



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:

Happy new year! With the arrival of 2019 comes the important reminders about winter weather. As we have seen over the past few months, the fluctuation in temperatures has been somewhat dramatic. Please make sure your students come to school with appropriate outerwear, as the day can start out relatively warm and temperatures can decline rather rapidly before school ends for the day.



It is also important to note that with the winter weather comes the possibility of school delays and/or cancellations. As in the past, we communicate such decisions through our school-messenger system and by means of the local media.

Our budget development for 2019-2020 is underway. Your voice and input matter. In the next few weeks, be sure to check-out our budget development on our web site.

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.

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

1/14: BOE meeting, 6pm, GMS Library Media Center

1/18: Early Dismissal for students-PD for educators in the afternoon.

1/21: Martin Luther King Day-no school.

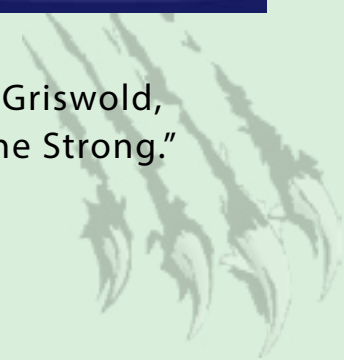
1/22: BOE meeting, 6pm, GMS Library Media Center

1/28: Christa McAuliffe Recognition Day

1/28: BOE meeting, 6pm, GMS Library Media Center



"We are Griswold,
Wolverine Strong."



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GES NEWS

Happy New Year GES Families,

With winter, comes the cold temperatures and snow. A few thoughts come to mind as we move into this season. 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 drops 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 have delayed openings, early dismissals, and 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 there is a delayed opening, early dismissal, or school cancellation. 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 automated phone system.

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

Sincerely,

Mr. B and Ms. Love

"We, try our best, to do our best, to be our best"

GES DATES AHEAD

- 1/7: GES Reading Rocks from 3:30-4:15pm in GES Library
- 1/8: Grade 2 Field Trip to Garde Arts Center
- 1/8: PTO Meeting at 6:00pm in GES Library



GMS NEWS

Dear GMS Families:

Happy New Year to all our students and families at GMS!

GMS is looking to have a great 2019, and we're kicking it off with a couple of exciting events this month. Our PTO will be sponsoring our upcoming grades 5/6 Fun Night on 1/17 from 5:00-7:00. They will need volunteers to make this fun event happen for our students. The next PTO meeting will be on 1/10 at 2:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

January is a busy month with several after school activities/groups starting up. Rehearsals begin on 1/9 for our Dinner Theater coming up in March. Students will spend the next couple of months practicing and rehearsing for the amazing show they put on every year. Our Pep Band will also be performing at select home basketball games. Lastly, after-school reading and math clinic will be beginning on 1/8 and will be every Tuesday and Thursday until 3/21 (weather permitting).

As of right now, the closing date for this quarter is 1/23 and report cards will be sent out the week of 1/31. If these dates change due to inclement weather, we will notify families via our GMS school-messenger.

We hope that 2019 is a tremendous year for all of you. The staff here at GMS are dedicated to providing our students with a quality education and a safe and fun environment. Please let us know if you ever have any concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. LaBoss and Mr. V

GMS DATES AHEAD

- 1/10: PTO Meeting - 2:30 pm
- 1/17: Grades 5/6 Fun Night - 5:00 - 7:00 pm
- 1/18: Shortened day for students
- 1/21: No school--MLK Day

GHS NEWS

Dear GHS Community:

Happy New Year, Griswold High School Parents and Families. We hope you enjoyed the holiday season. We are looking forward to an exciting and action-packed 2019!

Immediately upon return from break, students will prepare for auditions for GHS' spring musical, *Cinderella*. Every year, the students amaze us with their talents both on and off the stage. We look forward to this amazing show running April 24th-27th!

The Vision of the Graduate Committee continues to meet frequently here at GHS to define essential transferable skills necessary for all of our graduates for success in college and/or competitive careers. We have solicited input from faculty, parents, local business owners, and local college personnel. We continue to collaborate in defining Griswold's Vision of the Graduate, as well as how we will evaluate progress towards this vision. We look forward to sharing so much more to come!

SAT Day for our Juniors will be held on Wednesday, March 27th! As the Redesigned SAT focuses on individual and cohort growth, the College Board has created a growth expectation based on performance on PSAT ("Student-Level Growth Estimates for the SAT Suite of Assessments"). A student can see his/her PSAT performance from October 2018 to determine a target growth for the SAT 2019. For example, if your child scored a 510 on the Math portion of his/her PSAT, the expected growth for SAT would be 530. Please visit [the College Board website](#) or contact us for more information!

Stay tuned soon for information regarding Saturday SAT Prep opportunities for our juniors!

Midyear exams will be held on Tuesday, 1/22 through Friday, 1/25. These are all shortened days with dismissal at noon. Detailed information regarding midyear exams will be sent out in the Friday memo. Parents are encouraged to read through that document carefully, and reach out with any questions or concerns.

Wishing you a new year filled with health and happiness.

Most Sincerely,

Mrs. Palonen & Ms. Macrino

Important GHS Dates Ahead

- 1/18: Shortened Day for Students
- 1/21: No School, MLK Day
- 01/22→01/25: Midyear Exams
- 2/06: PAC Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

RECENT GHS GRADUATES RETURN FOR PANEL DISCUSSION TO CURRENT GHS STUDENTS



SPECIAL EDUCATION



The students enrolled in the Life Centered Education course at the Griswold Alternative School have been busy acquiring skills they can take with them when they obtain their first home or apartment such as independently repurposing items and learning how to use common household tools. This coffee cup rack is one of the projects they have completed.



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.

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



STAY HEALTHY: 6 TIPS FOR AVOIDING COLD AND FLU

Get a flu shot

Wash your hands -- a lot

Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer

Avoid getting close to people who are sick

Keep your surroundings clean

Maintain a healthy lifestyle--good eating, regular exercise, and sleep



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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