



WOLVERINE NEWS

Griswold Public Schools Monthly Newsletter

MISSION: The community of Griswold Public Schools educates for excellence by empowering students to become compassionate, confident, creative and resourceful members of society.

From the Office of the Superintendent:

Dear Families & Friends:

As the holiday season is upon us, please consider those who are in need. There are number of community organizations that aim to assist those who struggle for one reason or another, and so please consider contributing in any way you see fit during this time of year. The sudden cold weather, escalating costs for everyday things, and other unforeseen factors bear upon families and individuals in ways that can make this time of year all the more difficult. Giving of one's self and good-will help to highlight the true meaning of the holidays. If there is anything we can do to further support you and your student(s), please let us know.



If you are a GPS alum and you want to know more about the new alumni association that is growing, please contact the alumni association at griswoldalumni@gmail.com.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe, happy, holiday season.

Sincerely yours,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

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Griswold Public Schools would not be successful without the continued support of all parents and community members, so thank you!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to communicate with your child's school or with Mr. McKenna's office directly.

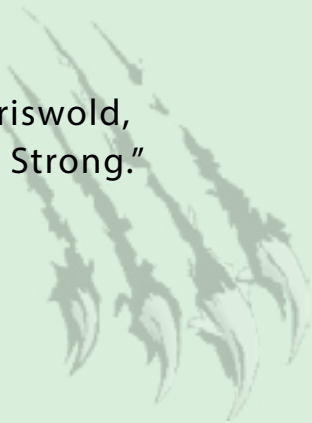
Mr. McKenna can be reached by calling 860-376-7600 or via email at smckenna@griswoldpublicschools.org.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 12/10: BOE meeting, 6pm, GMS Library Media Center
- 12/21: Early Dismissal-Winter Holiday Break begins
- 12/24 - 01/01/19: Winter Holiday Vacation
- 01/02/19: School returns to session



"We are Griswold,
Wolverine Strong."



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GES NEWS

Dear Families:

With the arrival of winter comes the cold temperatures and snow. A few thoughts come to mind as we move into this season, as of Friday, 12/21. All children should come to school appropriately dressed for the weather. Recess is normally held outdoors except when it is raining, or when the temperature and wind chill drop significantly. For outdoor recess we have access to the hardtop area, the woodchip area, and the grass area inside the playground. The woodchip and grass areas may be covered with snow. Only children with appropriate outerwear – coats, hats, gloves, and boots may play in the snow. Also, we may experience delayed openings, early dismissals, and possibly a school cancellation. It can be quite challenging to make alternative arrangements for your child during these days. We ask that a plan be developed for your child in case one of the changes has to be made. Discuss the plan with your child, and if it differs from the regular daily plan, please forward it to your child’s teacher and notify the GES office. All delays/early dismissals/cancellations will be posted on the GPS website, radio, and television. In addition, you will be notified through our GPS notification system.

Specific dates of meetings and other GES events can be found on our website; to the GES homepage, click [here](#).

Wishing you a very Happy Holiday season!

Sincerely,

Mr. B and Ms. Love

“We, try our best, to do our best, to be our best”

GES DATES AHEAD

- 12/6 Grade 4 Winter Concert, 6:00pm, GES Cafeteria
- 12/12 Grade 3 Winter Concert, 6:00pm, GES Cafeteria
- 12/21 1:10 Dismissal for Students
- 12/24-1/1 Winter Break
- 1/2/19 School Resumes



GMS NEWS

Dear GMS Families:

We’ve had a couple of great events over the last month that have really brought the GMS community together. Our “walk your can a mile” food drive for Saint Mary’s food pantry was a great success. GMS collected over 800 cans. Thank you to everyone who supported this great event.

On November 9th, GMS held our annual Veterans Day Assembly. We were fortunate to have over 100 veterans participate. It is a special event that allows our GMS community to say thank you to those special individuals who serve and protect our great country.

As we approach the holiday season, we have a busy and exciting schedule to look forward to in the next few weeks. GMS has our winter concerts coming up. Grade 6 will be on 12/5 at 7:00 pm in the auditorium. Grades 7 and 8 will both be on 12/13 with Grade 7 starting at 6:00 pm and Grade 8 at 7:30 pm. We’re excited to see our band, orchestra, and chorus puttin on amazing productions.

