



# 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:

It is difficult to believe that we have completed the first month of the 2018-2019 school year. I think we can all agree that we are happy with the arrival of October, cooler weather, and all the festivities that await us this fall. A special thanks to our students, families, faculty and staff for enduring more than one uncomfortable day of school due to the humid, muggy weather. We appreciate your team-spiritedness.



We have many exciting opportunities planned for the month of October, so please be sure to mark your calendars and/or check with specific schools for event dates and times. We want to make sure you are all informed and updated with the latest information.

Please know that this digital newsletter has active links to different sites and emails where indicated, so just click on the hyperlinked text to access a web site or to email someone.

Do enjoy this month of October, and thank you all for your continued support.

Sincerely yours,

Sean P. McKenna,  
Superintendent of Schools

.....  
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](mailto:smckenna@griswoldpublicschools.org).

### IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

10/7-10/13: Fire Prevention Week

10/5: Professional Development Day, no school

10/8: Columbus Day, no school

10/9: BOE meeting, 6pm, GMS Library Media Center

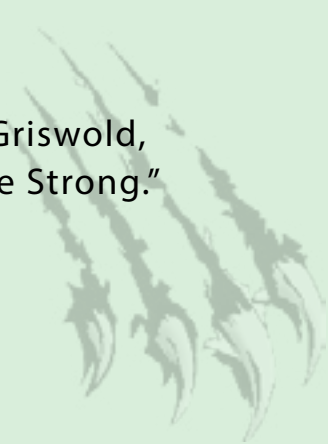
10/11: District Partnership Advisory Council meeting (DPAC), 7pm, GMS Library Media Center

10/15-10/19: National School Lunch Week

10/16: Griswold Principal Appreciation Day (National Boss's Day)

10/22-10/26: National School Bus Safety Week

"We are Griswold,  
Wolverine Strong."



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# GES NEWS

Dear GES Families:

We look forward to seeing you all during our Parent Conference days/evenings, October 17 & 18. On both days, lunch will be served and dismissal will occur at 1:10 pm. Our strong partnership with you, the families, contributes greatly to the success of every child and therefore, the success of our school.

With autumn upon us, the weather turns colder very quickly. Please note that proper attire is necessary for outside play. It may be beneficial to dress your child in layers.

Please review all of the information included in this newsletter and should any questions or concerns arise during the school year, we invite you to contact us at Griswold Elementary School.

A few notes:

We offer you the ability to make on-line payments to your child's meal account at PayPams.com. Benefits include: payment for child's meals and via Internet or telephone from the convenience of your home or office 24/7, schedule automatic payments based on account balance, receive email notifications of meal account balance, pay with credit card or electronic checks for school meals from one convenient location. If you have any questions, contact the GPS Food Service Director at 860-376-7685.

If you are sending in lunch money with your child please make sure the bag is labeled with your child's name and amount enclosed.

The GES PTO meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm.

The School Family Community Partnership (SFCP) meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 3:30 pm.

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

Mr. B and Ms. Love

## GES DATES AHEAD

- 10/2 & 3 GES Fall Pictures
- 10/5 Staff Professional Development – No students
- 10/8 Columbus Day – No School
- 10/9 PTO Meeting at 6:00pm, GES LMC
- 10/11 Reading Challenge Kick-Off Assembly
- 10/15 GES Reading Challenge Begins
- 10/17 & 18 Conference Days – 1:10 pm Dismissal
- 10/18 PTO Cherrydale Fundraiser Pick-Up
- 10/24 School Family Community Partnership (SFCP) Meeting at 3:30pm, GES LMC



# GMS NEWS

Dear GMS Families:

October is a busy month at GMS. The first week marks the mid way point of the marking period. Students will be transitioning from Science to Social Studies, or from Social Studies to Science.

The PTO will be sponsoring their first event of the year. On Thursday October 4th, we will be hosting the first grade 5 & 6 fun night. Please consider volunteering at one of the PTO's events this year and attending the next PTO meeting on October 11th at 2:30.

On Wednesday October 10th, our 8th grade students will visit GHS. This is an important opportunity for our students to learn more about our high school and become familiar with all it has to offer. During October, 8th grade students will also attend presentations from the various tech schools in the area.

Our Spirit Week and Red Ribbon Campaign will be held the week of October 22nd with our Red Ribbon Rally taking place on Friday, October 26th. Students will pledge to remain Drug Free. Please check the Wednesday Folder for more information about Spirit Week.

Sincerely,

Mr. LaBoss and Mr. V

## GMS DATES AHEAD

- 10/4 Grades 5 & 6 Fun Night 5:00-7:00 pm
- 10/5 Professional Development - No students
- 10/8 Columbus Day- No school
- 10/10 Eighth grade students visit GHS
- 10/11 PTO Meeting, 2:30 pm, GMS Main Office
- 10/12 Grade 8 Walk a Thon
- 10/22-26 Spirit Week
- 10/26 Red Ribbon Rally



# GHS NEWS

Dear GHS Families & Friends:

Big Day Coming Up at GHS: Wednesday, October 10th

**If your student is in 9th, 10th or 11th grade:**

This year, PSAT Day will happen at GHS on Wednesday, October 10th (which will be an early dismissal day at noon). Resources for you and your child to explore:

- [Collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)
- [Khan Academy](https://www.khanacademy.com)
- Daily Practice for the New SAT App
- Parent Action Plans -- please visit <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-parents> for pertinent information for you and your child! It's never too early to start planning!!

