



## **WELCOME TO STUDENT SUPPORT AT GRIFFIN 2026-2027**

Dr. Deborah Overdorff is the Director of Student Support, whose main role is to facilitate academic success for students with learning differences and/or medical issues that might impact learning. Griffin's Student Support Team also includes Janelle Powell, Lars Frazer, and Kali Fagnant (Dir. of Social-Emotional Learning). We collaborate with parents, students' teachers, outside tutors, and other appropriate Griffin staff, such as the College Counselor, to promote student success throughout their time at Griffin.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES OVERVIEW**

All Griffin School students are eligible to receive accommodations as needed and as identified by a formal assessment and/or doctor's input in the case of medical needs. Griffin School does not provide learning assessment services, but we can provide referrals to independent assessors. Accommodation plans are designed in consultation with the student, the family, and Griffin School Student Support team members.

\*All students who need accommodations will have an initial intake meeting with the Director of Student Support before the start of their first year at Griffin at no additional cost. Parents and students will meet with Deborah and Kali to determine if an accommodation plan is needed and to set up a formal accommodation plan for the year, if needed. Formal accommodation plans can be updated or modified at any time during a student's time at Griffin.

A variety of learning accommodations are available for students to help them access learning opportunities in an equitable way. Accommodations are designed to support learning opportunities to level the playing field so all students can meet the expectations set in the classroom. Our goal is to help students develop a sense of belonging and investment in their Griffin education, in addition to building the skills to advocate for themselves and be independent, confident students upon graduation.

Students who would benefit from ongoing supplementary support during the school year may be signed up to receive services through our Student Support Program. Services are tailored to each student based on their individual needs and the support level selected. Support centers around building executive functioning skills and effective work habits. *Note that student support services are not designed to provide ongoing subject-specific tutoring for students, although there are occasions when the Student Support team will help students with content (i.e., refining essays, creating study guides, understanding rubrics, preparing for tests).*

**STUDENT SUPPORT LEVELS AND FEES- Please read carefully, as there are changes in the type of support we offer from the 2025-2026 year. The main change is that we will no longer offer twice-weekly services for new students.**

This year, we are providing two levels of one-on-one support services for students that will incur an additional fee. Fees are added to each family's FACTS Payment Account. Student support fees can be paid in one or two lump sums or billed monthly, August-April. If services are canceled before October 15th, 75% of fees will be refunded, and if services are canceled by December 20th, 50% of the fees will be refunded. Please reach out to both Adam Wilson ([adam@griffinschool.org](mailto:adam@griffinschool.org)) and Deborah Overdorff ([deborah@griffinschool.org](mailto:deborah@griffinschool.org)) if you have questions about financial assistance.

### **Category 1: Quick Checks or Testing Coordination Support - (\$1250/year)**

a) Testing Coordination. This service is for students who have the accommodation for special testing arrangements (which have been identified in the accommodation meeting) but do not need hands-on support. The student will be assigned a Student Support team member who will track the student's testing schedule and plan with the student and staff for when, where, and how pull-out testing occurs.

b) "Quick Checks". Some students benefit from short 10-15 minute check-ins once a week with a Student Support team member to make sure they are on track with assignments and projects, and help troubleshoot issues that might come up in classes across the semester. This can be a good choice for older students who have progressed to a point where they no longer need as much one-on-one support. It could also be a good choice for new students who have transferred into Griffin from other High Schools (or less traditional schools) to help support their transition to the Griffin school culture. This category covers students who also need testing coordination and some executive functioning support.

Students will be assigned a student support team member and receive regular communication about how their student is doing. In some cases, the Student Support Team member will reach out and coordinate with the student's teachers as needed.

### **Category 2: Standard Student Support - One-on-One Student Support, Once per Week (\$2250/year)- includes testing support as well**

- Once-a-week session with a Student Support Specialist during a study hall period, and includes testing coordination if the student needs that support.
- The amount of meeting time will vary depending on the week, the student's workload, and their needs. Sessions can last up to 40- 45 minutes depending on the schedule and the student's needs.
- Staff primarily provides executive functioning support, help with rubrics for class assignments and projects, occasional homework support, and study strategies.
- Staff also provides coordination with faculty to ensure consistent student services, ensuring the established accommodation plan is functioning effectively, and facilitating student learning opportunities.
- The Student Support team will facilitate and proctor special testing accommodations if the student has been approved for pull-out testing..
- Regular communication with a student's family about their progress.

If you feel like your child would benefit from more than once-a-week support from our staff, please reach out to Deborah Overdorff (see below) for more information.

Contact Deborah at [deborah@griffinschool.org](mailto:deborah@griffinschool.org) or 512-454-5797 with any questions about the Student Support Program, specific information about your student's needs, or special request(s). Billing questions should be directed to [accounting@griffinschool.org](mailto:accounting@griffinschool.org).