



Gayle Harwood

# Support Staff Spotlight

NAME: Gayle Harwood

POSITION: Para-Educator

Department: Green Park

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 25 years

Q. What are some of the job responsibilities you have as a para educator?

A. I help teachers do their job. I do laminating, cutting, pasting, book-making, ordering of supplies, plus any and everything else teachers may need to help them prepare for instruction. I'm also an aide in the classrooms.

Q. What role do you play during recess?

A. I go outside before school and during noon recess. In my opinion, recess is a classroom. We learn social and behavior skills, and we also learn problem solving.

Q. What role do you have in the school's safety program?

A. I organize the safety meetings and help coordinate the drills. I make sure our Incident Command Center is organized. I have done this work for several years.

Q. How does the staff make the Green Park engine run?

A. We are problem-solvers. We look at a situation, come together and develop a solution. It is not just one person trying to find all the answers. We come to an agreement collectively on all aspects of the school.

Q. Why is Green Park a special place for you?

A. Green Park has always been close knit between teachers, staff, parents and students. We have a behavior plan so everyone is on the same page. It is a really fun place to work and I love my job.

Over

**NOTES:**

It is really nice there are para-educators in our classrooms. We run interference so the teachers can teach. I help put on Band-Aids, take care of kids who need extra support and assist in any way.



# Highlights Gayle Harwood

I grew up in St. John, WA and I graduated high school in 1975. I received a two-year degree in Early Childhood Education.



We like to exercise and spend time outdoors.

I operated a preschool in Rosalia, WA for five years. My husband Dave, of Lloyds Insurance, and I have been married for 36 years. We have two grown children.