**If your student is a SENIOR:**

While our freshmen, sophomores and juniors are here at GHS participating in the PSAT, we want seniors to have the opportunity to focus on post-secondary goals. Please encourage your senior to use this day to plan ahead! This is an excused absence for seniors.

- Plan and take a college visit...
- Work on your college applications...
- Work on requesting and compiling your letters of recommendation...
- Participate in a job shadow...
- Meet with a college advisor or the financial aid office...

**If your student is in 8th grade:**

We look forward to your child coming over to GHS for our 8th grade Open House from 12:30-2:20! We have a lot of fun and excitement planned in showcasing the wonderful happenings waiting for our future Griswold Wolverines!

Last year at GHS, we began highlighting a Griswold graduate to showcase the incredible dreams and aspirations of individuals coming true! The goal is to encourage our students to dream big and take the steps to accomplish those dreams. It is so encouraging and exciting to see the successes of those who were in the same GHS seat as they now sit doing amazing things! Do you know of a Griswold Grad who should be highlighted? Are YOU a Highlighted Griswold Grad? If so, please send information to Mrs. Palonen by clicking [here](#).

- Year of graduation from GHS
- Activities in which you participated while attending GHS
- College/Career
- Personal life/family/interests (where are you now?)
- Words of wisdom for high school students today
- Picture(s) of you/person you are nominating

[griswoldpublicschools.org](https://griswoldpublicschools.org)

Plans for Homecoming are underway...encourage your child to get involved! It takes all of us working together to continue our tradition of Spirit Week, Pep Rally, Parade, Homecoming Game and Homecoming Dance. Here are some important dates:

Wednesday, 10/3: First PAC Meeting at 6:30 in LMC

Friday, 10/5: Professional Development for teacher; no students

Monday, 10/8: Columbus Day; no school

Wednesday, 10/10: PSAT Day for grades 9, 10, 11 with dismissal at noon; Postsecondary Day for 12th graders

Monday, 10/29- Friday, 11/2: School Spirit Week

Mrs. Palonen & Ms. Macrino

## SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Procedural Safeguards in Special Education

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA), the federal law concerning the education of students with disabilities, requires schools to provide you, the parent, with a notice containing a full explanation of the procedural safeguards available under the IDEA and the IDEA regulations. A copy of this notice must be given to you one time each year. Additionally, you may request a copy of the document at any time or locate it at the following web address--click on [link](#).







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, October 10th

Wednesday, November 14th

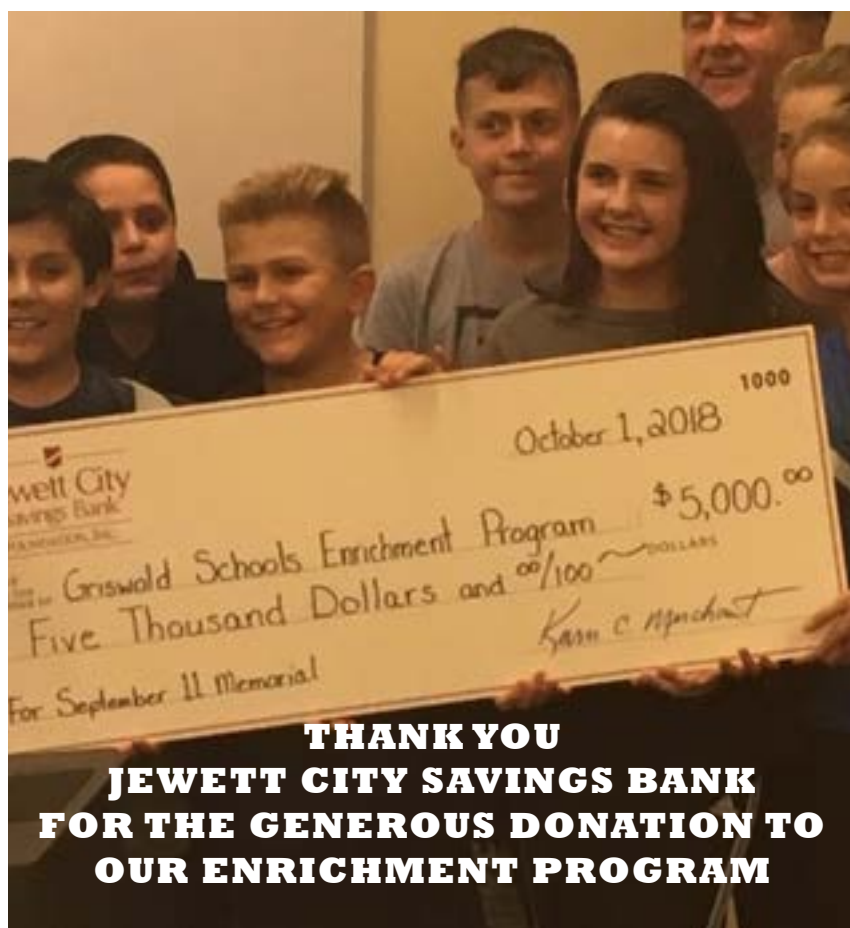
Wednesday, February 13th

Wednesday, March 13th

Wednesday, April 10th

Wednesday, May 8th

Wednesday, May 22nd



**THANK YOU  
JEWETT CITY SAVINGS BANK  
FOR THE GENEROUS DONATION TO  
OUR ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

## **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.

October 9th (Tuesday), 2018  
October 22nd, 2018  
November 13th (Tuesday), 2018  
November 26th, 2018  
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, October 10th, 2018  
Wednesday, November 14th, 2018  
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](http://griswoldpublicschools.org)

