



Geist Elementary PTO Parent Introduction



Welcome to Geist Elementary! We know that there are many new families to Geist this year; additionally, we are two years out from our normal activities. This letter serves as a broad overview of what happens at Geist to help you become familiar with communications and events you'll be hearing about. Geist PTO, the fundraising arm for Geist Elementary School (GES), organizes and sponsors an extensive list of activities throughout the school year. During the school year, our fundraising efforts are directly invested back into our students and staff. Raising this amount of money and making our events successful takes many hands and we are always looking for Parents, Guardians and even Grandparents to volunteer their time and talents.

GES PTO uses the Geist Gazette as its primary source for communication for events and activities. Watch for the email which includes our link. Check out and Like our PTO Facebook page [Facebook.com/GeistElementaryPTO](https://www.facebook.com/GeistElementaryPTO) where we post upcoming events, need to know info and fun photos of school events. Also make sure to visit and bookmark the GES PTO website <https://ges.hseschools.org/about/get-involved>, where you can find contact information, PTO meeting dates, meeting minutes, event updates and valuable forms.

What is that? When does it happen? Who is involved?

Back to School Kits-This is a teacher specific, pre-packaged collection of what your child needs for their grades' school supplies. The order link is typically sent out in the Spring to place your order for the next Fall start. Boxes are delivered to your child's desk the first day of school and they're ready to go. Quick and easy plus a fundraiser for the PTO.

Room Parents-This is a volunteer opportunity for 2-3 parents in each classroom. Sign up quickly as it's a coveted role. These individuals help plan, prepare and run classroom activities during Fall Festival, Winter Party and Earth Day and are the primary point of communication with the class teacher for these events.

Spirit Wear-School pride never goes out of style! A couple times a year the PTO takes Spirit Wear orders so your kids can wear Gator gear with pride. Communication comes with the order form, deadline, payment and distribution details. This also provides fundraising for the PTO.

Gator Gallop-This happens each Fall, is a fun and engaging event for the kids and is a major fundraiser for the school. The culminating event is outside (weather permitting) and allows for parent volunteer attendance. This year's Gator Gallop is Friday October 1st.

Fall Festival-This also happens each Fall and is the second fun, engaging event and major fundraiser. This happens inside the school on a Friday evening and is geared for the whole family. The Festival offers: games, prizes, food & drink, and online silent auction with awesome packages and experiences. Information is provided via email with ticket & food orders as well as payment options. This year's Fall Festival is Friday November 5th.

Dine to Donate-These are events coordinated with local businesses where we share with you the location, evening, requirements, etc. You attend, enjoy dinner or a fun experience and the businesses share a portion of their proceeds back to the school.

Movie Nights-Twice a year the PTO schedules an after school movie viewing in the GES gymnasium. For a small fee, the kids are able to enjoy popcorn and a drink while watching a movie with their friends. Communication provides the night, sign up deadline, payment and pick up instructions post-event.

Winter Celebration-This is one of the events the Room Parents coordinate. It is typically the last day prior to winter break and includes time for a craft, snack and typically a service project geared to benefit a local provider in Hamilton County.

disABILITY-This is a school-wide event that is provided by the Josef Maley Foundation. They bring the students an interactive and grade-level appropriate introduction to individuals with disabilities. How might they interact with, play with someone living with a disability? How are individuals with a disability the same as them? Typically in March during the school day, students and staff only.

Science Night-This is typically the evening on the day of the GES Science Fair. A fun and engaging night for the whole family. Interactive STEM activities available for all to enjoy and you can check out all our Science-Gators experiments and findings. Typically in February.

Earth Day-Another event held each Spring and coordinated by the Room Parents. This is an outdoor event offering the kids a rotation of game time, treats, grounds beautification and an informative session on nature, recycling, etc. Typically in April. Some parent volunteer participation.

Field Day-A day of outside play and sports with a refreshing treat. Typically the last day of school and does have parent volunteer participation opportunities.

Staff Appreciation-Our entire GES Staff is fabulous in all that they do, from educating our children to feeding them, transporting them to/from school, keeping them and the building clean and making sure they are healthy and safe. Because they do so much for our kids day in and day out, we like to give back and show our thanks. Often we will announce we are accepting parent donations for gift cards or other small items to share. We also provide yummy treats and small gifts for the staff to enjoy.

Flower Sales-We offer two flower sales each year, Fall Mums and Spring Flowers to cheer up and beautify your homes or brighten someone else's. Information is shared via email with order, payment and pick up instructions. This serves as a fundraiser for GES.

Friends of the Library-The importance of young children reading is beyond measure. Friends of the Library is a way to help ensure the GES library has current books the children can enjoy year after year. You may donate to the Friends of the Library fund a book that will have your child's name and picture on the inside jacket. What fun to appear "published" and know you're giving back to hundreds of others to enjoy and expand their skills and imagination.

Gator Rewards-These are other small but simple ways you can help earn funds to benefit GES. Do you shop? Of course you do. Connect GES to your Kroger and Amazon Smile apps these vendors will send funds to GES. Coca-Cola and Box Tops for education both have apps where you can scan purchases to accumulate points which equate to dollars shared with GES.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/13qzywuEr8IPo0liz7P_KGSJdGDqLlctPf3XT7ja1h9s/edit?usp=sharing

PTO Board and Committee Chair contact List:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DShkeJXwcB8_Pgn5FFLBAhBpAuBs47HN/view?usp=sharing

If you have a talent or interest in getting involved, please let us know through our Volunteer SignUp <https://signup.com/go/ikDVFKn> or email us at GESPTOPRES@gmail.com

Room Parent Coordinator SignUp:

<https://signup.com/go/nfkErtD>

We welcome you once again and look forward to a fun year for students, families and staff.

Your GES PTO