SCHOOL HANDBOOK

2026-2027

2601 Lone Pine Dr, Fayetteville, NC 28306

Email: secretary.gfaa@outlook.com

Tel: (910)484-6091

www.gfaaeagles.org

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Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy 2026 - 2027 Calendar

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

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October

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November

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29	30					

December

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27	28	29	30	31		

Greater Fayetteville Adventist
Adventist Academy
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- **July 27 Principal Meeting**
- July 27-Aug 7 Open Registration
- Aug 3-5 Teachers' Convention
- Aug 3 Teachers Report to Work
- Aug 6 Open House @ 6 pm
- Aug 6 Yearly Plans Due
- Aug10 First Day of School
- Aug 24 Bible Projects Assigned (K-12th)
- Sept 7 Labor Day - NO SCHOOL/Sept 11 Interim Report Sent
- Sept 8-18 Fall MAP Testing
- Sept 14-24 Bible Project Due (K-12th)
- Oct 11 Fall Festival
- Oct 12 First Quarter Ends
- Oct 13 Second Quarter Begins
- Oct 16 Early release(12:30 dismissal)
- Oct 18-21 Outdoor School
- Oct 20-22 Report Card/Parent/Teacher Conference
- Oct 20 Picture Day PreK-6th Grade
- Oct 21 Picture Day 7th-12th Grade
- Oct 26-30 Fall Week of Prayer
- Nov 2 Social Studies/History Projects Assigned K-12th
- Nov 13 Interim Report Sent Home
- Nov 20 GFAA GOT TALENT SHOW/EARLY DISMISSAL
- Nov 23-27 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 1-10 Soc. St./History Projects Due
- Dec 11 Evening Service (Vesper) @ 7 pm
- Dec 14-17 Semester Exam
- Dec 18 Early Dismissal 1 PM
- Dec 21-Jan 4 Christmas Break (Students Only)
- Jan 4 Professional Development (Teachers)
- Jan 5 School Resumes
- Jan 5 Science Projects assigned K-12
- Jan 12-14 Report Card/Teacher/Parent Conference
- Jan 18 MLK Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- Jan 18-29 Winter MAP Testing
- Jan 28 Literacy Night @7pm
- Feb 1-11 Grade Band Science Projects Due
- Feb 5 Interim Report Sent Home
- Feb 15 PRESIDENT DAY- NO SCHOOL
- Mar 1 Read Across America
- Mar 8-12 School Spirit Week
- Mar 10 Third Quarter Ends
- Mar 11 Fourth Quarter Begins
- Mar 13 SAC School Rally (Orangeburg SC)
- Mar 15 NO SCHOOL
- Mar 16-18 Report Card/Parent /Teacher Conf.
- Mar 26- Apr 2 SPRING BREAK
- **Apr 6-9 Spring Week of Prayer**
- April 11 Robotics - FL
- Apr 15 Awards Ceremony @ 10:30 am
- Apr 19-29 Spring MAP Testing
- Apr 23 Interim Report Sent Home
- Apr 30 -Teacher Work Day/PD
- May 3-6 Finishing Strong Series
- May 7 Track 'n' Field Event
- May 10-20 Finals
- May 20 Graduation
- May 21 Last Day of School
- May 24-28 Post Planning Week

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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February

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March

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April

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May

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OUR SLOGAN

GFAA EAGLES
GFAA STRONG

Expected School-wide Learning Results (ESLR)

Graduates of GFAA will be able to demonstrate (or will have experienced) the following:

Spiritual:

- Base belief system on the word of God
- Become familiar with the Scriptures
- Establish a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Encourage and affirm those around them

Technology:

- Demonstrate proficiency in accessing information from a variety of sources
- Demonstrate competence with various technological devices
- Use technology responsibly as an educational tool

Academic:

- Achieve success by enabling students to reach their highest potential
- Understand learning as a life-long process
- Demonstrate competency in reading, writing and mathematics
- Appreciate the value of fine arts, science and physical education

Physical:

- Demonstrate physical, mental and emotional well being
- Understand how healthy habits in hygiene, exercise, and nutrition will develop a more productive individual
- Understand the consequences of destructive lifestyle decisions

Social:

- Demonstrate the ability to work cooperatively with others
- Develop respect for the needs, ideas, and opinions and property of others
- Manage conflicts in positive ways
- Interact positively with others of diverse needs, beliefs, values and cultures

ACCREDITATION

Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy is accredited by:

Accreditation Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities

The National Council for Private School Accreditation

Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools with Commissions on Elementary & Secondary Schools

North Carolina Public Education Department.

Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy is operated by the South Atlantic & Carolina Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Contact Information

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Fayetteville, NC 28306
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FAX: 910-484-5513
Email: secretary.gfaa@outlook.com
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DISCLAMER

Due to changes that inevitably occur in staffing, state regulations, accrediting organizations, technology and finances; the classes, policies and guidelines within this handbook are subject to changes at the discretion of the school at any time.

SCHOOL PHILOSPHY

Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy believes that Jesus should be at the center of all Christian Education. "The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom (Psalms 111:10)". Also, we will focus in academic rigor in an individualized form, decreasing the gap and advancing students in their academic career.

SCHOOL OBJECTIVES

Help students to know God and develop a Christian philosophy.

- Instill self-respect and respect for others in the hearts and minds of the students.
- Help students to learn the importance of good health and physical fitness.
- Provide a thorough education with emphasis on high academic achievement.
- Instruct each student to use their learning style and the wisdom of God to advance in their academic life by being responsible, persistent, prayerful, and creative into finding the solution for a problem.
- Foster a true Christian environment in which students will respect each other's opinions, use their differences to achieve a common goal, feel safe to express their ideas, and embrace the ideas presented by others. Above all, love others like Jesus loved.
- Create a parental support culture, in which the school is an extension of our home. A culture where families collaborate and plan to help one another grow in unity for the sake of the education ministry, and to prepare all of our youth for the Heavenly Kingdom.

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission statement of Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy is to
Inspire students to **G**row spiritually
Challenge them to **F**oster knowledge
Achieve academic excellence, and
Prepare them to **A**dvance towards God's kingdom and eternity

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

In even the best schools, individuals sometimes have concerns regarding the school's operation or perhaps some action of a student, parent, an individual employee or teacher. Most of the time, these concerns can be explained or corrected by an earnest, prayerful visit between the parties involved. (Matthew 18:15-18)

1. If the person with the concern has met with the person or persons, they have concerns with for the purpose of finding a resolution and no resolution has been achieved then step #2 is implemented.
2. The school administrator may be requested to serve as a consultant regarding the specific concerns, meeting with the parties involved. If the incident cannot be amicable resolved then step #3 is implemented.

3. In the event that the individual's concern continues after consultation with school administrator, the school board chairperson will try to bring resolution. If the incident cannot be amicable resolved then step #4 is implemented.
4. The individual may put into writing a letter expressing his/her concerns, with a request in writing to meet with the school superintendent and parties involved no later than five (5) days following the outcome of step # 3.

   Since such resolutions are sometimes of a sensitive nature, the principal (if not personally involved), board chairperson and the superintendent (or associate) of schools should share the resolution with the person involved. Every effort should be made to come to a caring, peaceful conclusion among God's people. There are no appeal levels after this step and the determination is final.

VISITATION

Prospective students and their parents are invited to visit the campus. An appointment to visit may be made by calling the Front Office (910) 484-6091 or by e-mailing us at: secretary.gfaa@outlook.com

EQUALITY

Admission is available to students of any race, color, nationality, and ethnic origin. GFAA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, nationality, or ethnic origin in our administration of educational policies, admission procedures, scholarship programs, and athletic or extracurricular programs. The academy, however, reserves the right to accept or deny any applicant or re-applicant except as stated above.

