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## Gator's Nest Handbook 2025-2026

The Gator's Nest Program provides sponsored supervision for our students. This program emphasizes cooperative learning and enrichment activities.

The program will begin at 6:30 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. for the morning program and 3:10 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday on the G. Weaver Hipps campus.

There is no program on holidays, teacher duty days, teacher in-service days or early dismissal days. The program will provide a full meal and a drink every afternoon for each child participating.

Each grade level will have the opportunity to interact with other students, do their homework, play outside, and use chromebooks. Please be advised that homework time is not tutoring, but instead, it is an opportunity for your child to work independently on previously taught material the classroom teacher has assigned. Our staff is happy to assist and make sure it gets completed when support is requested.

**Enrollment: REGISTRATION is \$25 per student and \$40 per family- Students in kindergarten through fifth grade must be registered for the Gator's Nest Program prior to participation.** An application can be accessed online on our website with the QR code. **The registration fee** per family is due at the time of enrollment in order to secure your child's spot in the program. The annual registration fee is nonrefundable. Once the program is full, student names will be added to a waiting list.

Space is limited and enrollment may be closed due to high numbers from time to time. If your child does not attend for four consecutive weeks, he or she will be deleted from the roster.

Enrollment Criteria includes:

- ✓ Students must attend G. Weaver Hipps
- ✓ Students must be potty-trained
- ✓ Students must be able to cooperate in a group of similar aged students
- ✓ Students must follow expectations in the GWH Student Handbook & the SDLC Code of Conduct

### **Hours/Fees:**

Payments for services must always be made in advance of the week beginning services. This means that all tuition fees are due by the **Friday prior** to the participating week. **Three (3) late payments** will result in dismissal from the program. If **ONE WEEK** goes unpaid, the student will be dropped from the program, causing the student to re-register after payment has been made. There will be no discounts for absences in programs using the flat rate structure.

**THIS POLICY WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY.**

The first payment and registration fee MUST accompany enrollment forms for the student to begin in the program. The only forms of payment are cash and school cash and checks . Checks must be made payable to **G. Weaver Hipps** . All returned checks are subject to a \$20 service fee and all future payments must be made in cash.

***The Florida Constitution Article VII prohibits the School District from extending credit to any individual or corporation. Therefore, after an attempt is made to collect any outstanding fees, dismissal from the program will occur for non-payment and the account will be turned over for collections.***

\*\*\*Program offers **weekly** rates only. **Please note that there is a flat fee, which means that you pay for the whole week whether your child attends 1 day or five days.** Employee staffing is based on each child participating full time. FEES FOR REGISTERING: \$25 per student or \$40 per family

A.M. Program 6:30-8:10 Weekly: \$25.00/per child (no family discounts)  
P.M. Program 3:10-6:00 Weekly: \$50.00/per child (no family discounts)

Fees are prorated based on the District Instructional Calendar.

For example:

- If school is in session for only 4 days, the weekly rate will be \$40 for afternoon and \$16 for morning care
- If school is in session for only 3 days, the weekly rate will be \$30 for afternoon and \$12 for morning care
- If school is in session for only 2 days, the weekly rate will be \$20 for afternoon and \$8 for morning care
- If school is in session for only 1 day, the weekly rate will be \$10 for afternoon and \$4 for morning care

**Late Pick Up Fee:** A late fee will be charged for pick up after 6:00 p.m. The fee is **\$1.00 per minute**/per child after 6:00 p.m. Late fees must be paid in CASH and are due before you child attends the next scheduled day. Nonpayment of late fees or late student pick-up from the program 3 times will result in your child's dismissal from the program. Late pick-up after 6:00 p.m. in excess of 15 minutes may also result in dismissal from the program.

**Drop Off/Pick Up:** Students enter and exit the Elementary building front door for both morning and afternoon care. Ring the doorbell and an employee will let the child in *or* out. It is necessary for parents to **park** in a designated parking spot and ring the bell at the front entrance to sign the child in *and* out. The sign in or sign out binders are located on the cart ,outside by the double doors. **Please be prepared to show your identification at the door each day.**

**Medications:** *The staff at fee based may **not** administer medication.*

A parent/guardian must inform the Program Director of any medical condition or need as well as any change in condition or need throughout the year. Medication must be dropped off or picked up during regular school hours.

**Meals and Snacks:** Students attending the morning session will receive breakfast at 7:25 a.m. in the cafeteria prior to walking to class. Students attending the afternoon session will receive an afternoon meal.

**Discipline Plan:** The Gator's Nest Program emphasizes the importance of the Leader in Me 8 Habits and focuses on interactions between staff, students, and parents. Gator's Nest follows the same behavior expectations in the afternoon as we follow during the regular school day promoting respect and cooperation. We encourage parents and students to become familiar with the discipline policy.

**Expectations:** All students are expected to be consistent with the following: Use appropriate language at all times, cooperate with staff and follow directions, respect other children and staff, equipment, facilities and yourself, maintain a positive attitude, keep hands, feet and other objects to yourself and stay in the designated program areas.

**Consequences:**

- **First Offense:** Verbal Warning
- **Second Offense:** Time out
- **Third Offense:** Disciplinary Report written and parent/guardians will be contacted.

**NOTE :** Three written Disciplinary Reports will result in a suspension or dismissal from the program for the remainder of the school year.

**Toys/Games/Personal Items and Electronic Devices:** It is suggested that students leave personal items such as trading cards, electronic games, and collectables at home. These types of items can be lost or broken. Gator's Nest staff are not responsible for personal items missing. Electronic devices of any kind are not to be used and kept in a child's backpack.

### Registration Form

A digital application can be obtained using the QR code below. All Program participants must have a completed registration form along with the registration fee and first week's payment before student(s) are allowed to attend the program.

Use your cell phone's camera to SCAN the QR code. Do not take a picture!  
(The QR code works with just a scan using your cell phone's camera.) Paper Registration is available upon request.



English



Spanish