

# National School Social Work Appreciation Week

March 7 – 13, 2021



## School Social Work “Spirit of Giving” Week



In recognition of National School Social Work Appreciation Week, Guilford County Schools’ School Social Work Department would like to spread their encompassing spirit of giving by launching weeklong opportunities for students, staff, families and the community at large! For our district-wide spirit week, choose one day or the entire week to honor the contributions of GCS’ 82 school social workers by participating in some of the ways that they extend themselves through acts of giving.

		Day & Theme	Examples & Ideas
<b>March 2021</b>	Monday, March 8	<p><b>School Social Workers’ Give Time</b></p> <p><i>School Social Workers are committed to spending time with students and families daily to bridge connections between home and school.</i></p>	<p>Collect or purchase a few items to share with families in need. These items could include food, hats and gloves, coats, socks, books, hygiene items, and/or school supplies.</p> <p>Connect with a local daycare center and take some time to virtually read to younger children.</p> <p>Make a positive phone call to a parent to remind them how amazing their child is, to recognize an accomplishment or share an area of growth.</p>
	Tuesday, March 9	<p><b>School Social Workers’ Give Support</b></p> <p><i>School Social Workers extend support to students, families and staff daily, so that they may access what is needed to reach their goals.</i></p>	<p>Work with your school social worker to arrange an opportunity to mentor a student.</p> <p>If you have access to resources that you feel students, staff or families can benefit from, connect with your school social worker today to discuss how the resources can be used to support the learning and life outcomes for our students.</p> <p>Find time to learn more about the role of your school social worker. Ask them how you may be able to support any existing programs and efforts at the school.</p>
	Wednesday, March 10	<p><b>School Social Workers’ Give Compassion</b></p> <p><i>School Social Workers give compassion to others by being empathetic, a good listener and an advocate.</i></p>	<p>Extend a simple gesture of kindness. Open the door for someone, Say “Hello”, offer a complement or extend a listening ear.</p> <p>Pay it forward by anonymously sharing a gift to someone in need of a little spark of bliss.</p> <p>Treat a staff member who has experienced some recent difficulties to breakfast or a kind-hearted handwritten note.</p>
	Thursday, March 11	<p><b>School Social Workers’ Give Grace</b></p> <p><i>School Social Workers extend grace as an act of kindness because they understand even after mastering a task, each day has the possibility to yield unexpected experiences for others.</i></p>	<p>Share positive affirmations with someone who has experienced recent discomfort.</p> <p>Establish a social norm that regularly and appropriately defines grace and ensures the extension of grace toward others when things may not go as expected.</p> <p>Help youth develop their strengths and see that everyone is unique, but everyone also possesses individual strengths. Challenge yourself and others to recognize strengths in others.</p>
	Friday, March 12	<p><b>School Social Workers’ Give Hope</b></p> <p><i>School Social Workers bestow hope in effort to energize the present and encourage others to move forward despite the circumstance!</i></p>	<p>Call someone you know who has been experiencing some difficulties to extend hope by encouraging and empowering them to see themselves beyond their current situations.</p> <p>Connect with your school social work to learn more about available resources across Guilford County. Prepare yourself to extend hope to someone you know personally.</p> <p>Reach out to your school social worker to share encouraging words and any positive messages that expresses your appreciation for their professional contributions.</p>