Individuals participating with GFAA in the sports program or other limited programs/classes that are not enrolled as full-time students are subject to limitations as determined by the school in terms of their ability to participate in extended activities. For example, field trips, special chapels or similar type programs etc.

No particular religious affiliation is required of any student upon entering GFAA. However, every student who presents him or herself for admission to the Admissions Committee of our school must:

Desire to be a part of and be a positive contributor to the strong Christian atmosphere at GFAA
Pledge to willingly observe all school regulations.
Maintain a positive attitude.
Be open to the exploration of getting to know God.

ADMISSIONS

All applications are subject to the approval of the GFAA Admissions Committee of our faculty/school board. All new students are accepted on a provisional basis for the first nine (9) weeks they are in attendance.

GFAA does not admit individuals who engage in sexual misconduct, which includes non-marital sexual conduct, homosexual conduct, or the encouragement or advocacy of any form of sexual behavior that would undermine the Christian identity or faith mission of GFAA.

GFAA's goal is to provide student with age-appropriate experiences and Christian and social growth. Because life passages such as marriage and/or pregnancy often distract students from a successful

experience in a traditional Christian school setting, students experiencing such may be asked to find alternate educational settings.

DOCUMENTATION FOR ADMISSION – NEW/RETURNING STUDENTS

New students may be accepted after the following documentation has been received and reviewed by the Admissions Committee:

A completed and signed application

Home-schooled students may be accepted based upon appropriate age considerations, maturity, and the grade level parents deem them ready. In addition, they may be required to take test/exam in order to help determine grade placement and in particular math and reading ability levels.

Eighth graders from an accredited school: A report card or transcript that certifies that the student has finished eighth grade; a copy of current grades if applying prior to eighth grade graduation; and a signed student records and transcript request form granting GFAA permission to obtain records from previous school.

ENTRANCE AGE

Students entering Pre-Kindergarten must be at least 4 years of age on or before September 30 of the current school year in accordance with North Carolina Statutes.

Students entering Kindergarten must be at least 5 years of age on or before September 30 of the current school year in accordance with North Carolina Statutes.

Students entering first grade must be at least 6 years of age as of September 30 of the current school year in accordance with North Carolina Statute

REGISTRATION

Students who have been officially admitted to GFAA and financially cleared by their previous school may register at GFAA. Students must complete registration in order to attend school at GFAA.

DOCUMENTATION FOR REGISTRATION

Admitted students will need the following documents completed and on file in order to be officially registered at GFAA:

Certified birth certificate
Proof of Immunization
A record of an annual Physical Examination [every student, every school year]
Student Medical Record Form
Consent to Treatment Form
Completed and signed emergency card
Consent to Off-Campus Trips
Off-Campus Permissions Form

Student Driver Permission Form (High school only) (and Permission to drive others) Proof of insurance and Driver's License
Over the Counter (Non-Prescription Drugs) Permission Form
Acceptable Use Policy (for internet and computer use)
Request for Records

Signed handbook acknowledgement form from students, parent or guardian stating that they have read the Handbook and have agreed to abide by the rules and policies of the school.
Home schooled students – see guidelines under Documents Required for New Students.

Students who do not provide these documents at registration will be conditionally registered and will have three weeks from the day school starts to provide the completed documentation. Students will not be allowed to attend after the three-week grace period until the documentation is provided and are on file in the office.

HOME SCHOOLERS

Home schooled students must provide proper documentation from state or Griggs Institute approved programs. New students may be tested for grade placement. Prior student academic performance, age, emotional, physical and social development will be used for grade placement. GFAA operates as a nonprofit institution and relies on regular tuition payments for the majority of its daily operations and expenses. Acceptance to GFAA is granted and continued to those families demonstrating financial responsibility to the school in a timely manner.

IMMUNIZATION

State law requires that all students must have the DPT, TDAP, MMR, HIB, HEPB, polio and Varicella vaccines. A student may not enter classes until his/her immunization record is on file with the school. If a student has not been immunized because medical reason(s) see below.

Medical exemptions for required immunizations will only be granted upon submission of either a Medical Exemption Statement (DHHS 3987) or Physicians Request for Medical Exemption (DHHS 3995). Both of these exemptions require a signature by a Physician in North Carolina.

NOTE: Students must have proof of immunization at registration in order to be officially registered. They will be conditionally registered for the first three weeks without proof of registration. After the three-week grace period, students will not be allowed to attend GFAA until the proof of immunization or waiver is on file.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 8:00am to 3:30pm, Friday 8:00am to 2:30pm

Students are encouraged arrive at school no earlier than 15 minutes before the start of school unless they have a class or school activity that starts earlier. Students are to leave school promptly at the end of the school day, as supervision is limited to 15 minutes after the last period of the day. After school child care is available for a fee (check with office).

ADMITTANCE INTO THE BUILDING OFFICIALLY BEGINS AT 7:45 AM

CHAPEL/ASSEMBLY

The Chapel/Assembly time is an important part of a student's total education program. A regular chapel/assembly period is built into the weekly schedule; however, special chapel/assembly periods will be announced if necessary.

ACADEMICS

GFAA offers a well-rounded basic curriculum as well as extra-curricular activities. Specific grade level curriculum summaries are available in the school office.

Excellence and subject mastery are to be strived for in all subject areas. Students and parents will be given information at the beginning of the school year concerning how each course will be evaluated. Evaluation guidelines are determined in accordance with the Southern Union of Seventh-day Adventists Education Code.

Honor Roll is awarded to students in kindergarten through second grade with no N's (Needs Improvement) on report cards.

Students in 3rd -12th earning a grade point average (GPA) will be recognized for

Honor Roll - 3.0-3.49
High Honor Roll - 3.50 – 3.74
Principal's List 3.75 -4.00
Presidential Gold/Silver- Map testing results showing students are working at or above grade level

If the child's teacher and school administration determine that the student is not able to demonstrate mastery of the core subjects, a parent-teacher conference will be arranged to discuss and formulate a plan to ensure the student's scholastic placement.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Academic probation will be required if the student shows a lack of effort, or seems unable to make sufficient and/or necessary academic progress, as deemed necessary for his or her particular grade level. Students in grades 3-12 with a GPA lower than 2.0 is reviewed by the staff for probationary status. Students placed on academic probation may not participate in any extra-curricular, student government, or sports activities. Students placed on probationary status have 9 weeks to improve their grades. If the grades are still unacceptable, the staff may recommend to the GFAA board that the student be dismissed.

How to Apply

Students will be accepted only after completing all forms and requirements in the registration packet. Students entering Kindergarten through eighth grade for the first time will be tested to determine their level of achievement. Early Literacy, Reading, and Math will be administered to (K-3) students. Students entering grades (4-8), would be tested in Math and Reading. This testing procedure helps to determine

the grade level the student is working and may be placed for their success. If the testing result shows that the student is below grade level, and the student desires admission at the grade level of the previous school, an academic plan will be developed for the student. Satisfactory progress in meeting the goals of this plan must be achieved in order for the student to maintain the grade level at which the student was admitted.

Transfers

Parents who wish to transfer their children from another school to GFAA after the school term has started must have an education consultation with the principal and complete regular registration forms. The school may reserve the right to have up to one week after registration has been submitted before permission is granted for the student to begin classes. Students may be allowed to attend classes on a probationary status until the Admissions committee has met. However, there is no assurance of the student's acceptance until notification is received from the Admissions Committee. All new students will be tested to determine final grade placement.

