



August 12, 2026

Dear Rising Stars at Gamble Montessori Elementary Preschool Parent,

Thank you for enrolling your child into Rising Stars Academy Preschool at Gamble Montessori Elementary. We are sure he / she will have a rewarding experience. It is a very exciting time for all of us. We are looking forward to an adventurous new school year! Before we get started, there is some important information I want to share about our school, classroom, and about myself. **Please look over all the provided information.**

A little about myself, my name is Mr. James Burroughs but you can call me Mr. Burroughs or Mr. B as the children like to call me. I graduated from the University Of Mt. St. Joseph in December of 2012 with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. I have worked with young children for thirteen years in many different settings. For the past six years I have been here at Gamble Montessori Elementary. My wife and I have a fourth grader named Jameson! He is now 9 years old and keeping us busy all the time, we also have a six year old girl named Audrey who is starting first grade and who we love dearly, and a 3 year old toddler named Everly! We love watching them all grow and develop a personality! I am looking forward to this school year at Rising Stars Academy at GME, and watching a new group of children develop and grow in new and exciting ways. When I am not in the classroom, I enjoy working out in the gym and hanging around home with my wife, and our children! My paraprofessional this year is Ms. Tracey Wilson this is her 7th year with the district, and she is very excited to work with our class!

**There are a few ways in which I will communicate with you:**

- I will be sending home a monthly newsletter letting you know what we are working on in the classroom and upcoming important events and announcements
- I will be using and contacting you through class dojo
- There will be assigned parent-teacher conferences to discuss your child's progress and ways to achieve my goals for your child as well as yours
- I will also be communicating with you via email and phone calls home weekly. You can reach me throughout the school day by calling the school classroom number: **363-9650** or please email all questions and concerns to my CPS email at [Burrouj@cps-k12.org](mailto:Burrouj@cps-k12.org)
- **We will only send your child home with their backpack IF there is information that is pertinent or needs to be returned in a timely manner!**  
**Thank you!!**

Rising Stars Academy will be following the Creative Curriculum model this year which I will briefly explain. The Creative Curriculum includes developmentally appropriate goals and

objectives for children within four main categories of interest: social/emotional, physical, cognitive and language.

Throughout the beginning of the school year and the entire year I have class expectations that I think will help establish routine and order in the classroom and adequately prepare your child for kindergarten:

Our classroom rules are pretty basic and easy to remember:

- I will listen and follow directions
- I will keep my hands and feet to myself
- I will take care of classroom materials
- I will use kind words and an inside voice
- I will be respectful to my teachers and classmates

Since this is the first time that many students have had to interact with other children for an extensive amount of time, these rules will be modeled. The students will also be given different, but safe ways to solve problems that may arise. If an issue/problem arises in which the child is not willing to talk about it, he or she will be given some space and time to think about it and then a teacher will try to help the child solve the problem. If the child is not willing to take care of the issue or continues to have difficulty, the parent will be contacted either by phone, email, or note so that you are aware of the situation.

Please send your child to school with these few items we will supply the rest!

- Naptime Blanket
- Change of Clothes ( Pull-up if necessary)
- Stuffed animal for naptime if necessary
- Water bottle with name!

**Our day will begin at 9:10am and end at 3:30pm, you may bring your child at 9:10am and drop him /her off to the cafeteria entrance, where my paraprofessional will meet you and will sign in your child, and give him or her their health check and retrieve your child from your vehicle. At dismissal you will pick up your child beginning at 3:30pm. Your child will be given breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack as a full day student. Please no outside food or toys! It is very important that your child is dropped off and picked up ON TIME, or you will have to park your vehicle, walk into the main office and check your child in as tardy!**

During the first week of school you will receive a Gamble Montessori Elementary family handbook that will include more detailed information about our policies and procedures.

Sincerely,

Mr. B & Miss Tracey!

