



# Good Foundations Academy

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July 30, 2025

Dear GFA Families,

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope your family enjoyed a fun and relaxing summer break. Whether you are returning to our school community or joining us for the first time, we are thrilled to welcome you!

This year promises to be filled with meaningful experiences both inside and outside the classroom. From hands-on projects, special events, field trips and assemblies, we are committed to creating a safe, nurturing, and inspiring environment where every child feels valued and supported. We believe in the power of strong partnerships between home and school, and we look forward to working together to help each student thrive. Let's make this school year our best one yet! We can't wait to see all the bright, eager faces walking through our doors!

**In preparation for the new school year, we have provided some important “need to know” information.**

## **Student Placement/Class Lists**

A great deal of time, effort and thought has gone into the process of student placement for the 2025-2026 school year. Classrooms have been balanced academically, socially, and according to individual learning styles. Our class lists are structured to provide equitable class sizes at each grade level. Moving students is difficult without causing imbalances and inequities. Thank you in advance for being positive with your child and helping him or her acclimate to a new grade, peer group and teacher!

**Class lists will be posted on the windows located near the small playground on Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m.**

## **Open House**

GFA's annual “Open House” is scheduled for Thursday, August 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please come and meet your teacher, ask questions, drop off class supplies, participate in vision testing, complete volunteer paperwork, purchase uniforms and much more! **Teachers will be given a 20-minute break during the open house event. Please plan accordingly:**

### **Scheduled Breaks**

Kindergarten:	10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.
First Grade:	10:20 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.
Second Grade:	10:40 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Third Grade:	11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.
Fourth Grade:	11:20 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.
Fifth Grade:	11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Sixth Grade:	12:00 p.m. – 12:20 p.m.

## **First Day of School**

The first day of in-class learning is Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. School begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. All students must enter through the front of the building and go directly to their classroom. Doors open at 7:40 a.m. each morning. **Please keep**

**in mind that we will be following an early release schedule the first week of school.** All 1st-6th grade students will be released at 1:00 p.m. **The early release schedule for kindergarten is as follows:** Morning kindergarten will attend school from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and afternoon kindergarten will attend school from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Please join us for an opening ceremony event on the first day of school beginning at 8:15 a.m. in the front of the school near the flag poles.

### **School Entrance**

GFA currently uses a front door buzz-in entry system. Upon entry, visitors will need to sign-in at the front office before being given further access to the school. Back doors will remain locked throughout the day. **All visitors to the school must enter through the front doors.**

### **Daily Schedule**

#### **AM Kindergarten**

Monday – Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

#### **PM Kindergarten**

Monday – Thursday: 12:00 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.  
Friday: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

#### **Grades 1- 6**

Monday – Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.  
Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### **Back to School Night**

Back to School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. This is an opportunity for parents to meet teachers and learn important information about your child’s classroom experience. We will have a parent meeting in the gym from 6:00 p.m. – 6:25 p.m. Teachers will be holding two classroom sessions immediately following the parent meeting. Session 1 begins at 6:30 p.m. Session 2 begins at 7:00 p.m. We will also hold a break-out session on Title 1 from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Please keep in mind that teachers will not be available to talk to parents before 6:30 p.m. or after 7:30 p.m. If you need additional time to meet with your child’s teacher, we ask that you please set up a meeting for another time.

### **Attendance**

#### **Tardy and Early Check-outs**

Because the focus at GFA is on academic excellence and character, regular attendance is a core expectation. We have found that students cannot be successful academically if they are not in class for instruction. We understand that students will periodically have appointments. We simply ask that you plan as many appointments as possible outside of the regular school day.

School begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. If arriving after 8:15 a.m. parents/guardians must either come into the office to check-in their student or scan the QR code located inside the front office.. **Please do not park in the drive through drop-off lane in front of the school doors as this blocks access to our parking lot and is a fire lane.** Parents/guardians who “check out” their student early must show a **picture ID** in person. We will not send students out to parents who are waiting in their car. Students will be released at 3:10 p.m. unless they are participating in our after-school program.