ATTENDANCE

School attendance and class participation are integral parts of academic achievement and the teaching-learning process. Through regular attendance, students develop patterns of behavior essential to professional and personal success in life. Regular attendance by every student is mandatory. The State of North Carolina requires that every child in the State between the ages of 7 (or younger if enrolled) and 16 attend school.

Parents and legal guardians are responsible for ensuring that students attend and remain at school daily. School administrators shall communicate attendance expectations to parents and guardians and work with students and their families to overcome barriers to attendance.

A. Attendance Records

School officials shall keep accurate attendance records, including accurate attendance records in each class. **Students will be considered in attendance if present at least half of the instructional day (12 noon) on-campus.**

To be in attendance **during remote instruction days**, students must:

(1) log in to all classes and may complete their daily assignments, either online or offline; and
(2) have a daily check-in through two-way communication with
(a) each subject area teachers for grades 5-12

B. Late Arrivals and Early Departures

Students are expected to be at school on time and to remain at school until dismissed. During the school day, students are expected to be present at the scheduled starting time for each class and to remain until the class ends. Late arrival is after 8:05am.

When a student must be late to school or leave school early, a written excuse, signed by a parent or guardian, should be presented upon the student's arrival at school to the child's teacher. Tardies or early departures may be excused for any of the reasons listed below in Section C.

C. Excused Absences

When a student must miss school, a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian must be presented to the child's teacher on the day the student returns after an absence. This is an official document that will be placed in the child's record; **therefore, personal text messages are not eligible, and as such student will be marked absent.**

A doctor's note is required for student absences lasting three or more consecutive days

Parents/guardians will no longer enter the building to record attendance. This has been replaced with section C.

Absences due to extended illnesses (three or more days), may also require a statement from a health care practitioner.

Absences due to educational opportunities (field trips/school sponsored events) and absences related to deployment activities must be approved by the principal prior to the date of absence. If the student does not obtain prior approval from the principal, the absence will be coded as unexcused. An excused absence is authorized for any of the following reasons:

1. personal illness or injury that makes the student physically unable to attend school;

2. isolation ordered by the local health officer or State Board of Health or isolation or quarantine that is a required state or local control measure;

3. death in the immediate family;

4. medical appointment (submit documentation)

5. attendance at the proceedings of a court or administrative tribunal if the student is party to the action or under subpoena as a witness.

6. **Vacation time during the school year is considered unexcused**.

D. Absence/Makeup Work

In the case of excused absences, suspensions and absences, the student will be permitted to make up his or her missed work. **One day** is given for each day absent to complete assignments. The teacher will provide students with the missing assignments and the due date.

E. Unexcused Absences

Any absence not meeting the requirements of an excused absence shall be an unexcused absence. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. any absence not classified as excused above.

2. any absence as excused above for which proper and timely notification is not furnished to the principal or child's teacher.

Any absence of a student that results from a suspension of that student for misconduct shall not be considered an unexcused absence for purposes of the Compulsory Attendance Law. A student who has been suspended shall be provided an opportunity to make up any work missed during the suspension.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

All students must be supervised while on our school campus. Parents are encouraged to arrange to have their child picked up as soon after dismisses as far as possible. GFAA offers an After School program as a service to parents who may need to pick up their child after regular school hours. Parents will be billed for this service at the end of each month, except for the month of May, billing will be done weekly

All parents using our After School program must sign out their child daily. Children will only be released to those individuals authorized by the parent(s)/guardian. For the child's safety, ID may be required if After School teacher is not familiar with the individual. Charges for this service are published below and are also available from the school office.

After School Care hours available from
(Mon-Thurs) 3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
(Fri) 2:15-4:15pm

Daily Rate Chart

Time	Cost (per child)	Cost (2+ children)
30 minutes	**$5.00**	**$7.00**
60 minutes (1 hr)	**$10.00**	**$12.00**
90 minutes (1.5 hrs)	**$15.00**	**$17.00**
120 minutes (2 hrs)	**$20.00**	**$22.00**

DROP OFF/PICK UP POLICY

Parents will be provided with two free hanging tag numbers. If you need additional tags, misplaced or lose your tag, the cost is $5.

Parents/Guardians **must provide a list of other persons/emergency contacts** authorized to pick up and drop off their child. Phone calls are not acceptable. Parents must put any changes in writing and email it to the school. The office will follow up with verification. The parents **shall** provide the individual's name, and telephone number. **YOUR ALTERNATE PICKUP PERSON MUST PROVIDE PHOTO ID WHEN PICKING UP YOUR CHILD.**

FINANCIAL

It is the purpose of GFAA to keep the cost of Christian education affordable. In order to maintain a high quality of education for your child, it is necessary that tuition payments be kept current while your child is enrolled. The following guidelines outline general financial policies:

- The enrolling individual(s) (parent, custodial parent, guardian, etc.) is fully responsible for the financial obligations of students enrolled at GFAA. Such responsibilities include, but are not limited to, payment on the account, damage to property, fines and fees
- Parties who agree to share responsibility for tuition and fees must both (all) sign the financial agreement
- In the case of separation or divorce, the custodial parent is 100% responsible for tuition and fees. The custodial parent is responsible for communication with the non-custodial parent regarding financial matters
- Returning student's account from the previous school year must be settled before the student is permitted to enrolled in the new school year
- Payment of the registration fee reserves student's space for the school year, **the registration fee is non- refundable**. Student is not officially enrolled until the registration fee is paid
- Registration fees cover book fees, lab fees, standardized testing materials, students' insurance, and technology. **Due prior to the start of school.**
- Tuition is divided into 10 equal monthly payments and is due on the 1st of each month, beginning with the month of August through the month of May. Every family is given a ten-day grace period on tuition payments. **Tuition payments are considered late if not receipted on the 10th day of the month. A late fee of $25.00 will be charge to your past due account.** Payment sent by the mail must be received by the 10th of the month to avoid the late charge.
- Parents/guardians are expected to be diligent in meeting their financial obligations to the school in a timely manner.
- If circumstances dictate a change in normal payment procedures, or if you have a financial emergency and is temporarily unable to pay, please contact the office to make alternative payment arrangements before you withdraw or get too far behind in payments
- **A $25 charge will be made for any check returned for insufficient funds**. After two returned checks in a school year, further payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or money order
- Parents will be asked to withdraw their student(s) from school when the account has become delinquent in excess of 30 days and no acceptable financial arrangements have been made
- In the event that a student is withdrawn during the school year, it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to officially notify the school office in writing a minimum of 2 weeks before the date of withdrawal. Otherwise, all charges will continue until proper notification is made
- Participation in graduation ceremonies or other school related activities requires the family's account be paid in full or appropriate financial arrangement made
- Students will not be allowed to take part in extra-curricular activities which cost additional fees if they are not current with their tuition.
- Any account not meeting the above expectations will be reviewed by the Finance Committee

Full Payment Discount

$100 discount for paying the entire year tuition and registration in advance (prior to first day of school per family).

REGISTRATION FEES (annual one-time fee)

Distribution of Registration Fees

- Technology Upgrade
- Chromebook
- Workbooks (consumable and non-consumable)
- Textbook rental fee (textbooks are owned by the school)
- Student accidental insurance
- Assessment
- Software
- Mackin Via Online Library
- Facts (Online gradebook)
- Standardized testing

The registration fee secures a seat for the student in the grade level. The fee does not guarantee acceptance into the class position for which application is made. **If the student chose not to attend GFAA, the fee is not refundable.** (The registration fee demonstrates intent to enroll, and to cover the many different costs needed to support the student budget).

