

Guilford Elementary School

PROFILE

7335 Oakland Mills Road • Columbia, MD 21046 • 410-880-5930 • ges.hcps.org/



Guilford Elementary School has a very rich and long history. It began as a one room schoolhouse and was one of only four schools in the county for African American children. As the number of students attending grew, the school went from a single room house to a three room building. In the 1920s, the community pulled their money together to build a bigger school at the corner of Guilford and Mission Road. The school was staffed by all African American teachers, went through the 7th grade, and students would attend for only 7 months out of the year. In 1954, the school was moved to its present location and had eleven classrooms. In 1955, two other African American schools closed – Elkridge and Meadowridge – causing the need for an addition to the school to house all the new students. Around this time, the Supreme Court ordered public schools to begin integrating, but unfortunately, this did not happen for our school until ten years later in 1965. However, Guilford ES did become the first school in the county to integrate its staff in 1957.

Staff teach the students every day to show their Tiger Pride by being **Respectful**, taking **Ownership** of their actions, having a positive **Attitude**, being **Responsible**, and **Showing empathy (ROARS)**. These qualities are a very important part of the students and staff, and they are what make us Guilford Strong!

At Guilford Elementary School, staff provide the students a solid foundation of academics, achievement, and social emotional learning. We believe that all children deserve to have a place that is safe, nurturing, and values the various cultures and backgrounds that each of the students and staff members brings to the school. Diversity is something that is celebrated every day. The relationships the school has with its families is the cornerstone to its success. The commitment the community puts in to ensuring the success of all students is one of the many things that makes this school great.

Updated December 2023

Fast Facts

Facility opened: 1954

Additions/Renovations

1959 (A), 1982 (R/A), 1986 (A), 1989, 2006 (R)

School Capacity: 465

(This does not include additional capacity provided by 5 portable classrooms.)

Total Enrollment (PreK–5): 473

Official count 9/30/23

Ethnicity FY24

American Indian/Alaskan	≤5.0%
Asian	13.1%
Black/African American	50.0%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	≤5.0%
Hispanic/Latino	19.2%
White	14.2%
Two or more races	≤5.0%

Students Receiving Special Services FY23

Free/Reduced Meals	59.2%
English Learners	11.6%
Special Education	12.2%

Title I School

Administrators:

Stephanie Barber-Wehrman, Principal
LaRae Guide, Assistant Principal

Educational Partnerships

- A-OK Mentoring-Tutoring
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Iota Lambda Omega Chapter
- Always Reading
- Asbury United Methodist Church – Jessup
- Columbia (MD) Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Columbia Association
- First Baptist Church of Guilford
- Free Bikes 4 Kidz Maryland
- Glen Mar United Methodist Church
- Grace Community Church
- Howard Community College, Center for Service Learning

Academic Achievement*

GES Performance on State Tests*

Measure	2022 Results	2023 Results
Percent Proficient English Language Arts	32.6%	40.3%
Percent Proficient Mathematics	26.8%	32.0%
Percent Proficient Science	34.2%	23.3%

State accountability information can be accessed at <https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/>

Special Programs

- AAA Safety Patrol
- Academic Life Skills Classes
- After School Program – Columbia Association
- Alternative Education Program
- Battle of the Books
- Black Student Achievement Academic Liaison
- Blessings in a Backpack Program
- Chorus
- Columbia Association Points Program
- Community Circles
- Concert Band/Orchestra Programs
- Cross-Age Buddies
- Days of Taste Farm to Table Program
- ESOL
- Fall Fest/Fun Run
- Family Involvement Liaison
- Family Math and Reading Nights
- Field Day Events
- Gifted and Talented Program
- Girls on the Run Program
- Green School Initiative
- Hour of Code
- Howard County Elementary Solo and Ensemble Festival
- Howard County Spelling Bee
- Instructional Intervention Team
- Literacy Coach
- Maryland Meals For Achievement Breakfast Program
- Math Coach
- Math Interventionists
- Outdoor Classroom
- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) School
- PBIS Student Ambassadors
- PreK Program - Full Day
- Professional Development School: UMBC
- Reading Specialists
- Schoolwide Free Breakfast Program
- Schoolwide Green School Program
- Simulated Congressional Hearings
- STEM Fair
- Title 1 Schoolwide Program
- WGES TV Studio - Student Run Broadcast

Accomplishments

- Maryland Green School Certified
- ECO Schools USA Green Flag Award 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Energy STAR Award 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Gold Ribbon, 2010–Present
- Unheard Perspectives Medalists: 2020: 3 Gold Medals 2019: 3 Gold Medals 2018: 3 Gold Medals

Educational Partnerships, *continued*

Howard County Food Bank, Community Action Council
 Howard County Library, East Columbia Branch
 Howard County MultiService Center
 Laurel Church of Christ
 Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education, Green Schools Program
 National Center for Children and Families
 New Hope Adventist Church
 Prepare for Success, Community Action Council of Howard County
 TasteWise Kids
 The Kindness Pantry
 Union Church