



GLENN DALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Heather Porterfield, Principal | hea.porterfield@pgcps.org

6700 Glenn Dale Road | Glenn Dale, MD 20769 | 301-805-2750 | www.pgcps.org/glenndale

August 5, 2025

Greetings Glenn Dale Elementary School Parents and Families,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! I am thrilled to welcome every child and staff member back to Glenn Dale for what promises to be another incredible year of learning and growth. Our staff has been working diligently to prepare for a school year filled with engaging academic opportunities and positive experiences for every student.

Last year was particularly memorable for me as a principal. I had the honor of watching 47 Legacy Students matriculate to middle school after spending all of their grade school years here at Glenn Dale. It was a proud and emotional moment. This year, I am excited to open our doors again and apply the insights and experiences gained to continue enhancing both teaching and learning across our school. Our goal is to provide a nurturing, academically challenging environment that fosters success for every student.

We begin the year with a strong commitment to partnership—between school, families, and our greater community. I believe deeply in the power of collaboration and transparency. When families and educators work hand-in-hand, students thrive. I encourage every parent and guardian to be an active participant in your child's educational journey and to consider joining our PTA. Together, we can make this school year meaningful and memorable for our students.

We will host a **Back to School Block Party** on **Wednesday, August 20th, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM**, for all students and families to come out and gather as we kick off the new school year. We will have music, vendors, treats, music, and more. **New student orientation** will be held on **Monday, August 25th, 2025**. Kindergarten students and families are invited to attend from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM, and all other new students in 1st through 5th grade are invited to visit from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Our **Back to School Night** will be held on **Thursday, September 4th, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**. This event is an excellent opportunity to meet our teachers, staff, and PTA members, and to learn more about the programs and goals we've set for the year ahead. We hope you'll join us!

Although much can change over the course of a year, one thing remains constant—our unwavering commitment to being your trusted partner in supporting our students. Strong relationships between home and school are essential to academic success, and I welcome open communication. Your insights, questions, and celebrations are important to us. Let's work together to create a support network that empowers our students throughout the year.

I also invite you to stay connected by visiting our **school website** and joining our **ClassDojo** platform. These resources will keep you informed about upcoming events, access to the student/parent handbook, important reminders, and celebrations of all the great things happening in our school community.

It remains my greatest honor to serve as your principal. I look forward to welcoming each of you and am excited for all that we will accomplish together this year.

Educationally yours,

Heather A. Porterfield

Principal, Glenn Dale Elementary School