TUITION FEES

The annual tuition amount is divided into 10 equal payments. Tuition is not determined by the number of days in the month nor the number of days the student attended school.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Students are to remain on campus at all times during school hours unless accompanied, or given permission by, a parent or teacher. Once a student arrives on campus, he/she may not leave until the classes have been dismissed for the day.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome on campus during regular school hours; however, they must stop by the office and sign in with the secretary and obtain a visitor's pass. Parents are always welcome to visit their child's classroom. We do request, however, that prior arrangements be made through the office in consultation with the administration.

CLASSROOM VISITATION

Our school policy is to welcome all visitors and volunteers. However, loitering is the presence of any person on the school campus without the knowledge and consent of the officials of the school. Anyone desiring to visit a classroom must make prior arrangements with the school office. Guest, visitors and volunteers must report to the office and sign in at the office and then will be allowed to visit the designated area. This requirement is for the safety and security of the student and staff.

Also, any volunteer work is welcome, as we want to make our school to be welcoming and warm. Please note that prior to engaging and contributing to our school parents are required have to do a background check (Cost $15.00). Please contact the office for the website and registration information.

BOOK USE AGREEMENT & CONSEQUENCES

GFAA has made every effort to provide books for our students that are uplifting, character building, interesting, and informative. Whenever possible, we purchased books published by Christian presses to supplement our curriculum. In addition, we have tried to provide books that will capture the interest of our students. Sometimes you might come across a book that you would prefer for your child not to read. This is perfectly acceptable. Please just return the book with a note about your objections, and we will help your child select a new one.

Students will abide by the following guidelines regarding textbooks:

- Students are responsible for any damages to their books
- Return all books at the end of the school year
- Chromebook
- Return library/classroom resources

It is understood that any and all tablets/computer and/or Chromebook use at the discretion of teachers and staff at GFAA. Any vandalism, violation of the above rules, or other misuse of the school's books and tablets/computers will result in the cancellation of privileges. It is further understood that the loss of said privileges will not be a valid excuse for a student on completing assigned schoolwork in a timely manner. Any damaged or lost books or equipment is the responsibility of the student and parents. All parents will be charged for any costs incurred to replace or repair books or tablets/computers.

TECHNOLOGY USE AGREEMENT

Students will act responsibly with all computer hardware and software, exercising responsible behavior at all times while on the network and/or Internet. Students are expected to respect other's passwords, folders and work files. Federal and State copyright laws are to be observed at all times.

Students will immediately tell an adult in charge if they encounter materials that violate these rules of appropriate use.

Students will show responsibility by observing the following guidelines:

- Inappropriate or offensive material on the Internet will not be accessed at any time.
- Rebooting computers, resetting passwords, creating wallpaper, or personalizing the school devise is not allowed and shall result in the loss of device privilege.
- Disseminate information about yourself or others on the Internet/ e-mails/social media or other platforms are prohibited.
- Food and drink are not allowed while using tablets/computers
- Downloading any exe. files from the Internet or loading software of any kind onto the computer is not allowed

- Student shall not rename, move, or remove existing computer files without prior permission from an appropriate staff member
- Sending or using abusive messages or inappropriate language on the school computer is not allowed
- School tablets/computers is not allowed for gaming.
- Any violation of the Internet policy or use of school technology devices will result in the loss of technology privileges during the school year.
- Students are not allowed to use the school device for social media purposes.
- Students and parents are required to sign the technology user agreement.

Students who disobey any of the technology agreement will forfeit the use of their Chromebook for a period of time as deem necessary by the administration.

BULLY-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Students, staff, and the school community are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, Christian manner. Bullying is anti-social behavior and will not be tolerated. Bullying is intentional, repetitive, and harmful behavior targeting another student. It may occur on school property, at extracurricular activities, or on field trips. Each student is responsible for his own actions and is held accountable.

Examples of bullying are as follows:

- Verbal: name calling, put-downs, threats
- Physical: pushing, hitting
- Social: rumors, trying to isolate and make victim feel rejected
- Psychological: acts that instill a sense of fear or anxiety

All school staff are trained and watchful for bullying warning signs, closely supervising children at all times and in all areas of the school. Teachers will, on a regular basis, conduct class discussions and do activities to educate the students to respond assertively to the bully.

The students will be trained to understand that they have a responsibility to report bullying. The staff will address the reports on a regular basis. The situation will be assessed to determine if the behavior meets the criteria for bullying or if the behavior is an isolated incident that can be handled through conflict resolution.

Disciplinary steps may include:

- Exclusion from certain areas or extracurricular activities
- In or out of school suspension
- Expulsion

DISCIPLINE

Standards:
The administration and staff of GFAA believe that the school should have regulations that can be enforced fairly and consistently. The objective of any regulation is to teach the students to become self-

disciplined by accepting the responsibility and logical consequences of their actions. The main principle for life at GFAA is:

My behavior, attitude and speech will Enhance learning, Build people up, Protect property, Sponsor Christian influence. We expect students to know what is and what is not acceptable behavior. and the consequences for misbehavior.

Only those students desiring to cooperate with the following standards of GFAA need apply for admission:

- Each student is expected to conform to all the regulations of the school with obedience and respectfulness to the directions of all teachers and staff members.
- Each student is expected to respect the feelings and property of fellow students.
- All school regulations apply to any school-sponsored activities
- The relationships between the opposite sexes should be conducted in a dignified and wholesome manner. The *"hands-off"* policy will be enforced
- All eating will be confined only to designated areas and times
- Students may not sell anything on campus without permission from the administration
- All unauthorized items need to be kept at home such as but not limited to any and all kinds of music and video players, video games, hand-held games, playing cards etc.
- Pictures or stickers are not to be posted on any part of lockers, books, desks, or anywhere on school campus

Inappropriate Behavior

The principal or teacher may take away a student's privileges for participating in any inappropriate behavior. Students will receive consequences when class or school behavior warrants such actions. Samples of an infraction form with specific explanations will be issued during registration process.

Inappropriate behaviors that warrant discipline:

- Gossiping slander
- Name Calling
- Instigation
- Suggestive or lewd behavior
- Altercations on school activities
- Behavior that disrupts instruction
- Refusal to do homework
- Defiance to authority
- Failure to comply to rules and policies
- Lack of respect and courtesy
- Use unacceptable language, verbal, written, gestures or body form
- Chewing gum
- Throwing objects
- Vandalism, kicking, fighting, rough or horse playing
- Failure to adhere to School Mission
- Disruptive behavior
- Harassment
- Property damage
- Tampering with another student's property

Vandalism

Vandalism and destruction of school, church, or other students' property will require restitution and may result in suspension or expulsion.

Suspension

- Fighting
- Abuse toward teachers, staff or students
- Lack of required immunization
- Aggressive behavior
- Bullying
- Communicated threats
- Physical harassment
- Possession of chemical drug paraphernalia
- Theft
- False fire alarm
- Assault in any form
- Tampering with teacher's personal property
- Inappropriate use of technology

Expulsions

- Accumulation of three suspensions (recommended)
- Arson
- Meeting for the purpose of engaging in sexual acts
- Possession or displaying lewd or obscene material
- Assault and battery of students, faculty or staff
- Use or possession of drugs/vapes etc
- Inappropriate sexual behavior
- Defiance of authority
- Suggestive or lewd behaviors
- Serious threat to kill or harm

Classroom Behavior

As children of God, the expected behavior in class will be up to how Jesus would speak, act, and decide. Children will be guided into peer relationship based on Restorative Justice. Children will be expected to always think about other emotions, believes, understanding their cultural background. As a very cultural diverse school, GFAA students will use this environment to learn more about other cultures, to respect others, as they would like to be respected, and to always evaluate their decisions.

