FIVE TO TEACHERS

Have your student give a high-five or a compliment to any teacher they see!

***CHALK THE WALK** | 4p-5p

We will kick off the week of appreciation with our annual Chalk the Walk event! Music, Ice Cream & Fun!! Full details coming separately.

TUESDAY: YOU ARE PICTURE PERFECT

Ask your child to draw them a picture or send in a note letting them know they are loved!

WEDNESDAY: SUPPLY THEM WITH THANKS

Pick up any supplies they are running low on in class!

THURSDAY: MY TEACHER'S A TREAT

Treat them to their favorite snack, beverage, homemade treat, or candy!

FRIDAY: THANKS ARE IN THE CARDS

Have your child create a thoughtful card made with love!

Click the links below:

[Staff List of their Favorite Things](#)

[CGE Teachers' Amazon Wish Lists](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



YOU'RE INVITED TO **CHALK THE WALK!**

IN HONOR OF STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK



Monday, May 6th, 2024
4:00 - 5:00 PM



DRAW OR WRITE ENCOURAGING AND
POSITIVE MESSAGES ON THE CGE SIDEWALKS.
LET'S SHOW THE STAFF SOME LOVE!

MUSIC, POPSICLES & LOTS OF FUN!



EVENT SPONSORED BY THE CGE PTA
COMPLIMENTARY POPSICLE WILL BE
SERVED!



The PTA will provide some chalk, but feel free to bring your own.

**Not a drop-off event*



**The Alsie Ice Cream Truck will be
at CGE Chalk Walk from 4-5 PM
Popsicles for all who attend
provided by the PTA**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Thank you to our amazing CGE community for your generous monetary donations towards the Staff Gift Card Drive. Your donations will assure that every CGE Staff Member will receive a Gift Card for Staff Appreciation Week! In addition to the gift card, all CGE staff members will receive a personalized CGE Staff T-shirt, lunch for the week, and a treat trolley with various gifts each day! We could not have done this all without the generous donations and support from our community!
THANK YOU!

THANK YOU

STAFF APPRECIATION DAYS

May 1st
Principal's
Day



Dr. Hart-Olvis
Chatham Grove's Principal

Thank you

May 3rd
School
Lunch
Hero Day

HAPPY
SCHOOL LUNCH
HERO DAY!
MAY 3RD

BANG

BANG

Ms. Lujan
Mr. Allred
Ms. Cranford
Ms. Leary



THANK YOU TO OUR
CGE FOOD SERVICE STAFF!
WE APPRECIATE YOU GOING
ABOVE & BEYOND EACH AND EVERYDAY!

May 8th
School
Nurse Day

MAY 8, 2024

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL
NURSES DAY

MS. GLADSON
MS. PUGH



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION, INSPIRATION,
AND THE LOVE YOU GIVE TO OUR STUDENTS.



May 9th
SLP Day

HAPPY SPEECH LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGIST DAY

Ms. Dickson
Ms. Silenzi



Thank you for all that you do
for our students at CGE!

ADVOCATE FOR TEACHERS!

HOW CAN YOU THANK AN EDUCATOR THIS WEEK?

We ❤️ Public Schools

Advocate!

Help your local educators make positive changes in our schools by using your voice!

IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING:

- ➡ Write an email to your child's principal explaining why the educators in their lives are special.
- ➡ Write a note to an educator thanking them.

IN CHATHAM COUNTY:

- ➡ Support the Chatham County Schools budget proposal which includes an increase to the teacher and classified staff supplement!

Strong Schools Strong Students Strong Communities

Dress in RED, come to the County commissioner Meeting on May 6th, 20th, and/or 21st to thank the commissioners and school leadership for their support so far and encourage them to support the new budget!

Write letters to the County Commissioners thanking them for their work and sharing your support for the budget to be put on public record!

AT THE STATE LEVEL:

- ➡ Sign this statewide petition demanding the state fully fund the Leandro plan for Public Schools!

HOW LEANDRO WILL SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY
Under the Leandro Plan, the state would supply the following funding amount by year:

Category	Amount	Change
Chatham County Schools (K-12 Public Schools)	\$18.7 MILLION	32% more money
Chatham County (K-12 Education - programs for children with special needs)	\$5.6 MILLION	

➡ **VOTE FOR PRO-PUBLIC SCHOOL CANDIDATES**

STAY INVOLVED!

Check in with your Local and State public school advocacy organizations for current information about advocacy actions, pro-public school candidates in our area, and issues affecting our students!

PUBLIC SCHOOL FORUM of north carolina
PUBLIC SCHOOL STRONG!
NCAE North Carolina Association of Educators
Public Schools FIRST NC

Become a Community Ally

The budget with the teacher pay increase will be presented to the county commissioners on Monday at 6 pm.

It would be incredible to show up to support wearing red. Public can make comments, but even if you can just come and be there, it will make a huge impact to see the community support behind this request.

If you can't be there but want to take a moment to email the commissioners, it will go a long way. A raise for every teacher in Chatham County would be an awesome teacher appreciation movement!

