



Gilmer County Schools

Dr. Brian Ridley, Superintendent

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GCS Parents & Guardians,

As superintendent of the Gilmer County School System, I would like to officially welcome you back for the 2022-2023 school year. I hope you all had a restful and invigorating summer in preparation for what promises to be a great year of student success.

The last few years have been difficult, but we have been able to remain open and address our challenges as a community. That being said, we cannot simply gloss over the fact that the pandemic has had real consequences for our students. Academic learning loss has affected practically all students but none more than our youngest and most vulnerable.

I am confident that we will successfully overcome, but getting back on track will not be easy and will require all of our efforts. The key will be focusing on the fundamentals of improving literacy in ALL grade levels, increasing rigor and promoting student attendance. We ask that you partner with us by reading with your children and promoting literacy awareness in your home. As we increase the rigor of our instruction to create more challenging classrooms, encourage your child to do their best and achieve at their highest level. Reinforce the idea that school attendance is not optional. Students have missed so much in the past few years; It's time to make up that ground.

Although the Gilmer County School System boasts amazing extracurricular programs in athletics, fine arts, agriculture and other areas that are competitive at both the state and national level, academic achievement is our core business. We exist for the purpose of building a future for our community and we look forward to working with parents, community and stakeholders to support our students in every aspect of their development.

I wish you all an awesome start to the 2022-2023 school year and always remember that EVERY day is a great day to be a **BOBCAT!**

Dr. Brian Ridley
Superintendent
Gilmer County Schools

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Every Child, Every Opportunity, Every Day!