First, the teacher will address students who do not abide by the school expectations. Based on the cause and consequence measures of each classroom, if the behavior is not modified, parents will be contacted by the teacher. Last, if behavior still persists, student will be referred to the principal and parent conference will be requested. At this point disciplinary measures will be taking in account.

Student Citizenship

Schools require a higher level of courtesy than many people exercise in ordinary public space. Everyone in the classroom is there for the purpose of learning, and no one should be able to deprive another person of the chance to learn. Expressions of rudeness and even of carelessness degrade the high purpose of learning that should be paramount in a school setting.

GFAA's discipline plan is based on the belief that student conduct should lead to student self-government, self-discipline, and self-control. Conduct that is deemed inappropriate or disruptive to classroom activities will be dealt with in measures appropriate to the behavior. Student conduct will be documented and parents notified by Student Referral forms or a call from the principal. Unwanted behavior that persist will be dealt with in a number of ways that may include fines, home suspension, detention, or expulsion.

All students are expected to maintain high standards of conduct. Conduct or habits contrary to the standards of GFAA, even those that might take place off campus, may cause the student to be subject to review by the school administration. A student may be suspended or expelled for the following reasons:

Disciplinary Process:
Step One: Daily infractions of classroom behavior will be addressed by the supervising teachers.

Step Two: For repeated infractions the parents, teacher(s) and student(s) will meet. The principal will be notified at that time.

Step Three: If corrective measures have not worked or the offense is severe, the student will be taken to the principal or designee. When a student's behavior becomes disruptive to the learning of others or his own, or threatens the well-being of the student or of those around him or her, the principal or designee will notify the parent/guardian that suspension will be assigned.

Suspension consists of the student remaining apart from classmates for a period of 1 to 3 days as deemed necessary. At this time, the student may be placed on disciplinary probation, and a written contract may be made with the student. The teacher, parents, and board chairperson will be made aware of the situation and all actions that might be taken from this point.

Step Four: Continuing or severe infractions will be taken to the School Board. The student and/or parent/guardian will have the right to represent himself or herself to the School Board. The School Board will determine the appropriate action to be taken based on Christian principles. The action may include suspension or expulsion; or the parent/guardian may choose to withdraw the student.

SERIOUS OFFENSES MIGHT REQUIRE THAT A STUDENT WILL GO IMMEDIATELY TO STEP FOUR.

Unauthorized or inappropriate items brought to school will be confiscated.

DRESS CODE POLICY

Students' dress and grooming is to reflect high standards of personal conduct so that each student's attire promotes a positive, safe and healthy atmosphere within the school. As a part of the education to be received at Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy, the correct understanding and practical application of Biblical principles in the choice of clothing size, length, and appearance is intended to emphasize the love of self and preoccupation with conformity to school expectations.

While the choice of clothing and personal appearance is ultimately an individual matter, good sense and good taste require that certain standards be taken into consideration. The Bible gives five broad standards to serve as guidelines for the Christian in their overall appearance. They are modesty, cleanliness, simplicity, neatness, and healthfulness.

Dress Code Violation

Parents are expected to assist in the monitoring of student dress BEFORE arrival at school. If students come to school out of dress code, they will report to the office to call home for a change of clothing. If someone is unable to bring a change of clothes, they will borrow something from the clothing bank. Continuing violations will receive progressive discipline consequences.

Hair should be clean, well-managed, natural color, and non-distracting. Extreme or bizarre hairstyles are not permitted.

Jewelry - No bracelets (this includes plastic or fabric, and friendship bands, except medical), earrings, necklaces, rings, chains, or studs for initial stage of ear piercing are not permitted. Covering of ear rings with band aid are not allowed. Tattoos and body piercings are not allowed.

Hats - No head covering of any kind including hats, cap, bandana, or forehead bands are to be worn in any classroom (boys and girls).

Make-up and nail polish – Lip balm will be permitted for moisture and healing purpose. Nail polish should be well maintained and be of natural colors ONLY with NO decorations or French tips. Artificial nails are NOT allowed. Extended eyelashes, mascara, and eyeliner.

Accessories/Miscellaneous - No themed belt buckles. No skulls or other questionable emblems on anything.

Tights and Socks - Only solid black or solid white tights/socks are allowed.

Shoes- Only plain, solid black, closed toed shoes are allowed. Tennis shoes that are appropriately fastened or tied are required for gym use or during PE class. Shoes that are NOT allowed include: flip flops, shoes with wheels, and heels over two inches. Shoes cannot have student handwriting on them or any other questionable emblems.

Exception: Shoes with a solid white sole is allowable. No white or other color trimmings/decoration/logos, nor white shoe laces are allowed.

Uniform Policy
Female Uniform

Shirts – Yellow/hunter green/white polo with school logo
Skirts – Knee length khaki skirt (**hem rest on knee while standing**)
Pants – Loose-fitting knee length khaki shorts (**hem rest on knee while standing)** or khaki long pants
Socks/tights - Solid black or white
Shoes – See shoes policy above

Male Uniform

Shirts – Yellow/hunter green/white polo with school logo
Pants – No sagging or baggy pants. Knee length khaki shorts (**hem rest on knee while standing** or khaki long pants
Socks – Solid black or white
Shoes – See shoes policy above

Fieldtrip Uniform

Field trip t-shirt & Jeans
Sneakers

Special School Function Uniform

Boys
White buttoned up shirt
Black Pants
Black dress shoes
Black socks
Black tie
Black Jacket (optional)

Girls
Black dress or black skirt with white top with sleeves
Black/white tights/stocking/ or black sock
Black dress shoes

DRESS DOWN FRIDAY

Students are allowed to dress down on the **4th Friday of each month** for a cost of $1.00. All uniform policy guideline applies regarding modesty and decorum.

Bottom: Jeans (no ripped jean)

Top: T-shirts, should not have visual designs that contain offensive or disruptive content. This includes images or slogans related to obscenity, violence, hate speech, or illegal activities like drug use, or promotional slogans/logos.

Footwear: Only enclosed footwear is allowed.

Students who fail to adhere with the dress down policy, will forfeit this privilege after first warning.

BACKPACK

Only clear backpacks are allowed. Must be able to visibly see all content. NO MESH TYPE!

COMMUNICATION

Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy shall communicate to parents/guardians through various means such as parent/teacher conference, e-mails, letters, phone calls, text messages, class dojo, and memos. Text messages and phone calls to teachers should occur during non-teaching time. Please speak with your child's teacher to schedule an appointment.

Parents/Guardians **are encouraged** to have periodic conferences with teachers. To schedule a conference at any time **other** than on a regularly scheduled school conference date.