Commissioner emails:

karen.howard@chathamcountync.gov
mike.dasher@chathamcountync.gov
david.delaney@chathamcountync.gov
katie.kenlan@chathamcountync.gov
franklin.gomez@chathamcountync.gov

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



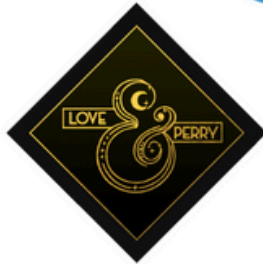
OF CHAPEL HILL



GAINES AUTOMOTIVE



YOGASIX WITH ABBY PORTER



EDGE SALON & WELLNESS EST. 2022



TRADER JOE'S



CHILDREN'S CULINARY INSTITUTE CHEF ARLENA

Wegmans

crumbl



UPCOMING EVENTS

Gator Chase

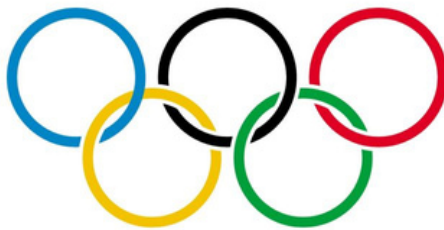
Tuesday, June 4th: 8:30a



Gator Chase will look a little different this year! We are excited to have the whole student body participate in the Gator Chase fun run that will kickoff field day on Tuesday, June 4th at 8:30a. Students will be broken up by upper and lower grades to participate at two intervals and allow the children to cheer each other one as well!

Parents are invited to spectate and cheer on our Gators for this years fun run! More details surrounding the event will be sent out in May!

Chatham Grove
Does



The
Olympics!

Field Day - Monday, June 3rd & Tuesday, June 4th

Field Day will be held on Monday & Tuesday, June 3rd-4th. The theme this year is Olympics! Kindergarten-2nd Grade will participate in Field Day on Monday with 3rd-5th Grades participating on Tuesday.

Coach Budlong has a wealth of fun planned for the kids with multicultural activity stations, water slides, music and more!

As the time nears, we will need volunteers! More information Coming soon!

Gator Chase: Why the Change?



Inclusion of All Students

Scheduling a weekend event for a school can be challenging! The timing of an event can be restrictive for those who play sports, travel or practice religion. Coupled with the fact that an event requiring a fee of \$20-\$35 per person to attend, can be cost prohibitive to many families - we opted for an event that will include all students.

Extensive Need for Volunteers

To hold an event of this magnitude, many hands are required for planning and execution. To properly plan for this event, we ideally need a team of at least 10 volunteers. To execute the event we need far more volunteers on the day of. This also means that many volunteers are unable to participate with their families as they are working the entire event due to a lack of signups.



Financial Considerations



As a PTA, we are extremely grateful to those who donate their time and money throughout the year. The PTA is able to provide a wealth of resources to our children, staff, and school. Our mission as a PTA is not only to raise funds, but also giveback to our community through free, inclusive events for families and children. Given the success of our year, we are able to reformat this event to include everyone!

This is our 4th annual Gator Chase, so we understand disappointment around the decision to change how it will be held this year.

We believe this can be a fun event this year for parents and children in our school with your support!

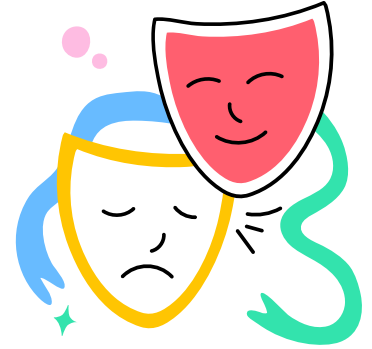
If you have any questions, please email Courtney at studentsvp@chathamgrovepta.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wizard of Oz!

Tuesdays & Thursdays

CGE is putting on a School Play! **The Wizard of Oz!**



- This is a student council project!
- Rehearsals on Tuesday mornings (7:30-8:15 AM) and Thursday Afternoons (3:15-4:15 PM)
- We need YOU as volunteers to help with rehearsals (helping kids stay calm and on task!)
- [Sign up here to volunteer!](#)

School Supply Shopping!

Order by July 1 for 2024 - 2025 school year!

Want one less thing to plan for at the beginning of the school year?
Order a school supply kit for your child!

- Supply kits will contain grade required school supplies
- Kits will be delivered directly to the school for your child
- The good stuff is included! (Crayola, Ticonderoga Pencils, and other name brands!)
- Cost: Depends on grade level
- [Order HERE by JULY 1!!!](#) Families can also purchase backpacks, lunch bags and make a donation for teacher supplies and wish list needs.

CHALLENGE! Order between April 22 - May 6th to help the PTA win \$2500 for free school supplies!



STAFF BIRTHDAYS!!!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 4: Ms. Cissokho (Social Work)
May 11: Ms. Forester (Kindergarten)
May 13: Ms. Galloway (Music)
May 16: Ms. Peaches (IA)
May 18: Ms. Kaufman (EC)
May 23: Mr. Patterson (IA)



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6- Ms. Lipetz (2nd Grade)
13- Ms. Dickson (Speech Language Pathologist)
June 14: Ms. Knight (5th Grade)
June 23: Deputy Smith
June 30: Ms. Hackman (AIG)

JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 1: Mr. Allred (Cafeteria)
1- Ms. Sheridan (EC IA)
July 2: Ms. Campbell (1st Grade)
July 14: Ms. Varner (3rd Grade)
July 19: Ms. Ellis (Custodian)
July 23: Mr. Denman (3rd Grade)
July 27: Ms. Collins (EC)
July 30: Ms. Mann (Kindergarten)



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Aug 3: Ms. Silver (Art)
Aug 6: Ms. Headen (EC)
Aug 7: Ms. Kornegay (Kindergarten)
Aug 15: Ms. Marshall (IA)
Aug 18: Ms. Durizch (Reading)
Aug 21: Ms. Cranford (Cafeteria)
Aug 24: Ms. Tomasiewicz (4th Grade)