

# April's Guiding Principle is... "Acceptance"

## **G** From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Genet Families!

I hope you have had an amazing week. I know we had one at Genet with the return of our students in grades 3-5 students to 5 days. It has been a wonderful transition at Genet and we look forward to the next eight weeks together before we leave for Summer Vacation.

I want to thank all of our families that are currently dropping off and picking up. With the increase of students at Genet, your patience and understanding has been extremely helpful when we are matching students with parents during parent pickup. This seems to be going very smoothly and I will continue to monitor and adjust as needed.

Here are a few updates for everyone looking forward:

The week of May 3rd will be an **A Week** and the 1st Week in our Specials Rotations for Genet.

### **NYS Grades 3-8 Exams**

The NYS Math Exam will take place on Monday, May 3rd through Wednesday, May 5th. The exam will begin shortly after morning announcements at Genet. Students will be given an unlimited amount of time to complete the exam. Students in grades 3-5, will only be taking Part 1 of the exam. The exam will consist of only multiple choice with no writing component this year.

There will be a master schedule change to accommodate the NYS Exam Monday. 3rd Grade and 1st Grade will swap lunches and special times. The new times on Monday, May 3rd will be as follows:

<u>Monday, May 3, 2021 Schedule Changes</u>	
1st Grade Lunch	12:45 - 1:45
3rd Grade Lunch	11:30 - 12:10
1st Grade Specials	9:40 - 10:20
3rd Grade Specials	1:15 - 1:55

If you have any questions regarding the schedule change, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

### **2021-2022 School Budget Presentation**

On Tuesday, April 27, Mr. Simons held a video conference for the PTOs of our district where he reviewed the budget presentation for the community. If you missed it or would like to view it, I have provided the link for you: <https://egcsd.org/2021/04/28/video-pto-budget-presentation-april-27>. If you have any questions regarding the budget presentation, please feel free to contact me or the Superintendent.

The next meeting regarding the 2021-2022 budget will be held Tuesday, May 4th at a virtual Board of Education meeting. The link to this meeting will be shared prior to the start of the meeting and can be accessed by visiting the EGCSO.org website.

**Additional important information on next page—please keep reading...**



## **SAFETY DRILLS**

In the coming weeks, as the weather continues to improve, Genet will be conducting the remainder of our safety drills. These drills will take place in either the morning or afternoon as to lessen the impact on the school day. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## **Attendance Matters**

New York State, in support of the “Every Student Succeeds Act” (ESSA), is focusing on the effect of missing school, due to absenteeism, on the ability of children to be successful.

There is a large amount of research available to support the fact that students who miss 10% or more of the possible number of school days each year are at risk of poor grades, even failing, or eventually dropping out of school. Eventually, it becomes harder and harder for a student to catch up on what has been lost by not being in school and missing instruction.

Currently, our school, overall, has attendance within the state’s guidelines but we do have to be concerned with individual students whose absenteeism is 10% or more of the days they should be in school. By making all parents aware of the effects of chronic absenteeism and the importance of being present at school, our District hopes that parents will assist their children in improving their attendance and their achievement at school.

At individual schools, administrators are charged with alerting parents when their child’s absenteeism reaches, or exceeds, that 10% point. At Genet, letters of notification are sent every ten weeks to alert parents that their child has reached this point.

It is important to share that we are here to assist parents and children who are experiencing difficulty with school attendance. Our school’s Nurse, Social Worker, and Psychologist are all available to provide suggestions and support.

Please contact us with any questions you may have concerning your child’s attendance or absence from school. There is detailed information available on our website at [www.egcsd.org/AttendanceMatters](http://www.egcsd.org/AttendanceMatters).

## **Masks:**

As the weather continues to improve and become warmer, I ask parents to send your child to school with additional masks to use if the one being worn becomes dirty or sweaty. This will help prevent your child from having to use a dirty mask on warmer days.

In addition to the aforementioned, if your child uses a cloth mask, this is a friendly reminder to wash your child (ren)’s mask on a frequent basis.

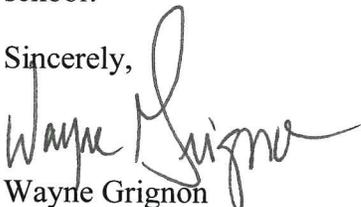
Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation!

## **Upcoming PTO Meeting**

There will be a Genet PTO meeting held on Monday, May 3rd. This meeting will take place at 6:30 PM and will be recorded and shared out with all families. If you have any questions that you would like answered, please contact the PTO by emailing - [genetpto@gmail.com](mailto:genetpto@gmail.com).