### **Absences**

A crucial part of success for students is attendance. As a parent or guardian, it is essential for you to maintain an attitude that “Every Day Counts” for students to be in school and ready to learn. The State of Utah holds public schools accountable for excessive absenteeism. Excessive absenteeism is defined by the State of Utah as any student missing more than ten days in a single school year. As a result, GFA takes attendance very seriously. Parents/guardians must provide a valid excuse for absences. Failure to do so will result in the absence being recorded as “unexcused.” However, excessive absences (more than 10 absences in a single school year), are discouraged even if they are excused. We

understand that things happen, and kids do get sick. We just want to remind you that regular attendance is essential to your student's academic success.

### **Morning Drop Off Reminders (\*IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION\*)**

In an effort to maximize the safety of GFA students, and to minimize dangerous traffic congestion, we ask that all parents adhere to the morning drop-off and pick-up procedures.

- Morning drop-off begins at 7:40 a.m. Please make arrangements with a care provider like Next Generation, which is located behind GFA, if you need to drop-off your student before 7:40 a.m.
- **Please pull as far forward as you can before stopping your vehicle to let your student(s) out of the car.** If everyone pulls as far forward as they can before stopping, we can unload twice as many students in the same amount of time.
- Students should be ready to exit the car immediately to keep traffic flowing. If your student is not ready to exit the car, please pull around and park.
- Students should **only exit** the car door closest to the sidewalk.
- Please do not get out of your car. Please park your car in the parking lot if your child needs assistance.
- Please be responsible with timelines. Not only is this an essential skill for success, but it will also limit disruption caused by being late for school. The school day officially starts at 8:00 a.m.
- Please be aware of the cross walk while leaving the school parking lot. You must turn **RIGHT** out of the exit located closest to the crosswalk between Good Foundations Academy and Utah Military Academy.
- **Thank you in advance for your cooperation as we work through high volumes of traffic at the beginning of the year.**

### **Pick-up Reminders**

- For the safety of our students and staff, please drive **slowly** through the line. **There will be congestion during afternoon pickup.** Please be patient while our new families learn the procedure.
- Please do not use your cell phone while in the car line.
- Please be kind. We are a school of character and want to be examples. Aggressive and vulgar behavior will be addressed by the GFA Administration.
- Each class within a grade level will stand together in a designated area. Grades 6<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and PM kindergarten can be picked up in the front of the school in our drive through car lane beginning at 3:10 p.m. This is the same car lane that we use during morning drop off. If you DO NOT have a student in grades 1-4, you may turn left to exit out of the car lane and prepare to leave the school. If you have a student in grades 1-4, you will turn right and continue to the back of the school. Students will be stationed in the following order in the back of the school: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and then Miss Brandi's class and daycare buses. Maps will be available during our Open House event.
- We ask that you avoid **ARRIVING EARLY TO SCHOOL AND PARKING IN THE CAR LINE. YOU WILL BE ASKED TO MOVE YOUR CAR AND PARK.**
- If you are going to check your student out early, **please park your car in the parking lot not in the drive**

**through car lane before entering the school.**

- If your child is going to walk to Target to be picked up, please notify his/her teacher of this arrangement.
- A.M. Kindergarten pick-up is located in the back of the school.

### **What role do parents play?**

Parent volunteers are an integral part of GFA's success. Parental involvement not only enhances academic performance, but it also has a positive influence on student attitude and behavior. A parent/guardian's interest and encouragement in a child's education can affect the child's attitude toward school, classroom conduct, self-esteem, absenteeism, and motivation. Some volunteer opportunities include:

- Volunteering as a room parent for a student's classroom
- Participating in the Guardian Committee (PTO)
- Volunteering at Book Fairs
- Attending field trips and special events
- Supervising the uniform closet
- Helping with the Musical, Literature Night, Stem Night, Art Festival, Trunk or Treat, Field Day
- Assisting with service projects
- Classroom parties and other school events
- Fundraising events

Thank you in advance for making Good Foundations Academy a safe, fun, and exciting place to learn. Your continued commitment to ensuring that GFA remains a celebrated and successful school is inspiring. I eagerly look forward to greeting students and families again. Together, I know we will make this year one of growth and achievement for all students!

Sincerely,

Lisa Erwin M.Ed.  
Executive Director

**Good Foundations Academy**

*Building Knowledge and Character*

(801) 393-2950

*"Aim High, Work Hard, Be Great!"*