CELEBRATION

Birthday celebrations are authorized only during lunchtime with prior arrangement made with the office. Please be at the school 15 minutes prior for preparation and sign in procedures. Only store-bought items will be allowed to distribute to students, such as, cupcakes and juice.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY

All Field Trip Consent Forms also provide a "consent to treat" verification. In the event of a medical emergency, the school will make every reasonable effort to contact the student's parents or guardians as specified on the form. If contact cannot be made, the school will exercise the authority given to seek proper care for the student. Students involved in self-mutilation and/or making suicide threats will be asked to seek psychological counseling. A written release form from the psychologist/psychiatrist must be presented to the administration before that student is allowed to return to school. Parents must sign a release of information to the school counselor/principal when undergoing testing/evaluation.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM

Students are encouraged to commit themselves to academic honesty. Students who are found to be dishonest on academic work will receive a "zero" for the work and will be referred to the school administration. This includes students who give or share their work. Parents will be notified of these occurrences and **a second offense will result in significant disciplinary consequences.**

STUDENT INSURANCE

Limited student insurance (a secondary coverage) is included in the registration fee. This coverage is provided for any accident occurring during school hours on school campus, and during school- sponsored activities such as field trips and sporting events.
In case of an accident, if possible, the parent/guardian or any person taking the student for treatment

should pick up an insurance form from the school office, have the doctor and/or hospital sign the form, attach statements and forward them to BMI Benefits promptly. It is the responsibility of the parent to see that the form and all statements are forwarded to BMI Benefits within 90 days of the accident in order to meet the deadline of the insuring company.

RE-ADMISSION

Re-admission will be denied to those whose tuition fee has not been met for the current school year unless special arrangements have been made with the principal, or school board. Families who **have not fulfilled** their financial obligations with the school will be formally notified. In addition, **promotion information will be withheld, and no official transcripts will be available until all obligations have been met with the school.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lockers

Locker space is provided for students. It is the responsibility of each student to keep his/her locker clean. Money and other valuables should not be stored at school. The school is **not** responsible for articles left in lockers.

Lunch

Parents are encouraged to provide an adequate breakfast for their children so that the students may function at their best during morning hours.

GFAA encourages students to be healthy, therefore, please provide wholesome and healthy lunches for your child.

The school may sometime provide hot lunch for a cost. Parents will be notified on this in advance.

- Students will bring lunches from home.
- Students must bring their own utensils.
- Students will not share their food with their classmates.
- Do not send sodas or energy drinks.
- Do not send pork, crab, shrimp, pepperoni or uncooked ramen noodles

Personal Property

All students' belonging must be clearly labeled including clothing, school supplies, and lunch box etc.

Severe Weather

For school closings due to severe weather conditions, it will be broadcast on TV channel 5 WARL, for information concerning school closings. Parents will also receive notification via the Call Now messaging system.

STUDENT HEALTH

Immunization

North Carolina's Immunization Law requires that parents and guardians present to school authorities a Certificate of Immunization showing that their child(ren) has/have received immunizations. The law requires **that if the immunization certificate is not presented within 30 days after enrolment, the child will be prohibited from attending school** until all immunizations are complete. Parents of rising 6th graders are required to have a booster dose of the TDAP.

In North Carolina, individuals can seek exemptions from school immunization requirements for either medical or religious reasons. Medical exemptions require a statement from a North Carolina-licensed physician, while religious exemptions require a written statement outlining the individual's bona fide religious objection to immunizations.

Medical Exemptions:

- Must be documented by a North Carolina-licensed physician.
- The Immunize NC website provides forms for medical exemptions, including a Medical Exemption Statement (DHHS 3987) and a Physician's Request for Medical Exemption (DHHS 3995).
- If a specific health risk isn't listed on the form, a Request for Medical Exemption can be sent to the State Health Director for approval.

Religious Exemptions:

- Requires a written statement detailing the individual's (or parent's, for minors) bona fide religious objection to immunization.
- North Carolina does not mandate a specific form for religious exemptions, but the statement should include the student's name, date of birth, and UNC PID# (if applicable).
- The statement should clearly outline the religious beliefs that conflict with immunization requirements.
- Personal beliefs or philosophies are not grounds for a religious exemption; it must be based on a sincerely held religious belief.

Illness

Hearing and vision screening should be done regularly. GFAA reserves the right to require a student to obtain a physical if there is a medical concern. If a student becomes ill during school hours, the parent/guardian will be notified and asked to come and pick up the child. If the parent/guardian is unable to pick the child up from school, the child will be isolated from the other students until arrangements have been made by the parent to pick the child up.

In consideration for the health of all children and staff and to meet state regulations, the school must be informed of any contagious diseases your child might have. These diseases include strep, chickenpox, and pinkeye. If your child has a fever, we ask that you wait a complete 24 hours after the fever is gone before returning the child to school.

Head lice

A child who is found to have head lice will be sent home for treatment. The child will not be permitted to return to school until every single nit has been taken out of the child's hair.

Emergencies

If your child is injured at school, first aid will be administered and an attempt will be made to contact at least one parent/guardian or the designated emergency contact for further instructions. If a parent cannot be contacted by phone, the Cumberland EMS will be called or the child will be transported to the nearest hospital emergency room. It is imperative for parents to keep the office updated on any changes to emergency contact information including change of address, phone number, or responsible adult.

Medication

Students requiring medication on a daily basis during the school day or taking medication for a period of time **MUST HAVE AN OFFICIAL PHYSICIAN'S MEDICATION FORM COMPLETED AND ON FILE IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE, SIGNED BY THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, AND SHALL FILE WITH THE PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL A MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION SIGNED BY THE PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS OF THE STUDENT.**

Students are not allowed to have medication in their possession. Students are NOT to give cough drops or any other over-the-counter medication to their classmates. Over the counter and prescribed medication must to be given directly to the office manager in labeled bottles with dosage and times.

Parents are responsible for transporting to and from school all medications to be administered by the school. All prescription medications brought to school are to be given to the office manager for safekeeping. They must be in the original container with the student's name, name of medicine, dosage and time for each dose. A completed Medication Administration Form (available in the office) is to accompany all prescribed medications and over-the-counter medications. A physician's signature is required for the prescribe medication.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

The computers and technology used in GFAA are intended for educational purposes at all times. Students shall use computers, iPads and tablets in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner.

Communication is a privilege and not a right. Failure to follow the procedures will result in loss of the privilege and may result in disciplinary action. The school may deny, revoke and suspend access to technology at any time.

Use of personal electronic devices is not permitted during school hours. These devises include but are not limited to MP3 players, iPods, and Cellular devices, and air buds. The school will not be responsible for lost or damaged property while at school. If there is a legitimate need to have one of the items listed above at school, this will need to be approved by administration prior to using them during school hours.

Consequences: Inappropriate use of such devices will warrant confiscation of equipment until a parent comes to the school and picks it up. All staff members have the right to confiscate any electronic items.

Cell phones

Understanding the need for communication and the ever-growing number of youths with cell phones, we are allowing cell phone usage on school grounds under the following policy:

- Phones must be turned off during class times
- Phones must be stored in the student's locker or backpack
- Cell phone cameras are never to be used (inside nor outside of school hours)
- Cell phone usage may never disrupt the educational environment
- Cell phone usage on field trips will need approval
- Cell phone should not be in your pocket
- Cell phones must not be visible during the school day
- Earbuds must be unplugged from ears and cell phones must be stored away upon entering the building

These rules are needed to ensure the learning environment is protected from disruption. **Any confiscated items will be returned to a parent after a conference for first occurrence. In second occurrences, devices will be returned at the end of the school year**.

Please be reminded that emergency information should be called in to the school office, do not depend on cell phone availability during the time your child is on school grounds.

Students will not be called from class to answer the phone during school hours. Important messages will be relayed in a timely manner. Students should not ask to use the phone except in an emergency. Do not call/text your child during school hours.

REPORT CARDS

A report card for each student will be issued quarterly following each nine-week grading period. Parent-teacher conferences are held to discuss your child's academic performance. This allows parents and teachers the opportunity to discuss progress of the student and to be able to address the needs and expectations of all involved. Parents will also be provided with a progress report every five weeks for students in kindergarten through 12^{th} grade. This report will reflect all work currently assigned in a given quarter. Conferences between parents and teachers may take place at any time as needed.

