



Parents' Association

August, 2021

Dear Gaston Day School Parents,

We hope you & your families have enjoyed a wonderful, relaxing summer together! The Parents' Association (PA) would like to extend a warm welcome back to everyone – old & new.

The PA is a volunteer organization that works in cooperation with the Gaston Day School administration to achieve the goal of becoming the finest independent school in the South. We work together each year to identify how the PA can help enhance the educational experience of our students, teachers and staff and our families. For example, last year we focused our efforts on our teachers and staff, as they went above and beyond for our children to have the opportunity to attend in-person school all year in the face of ever-changing rules and restrictions. We treated teachers and staff throughout the year, including monthly supplies of snacks and drinks, grocery gift cards at Thanksgiving, a holiday gift exchange (we supplied the presents!), a mid-year school supply shop, a “kid-free” BBQ and many other fun events during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Our efforts will continue to be supported primarily by fundraising and we need your help! The PA has a lot of new, fun and exciting fundraising ideas planned for this coming school year - be on the lookout for more details to be communicated via our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/gdsparentsassociation/>) and/or information sent home with your children. While we will not be bringing Fall Fest back this year, we are planning for a Spring event, as well as some fun smaller fundraising events throughout the year. Remember, *every parent* is a member of the Parents' Association and the success of our organization depends on your participation.

We invite you to save the date for our annual **Back to School Picnic** which will be held on **Friday, August 27th, from 6-8pm**. This annual event is a great opportunity for the whole family to find school-related activity information, meet & mingle with teachers and other families, as well as a great chance for the children to see each other outside the classroom. There will be GDS merchandise available for purchase and we will have more details regarding how you can get involved in the PA events planned for this year. Please plan to join us for an evening of family fun!!

If you have time to volunteer or would like to be a Grade Parent, please send an email to PARENTSASSOCIATION@GASTONDAY.ORG with your interests and availability. You will be hearing more from the PA in the coming months about specific volunteer opportunities.

We hope you enjoy the last days of summer vacation!

Sincerely,

Your Gaston Day School 2021-22 Parents' Association Board:

Kathleen Rader, President

Terri Palmieri, Vice President

Lauren Lebioda, Treasurer

Mandy Roberts, Secretary

Find us online at www.gastonday.org/pa and our Marketplace at <https://gds-pa.square.site/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/gdsparentsassociation/>