I wish you all the best this coming weekend and next week. Thank you for your continued support of our great school!

Sincerely,

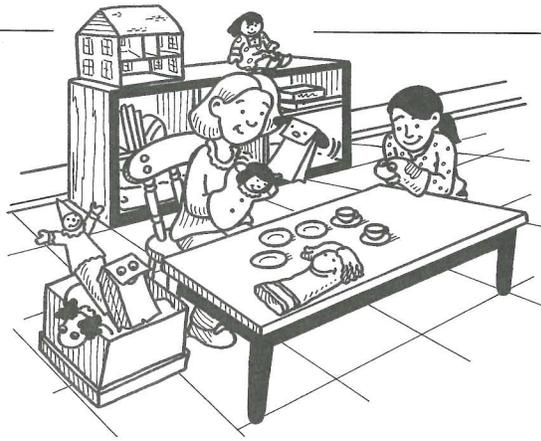


Wayne Grignon

## Let me think ...

When your youngster is faced with a challenge, it's fun for her to come up with more than one solution or possibility. Stretch her thinking with these activities.

**Puppet problem-solving.** Offer a pretend dilemma for puppets, and help your child act out the solution. You could make your puppet say, "Oh, no! I have too many dishes to carry! How can I get them to the party?" (Put them in a bag, ask a friend to take some.)



**Answers and questions.** Tell your youngster, "The answer is a blanket. What is the question?" Take turns coming up with as many questions as possible. ("What keeps you warm at night?" "What do we sit on at a picnic?") When you run out of ideas, let her think of a new answer to make up questions for.

**What doesn't belong!** Look around the room, and name any four objects (T-shirt, book, hat, lipstick). Then, have your child decide which doesn't belong and explain why. For instance, she could say that the book is the only one you can't wear. *Variation:* Name three objects, and tell her to choose a fourth and explain how it's related to the three you picked.♥

## Stay in touch with teachers

Regular communication with your youngster's teacher sets the stage for success—and makes it easier to connect if you have a concern. Need something to talk about? Try these ideas:

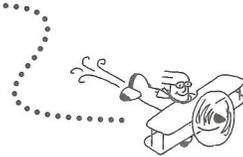
- Ask for reading recommendations. The teacher is sure to know some great books you can read aloud to your child.



- Find out what the class will study next, perhaps winter weather or fairy tales.

- Tell the teacher about activities you and your youngster do at home together, such as planting bulbs in the garden, coloring, or telling knock-knock jokes.

- Share things your child likes about school. The teacher will be glad to know that your youngster especially enjoys read-alouds or music time.♥



### PARENT TO PARENT

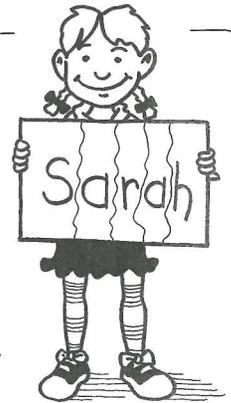
#### That's my name!

My daughter has learned to read and write her first word: "Sarah." When she started school, the teacher sent home a list of ideas to help her recognize her name—and the suggestions worked!

For example, I wrote her name in pencil and let her use a different-colored marker to trace each letter as she said it out loud: "S-a-r-a-h." We also made a name puzzle. She printed her name on cardboard and drew squiggly lines between the letters. I cut them apart, and she put the puzzle back together.

Her favorite activity is listening to stories about characters named Sarah. At the library, we checked out *Sarah's Story* by Bill Harley and *Sarah Morton's Day* by Kate Waters. She loves pointing to her name as I read.

Now Sarah is learning to read other names in our family. She made puzzles for her sisters, and she wants to find library books with their names, too.♥



### Q & A

#### Getting enough sleep

**Q:** My son has a hard time falling asleep at night. How can I make it easier for him?

**A:** Getting enough sleep—10–13 hours a night—will help your child grow, stay healthy, and do well in school.

First, have him stick to a nightly bedtime routine.

Your son might take a bath, brush his teeth, and listen to a story, for instance. Repeating the routine each night helps him recognize

it's time for sleep. Also, research shows that watching TV or playing video games close to bedtime can get kids wound up and keep them from sleeping. If he uses electronics, have him turn them off at least an hour before bedtime.

Finally, encourage the rest of the family

to read or do other quiet activities after he says good night. Your youngster may have an easier time going to bed—and staying there—if he doesn't feel like he's missing out on the fun.♥



### OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote school readiness, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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