Grading Policy

Students are expected to do their best in all subject areas. Academic requirements may be adjusted to meet each student's need. Excellence and subject mastery are to be strived for in all subject areas.

Progress reports are designed to report each student's progress on the skills that are being taught. Based upon the guidelines of the Southern Union Conference, and the discretion of the Southern Atlantic Conference we apply the grading system below

Kindergarten – Grades 1-2

I - Independently achieves objectives and perform skills
P - Progressing towards objectives and performing skills
NT - Needs more time to develop

Grades 3-12

Letter	**Grade**
A+	**100**
A	**91**

A-	**90**
B+	**87**
B	**81**
B-	**80**
C+	**77**
C	**71**
C-	**70**
D+	**67**
D	**61**
D-	**60**
F	**0**

Progress reports are given to help the parents be aware of student progress. Late assignment or paper will receive reduced points. Assignments not turned in by the end of each week will not receive a grade unless it is make-up work after an excused absence. Parents are asked to monitor daily assignments in a timely manner.

Large projects that involve more than a week to produce must be turned in on the due date. These projects are sent home in advance.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

8th Grade

1. Each student must be eligible for promotion to ninth grade in order to participate in graduation services at the end of the year.
2. A student who is not promoted due to failing a class or classes may remove the failing grade or grades by attending summer school or taking these courses by home study. Upon satisfactory completion of the courses the student may/will be promoted.
3. The student's final statement of account must be paid in full before he/she receives his/her diploma.
4. Students are eligible for the title of valedictorian or salutatorian if the student have attended grades 6th, 7th and 8th at a Seventh day Adventist school; and the student must have completed their 7th and 8th grades at the graduating school.

Retention

Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy is pursuing a path for personalized learning format to support each student individually, to ensure that the student understands, masters, and advances in each expose skill as they are presented. If, various interventions and personalized learning strategies are tried and the student continues to lag behind academically, it may be necessary to retain the student. This decision is made by consensus of the classroom teacher(s), the parents, and the principal.

The following will be considered for retention:

- Students in first grade who have not mastered minimum reading or math requirements
- Students who have accumulated excessive absences
- Students who have demonstrated a decided lack of effort and have failing grades.

In certain instances where a student demonstrates severe deficiencies academically, emotionally, and/or behaviorally, it may be recommended that the parents arrange for a psycho-educational assessment by a certified school psychologist at the local public school district to determine if there are serious physical, learning, emotional, and/or behavioral disabilities which may affect the student's ability to learn.

INTERPRETATION

GFAA reserves the right to make clear any interpretation of policy, written or implied, and is not subject to legal interpretation of wording or intent.

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

Divorced, separated and blended families are realities of contemporary life that affects GFAA's responsibilities to its students. It is the responsibility of both parents to keep the school current with all necessary and legal documents regarding custody arrangements.

The following guidelines have been adopted to assist the school in situations where a non-custodial parent wishes to become involved in school related activities of a child or wishes to have contact with or take custody of the child while the child is at school:

- Ordinarily, the school will not resist or interfere with a non-custodial parent's involvement in school-related affairs or access to the parent's child or the child's records unless the school is presented with a court order or comparable legal document restricting such involvement or access. The school will not otherwise choose sides between parents
- If there is a restraining order in place, the custodial parent is responsible to present the school with a copy of the order along with a picture of the restricted party
- A non-custodial parent may not take custody of a child or remove the child from school premises unless the parent presents either a written court order or a written authorization signed and verbal notification by the custodial parent permitting such custody
- If the actions of parents, custodial or non-custodial, become disruptive to the operations of the school, the school has the right to restrict access by such parents and to take other necessary actions

Concerning student activities that require parental consent, the school will accept consent only from the custodial parent unless authority to grant consent is given to the non-custodial parent by a court order or comparable legal document.

NON-PUBLISHED POLICY

Every effort is made to make a handbook as complete as possible, however, unforeseen situations arise and the constraints of the time and space make it impossible to include every conceivable situation. For this reason, it is sometimes necessary for the school staff and/or the school board to

make or adjust policy during the year. These additions carry the same weight and are just as binding as the written information in the handbook.

PARENTAL PARTICIPATION

GFAA expects a willingness on the part of the parents to participate with the school in the education of their children. Such involvement includes:

- Regularly monitor homework planners, newsletters and progress reports
- Provide a time and place for the student to do his homework, free of distraction
- Refrain from engaging in conversation that will tend to undermine either the teacher or the school
- Make every effort to have your child in school. Try to plan family vacations around the school calendar

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

GFAA shall maintain a safe, healthy environment of its students, faculty and staff at all times. School authorities have the right to perform unannounced searches and to seize illegal, unauthorized material to determine whether there exists any danger to the student or the school. A student's personal effects (e.g. locker, backpack, purse, etc.) may be searched whenever school authorities have reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. Illegal or unauthorized material is all substances or material prohibited by school policy or state or federal law including, but not limited to, controlled substances, drugs, alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, guns, knives, weapons or incendiary devices.

Students may be asked to empty their pockets, purse, wallet, locker, book bag, etc. without parent's permission or the student's permission. **Registration of the child constitutes parental consent to such searches**.

All student desks, lockers and computers are the property of GFAA and are at all times under the control of the school. School authorities may perform general inspections of desks, lockers and computers at any time without notice, without consent and without a search warrant.

A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

In the case of possession of illegal drugs or weapons, GFAA will report the student to law enforcement agencies. Parents will be contacted immediately upon verification of the violation.

STUDENT EXPRESSION

We encourage students to express themselves in appropriate and uplifting ways. These expressions are not to disrupt the learning going on in any class. No messages shared by our students are to be vulgar, obscene or mocking of others based on race, origin, color, sex or religion. Insignias, buttons or pamphlets distributed at school must be approved by the administration prior to distribution.

STUDENT RECORDS

As required by the Amended Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy hereby gives public notice to all parents of students in attendance that it is its policy that:

A cumulative folder is kept for every student in the school office. The Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Department of Education requires this. This folder will contain academic records, photographs, achievement forms, documents and any other pertinent and relevant information.

The student's folder will be transferred directly to another school at the direct request of that school's assigned registrar when the student's account with GFAA is paid in full. Official transcripts will be released only when satisfactory financial arrangements are made.

HOMEWORK

GFAA follows the "10-Minute Rule," that is, students receive roughly 10 minutes of homework per night, multiplied by their grade level (e.g a fifth grader will have roughly about 50 minutes, and up to 120 minutes for high school seniors).

Homework has grade weight assigned for all subjects, the school has in place a homework schedule, that is adhered to by specific days and subjects:

All work missed due to a lawful/excused absence must be made up upon the students return to school. All assignments that are not made up will be reflected in the student's grade.
Points will be deducted for late assignments and homework after the due date, unless under special circumstances.

Monday	Math & ELA
Tuesday	Bible & Social Studies/History
Wednesday	Math & Science
Thursday	ELA/Health/Computer App/Geography

Spelling Words are given on Friday to be tested on the following Friday
Bible/Treasurer Verses are given on Monday and are tested for memorization on Friday

According to the National Education Association (NEA), the recommended allotted time for homework per grade level is as follows: It excludes research and project assignments. Prioritizing quality over quantity is the primary focus of homework.