Lastly, we will hold our monthly Town Meeting on December 21st. Students will be greeted by our caroling teachers as they enter the gym. Several students and groups will be recognized prior to leaving for break. We want to wish a very safe and happy holiday to all of our families. Please take the time to relax and reflect. We’ll see you all in the new year!

Sincerely,

Mr. LaBoss and Mr. V



GMS DATES AHEAD

- 12/5 Grade 6 concert at 7:00 pm
- 12/13 Grade 7 concert at 6:00 pm
- 12/13 Grade 8 concert at 7:30 pm
- 12/21 Town Meeting, 7:30 am
- 12/21 Early Dismissal

GHS NEWS

Dear GHS Community:

It is hard to believe we are in the midst of the holiday season. Winter sports have started, concerts are being rehearsed, and classrooms are lively with authentic and relevant learning experiences centered around our students! Please continue to encourage your child to self-advocate, ask questions, and explore both in and out of the classroom, as these are life skills that will support success in adulthood.

GHS formed a committee of fifteen educators to create our Vision of the Graduate. We have solicited feedback from different stakeholders - parents, teachers, students, business owners, BOE members -- to identify key transferable skills essential to college and competitive career readiness. In our meetings, we have had deep dialogue, and continue to make progress in development. We will continue to share our progress, as well as solicit feedback! This is exciting work!

'Tis the season! GHS is hosting a Coat Drive, Can Drive, and collecting hats and gloves ("Giving Tree") to give to those in need this season. All donations are being collected in our Main Office. Your spirit of giving is sincerely appreciated.

Are you receiving Mrs. Palonen's weekly Friday memos? If not, please contact the Main Office at 860-376-7640 to stay connected on the latest and greatest at GHS!

On behalf of GHS, we wish each and everyone a very happy holiday season. If there is anything you need, we are here to support you! Please do not hesitate to reach out.

Most Sincerely,

Mrs. Palonen & Ms. Macrino

IMPORTANT DATES IN DECEMBER

12/05	Parent Advisory Council Meeting
12/18	Choral Concert at 7 p.m.
12/20	Instrumental Concert at 7 p.m.
12/21	Half Day before Holiday Break



SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

WINTER WEATHER AND PPT'S

As the winter approaches, we want to remind families about school cancellations and delays and their impact on Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meetings.

If school is cancelled, PPT meetings are "cancelled" and rescheduled. The Special Education Office will contact you with possible dates and times.

If there is a delayed opening or early dismissal ,any meeting scheduled during the window when school is not in session is "cancelled" and rescheduled.

For example, if your meeting is scheduled for 9:15 at the high school and there is a delay which moves the start of school until 9:35, your meeting would not be held as scheduled.

Please remember that offices are also delayed or dismissed during weather events.





All are welcome to join Superintendent Sean McKenna and other stakeholders at a “Coffee & Chat” session. These sessions are held at 6pm in the Superintendent’s office in Griswold Middle School. The “Coffee & Chat” sessions are held an hour before our District Partnership Advisory Council meetings on the following dates:

Wednesday, February 13th

Wednesday, March 13th

Wednesday, April 10th

Wednesday, May 8th

Wednesday, May 22nd



GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Our Board of Education meetings are usually the second and fourth Monday of each month. When there is a long weekend with a Monday holiday, that BOE meeting would shift to a Tuesday. During the budget season, the Board of Education meets more frequently.

December 10th, 2018
January 14th, 2019
January 22nd (Tuesday), 2019
January 28th, 2019
February 4th, 2019-Public Hearing
February 11th, 2019
February 25th, 2019
March 11th, 2019
March 25th, 2019
April 8th, 2019
April 22nd, 2019
May 13th, 2019
May 28th (Tuesday),2019
June 10th, 2019
June 24th, 2019



Our District Partnership Advisory Council is a district-wide, community group that welcomes students, parents, caregivers, faculty and staff, and community stakeholders. Our First Selectman, Todd Babbitt, and other town officials frequently attend our meetings and we value their support. DPAC (for short) aims to build district and community connections.

We will meet in the GMS Media Center from 7pm to 8pm on the following dates:

**Wednesday, February 13th, 2019
Wednesday, March 13th, 2019
Wednesday, April 10th, 2019
Wednesday, May 8th, 2019
Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019**

We look forward to your attendance, contributions, and partnership.

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Visit us at: griswoldpublicschools.org