Kindergarten -10-15 mins
Grades 1 & 2 -15-20 mins
Grades 3 & 4 -30-40 mins
Grades 5 & 6 -50-60 mins

Grades 7 & 8 -70-80 mins
Grades 9-12 -80-120 mins

EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES

Student activities are designed to help develop in the student talents other than those categorized as academic/intellectual. Citizenship qualities, leadership, and teamwork are some of the traits brought out in school organizations. Students are required to maintain appropriate Christian conduct, school attendance and satisfactory grades. Students' extracurricular activities include the following: Volunteers are needed for these areas:

- Career Day
- School Spirit Week
- Spelling Bee
- Math Fair
- Science Fair
- Track & Field Day
- Soccer/volleyball/basketball
- Puppet ministry

12th Grade Graduation Requirement

- **HIGH SCHOOL**
  COURSE SEQUENCE –REQUIRED

- Students may choose to graduate with a College Preparatory Diploma (25+ credits) or a Standard Diploma (21 credits).

- All graduates must complete in addition to their courses 20 hours of community services.

- **FRESHMAN (9th)**

  Bible I
  English I
  Algebra I
  Earth Science
  Computer Application
  Physical Education
  Health
  Geography
  Fine Arts
  Community Services (5 hours)
  SAT/ACT Test

- **SOPHOMORE (10th)**

Bible II
English II
Biology
World History
Physical Education
Geometry
Fine Arts
Community Services (5 hours)
SAT/ACT Test

- **JUNIOR (11th)**
  Bible III
  American Literature
  Algebra II
  Chemistry
  *Modern Language I (required for CP Diploma)
  US History
  Fine Arts
  Community Service (5 hours)
  Pre- Calculus (required for CP Diploma)
  SAT/ACT Test

- **SENIOR (12th)** Bible IV
  British Literature
  Pre Calculus
  Physics (required for CP Diploma)
  US Government (one semester)
  Modern Language II (required for CP Diploma)
  Fine Arts
  Community Service (5 hours) SAT/ACT Test

- **Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC)**
  Students entering grade 11 are eligible to enroll in August for two courses or (6 credits) college hours, during the summer, fall, and spring each semester. Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.80 or higher. If a student takes two classes each semester, they should be able to complete the Arts or Science College Transfer pathway, which are 33 and 35 credits hours respectively. All classes are tuition free. There is no cost associated with the classes. Students are responsible to get their own books.
- **Community Services**
  As part of the requirement for graduation, each student must complete a minimum of 20 hours of community services before being allowed to receive their high school diploma. Community service encourages students to become willing to help others as Christ did. It provides a service which meet human and community needs without monetary compensation.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

We acknowledge that the parents are an integral part of each student's education. Likewise, the school is an integral part of each student's social and spiritual development. Working together we can develop each student into the person God created them to be.

Home and School is responsible for planning and implementing programs and activities that support the needs of the students, families, and staff. All GFAA parents/guardians are automatic members of the Home and School Association and work in coordination with the GFAA staff and school board. There are regular meetings held each month at the school. And will provide all you with an opportunity to have input in and recommend school activities and educational programs.

The contributions made by the Home and School parents and guardians are readily observed by all the students. Students need your role modeling to take ownership of and pride in their school. A positive, supportive attitude goes a long way in the way they view their life at school. The basic principle of shared responsibility is critical to our mutual success. We want everyone to be involved. We value you and need your time and talents support the advance in learning.

FUNDRAISER PARTICIPATION

Parents are expected to participate in all school fundraiser.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO THE SCHOOL

Handbook Acknowledgement 2026-20267SY

Date_____/_____/_____

I _____ acknowledged that I have received a copy of the Student Handbook and will follow the guidelines as set forth by the Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy and the South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists.

Name of Student _____

Parent's Signature _____

GFAA STUDENT ASSOCIATION (SA)CONSTITUTION

Revised August 2025

Amendment I

Student Association (SA) - All students, by enrolling at Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy, automatically become members of SA. The association assists in the organization of Spirit Week and Spring Banquet. A constitution, elected officers, and faculty sponsorship govern this organization. The Student Association is composed of a Student Council (Elected SA Executive Officers) and a Student Senate (one elected senator from grade 5+)

Student Senate - The goal of the Student Senate is to give all students a voice in which student activities are held and how they are to be run. The Student Senate is designed to allow students to identify and provide solutions for various problems around campus. General meeting agenda items may involve planning for upcoming SA events. Any requests, suggestions or concerns are to be brought in writing to a SA meeting for consideration and discussion.

Elections – It is an honor and a privilege to hold an elected office. Certain minimum requirements must be met in order to qualify and maintain an office.

- The election procedure will start every year in the month of August.
- Student will inform their homeroom teacher if they are interested to run for an office
- Students seeking the President or Vice President positions will be required to participate in a debate.
- The president must have a vice president when informing their homeroom teachers of their intention.
- All candidates will have a week assigned for campaigning.
- Campaigning must be wholesome and productive. No false promises must be made to win votes. Students will be allowed to post up to three posters around the school.
- Election will take place in November, and the newly elected student council will have until January to plan for their term

Amendment II

Office eligibility: Candidates for any office must be approved by the staff on the basis of GPA, citizenship, and attendance.

To qualify for a major office, (president and vice-president) a student must meet the following requirements:

- be in the 9th grade and higher
- have a **3.00 GPA** in the or above in the first quarter report.
- have excellent attendance record

- have good standing in citizenship. (Anyone receiving a major discipline infraction is ineligible to hold office during that year)

To qualify for any minor office (chaplain, treasurer, secretary, and sergeant-at- arms), must meet the following requirements:

- be in the 7th grade and higher
- have a **3.00 GPA** or above fin the first quarter report
- have excellent attendance record
- have good standing in citizenship. (Anyone receiving a major discipline infraction is ineligible to hold office during that year)

Duties of Student Council Officers

President

- oversee the association's efforts on student activity events and planning
- works on budget allocation & fiscal planning
- recognition of developing issues pertaining to students
- communication between the school administration and the student body
- Teacher(s) sponsorship MUST be present for all meetings

Vice-President

- fulfills the duties of the president when the president is absent
- performs duties assigned by the president
- recognition of developing issues pertaining to students

Secretary

- takes meeting minutes
- maintains correspondence & attendance records
- keeps school activity calendar
- responsible for all sign-up sheets

Treasurer

- establishes budget & records all financial transactions
- gives a status reports at class meetings
- authorizes expenditures & inventories fundraising items

Sergeant at arms

- maintains order and decorum at meetings

Chaplain

- communicates and models GFAA values
- plan and implement spiritually-based programs for the entire school
- coordinates with the classroom teachers regarding weekly chapel services and week of prayer initiative

Amendment III

Impeachment

- In order to impeach the president, the person or persons who are trying to impeach the president has to have a reason why and proof of witnesses to the situation.
- The administration and staff will determine the outcome after vetting the information received.
- When you are impeached, you are ineligible to run for any positions

Re-Election

- In Re-election the student must have the same requirements as how they were elected
- You can only be elected twice, after that you cannot be elected again
- Student can use the same campaign style, if desire.

Amendment IV

Student Council Members Resignation

- If any student council member is to be suspended, they will automatically be asked to resign and will not be able to come back for that entire school year
- The Student Council member must meet the requirements that they had when they were elected every quarter
- In order to run for a Student Council Position again you must have successfully completed your previous year to be eligible.
- When the Student Council member wants to resign on his own, he/she will require to provide two-weeks' notice.

Fundraiser

All fundraiser proposals must be written up and approve by the principal.

Funds must be deposited and receipted by treasurer, and turned in to the school office manager

The entire school must be able to benefit from event/planned activities