

REGULAR MEETING

GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, First Floor
211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

THURSDAY,
December 14th, 2023
6:00 PM

THIS MEETING WILL BE LIVE-STREAMED ON OUR DISTRICT FACEBOOK PAGE.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Regular Meeting, November 30th, 2023
4. Communications
 - A. December 1, 2023, Letter from the Commissioner of Education to Superintendent Sean McKenna, Informing Griswold on Status of Application Requesting a Waiver of Connecticut Approved K-3 Reading Curriculum
 - B. Connecticut State Department of Education List of Districts & Reading Waiver Status
 - C. List of Board of Education Subcommittees
5. Recognitions
 - A. Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), Student Award Recognition Program
 1. Ava Mehrens
 2. Owen Pappas
 - B. New England School Development Council (NESDEC)/National School Development Council Recognition for Academic Growth & Student Leadership in Learning
 1. Amelia Stearnes
 2. Alicia Fonseca Morales
 - C. Recognition of Griswold Public Schools' Recent Retirees
 1. Jill Curioso, Director of Technology
 2. Susan Boland, Paraeducator
 - D. Recognition of New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) Exemplary Service Award
 1. Erin Palonen, Principal of Griswold High School
 - E. Recognition of GPS Employee of the Quarter
 1. Christine Peer, Financial Assistant, Department of Fiscal and Personnel Services
6. Student Representative Reports
 - A. GES Student Representative Report: Lucy Bonchuk, Seth Houle, & Carter Lalumiere
 - B. GMS Student Representative Report: Samiah Vincent
 - C. GHS Student Representative Report: Amelia Stearnes & Max Brown
7. Public Comments
8. Consent Agenda (All routine items can be approved with one motion and without discussion. Points of clarification and discussion requests can be allowed.)
9. New Business
 - A. Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Proposed Out-of-State Field Trip for the Griswold High School Cheerleaders

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Calendar for the School Year, 2024-2025
 - C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Naming Committee for the Alternative School Program per Policy 7551
 - D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Waive Placing a Notice in the Newspaper Regarding the Name Change for the Alternative School
 - E. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Nominate (and then appoint) a Member of the Griswold Board of Education to the Gerard & Wanda Brunet Scholarship Committee
 - F. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Gerard & Wanda Brunet Scholarship Committee for the 2023/24 School Year
 - G. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Waive a Public Hearing on the Retirement of the 201 Alternative School Location (1553 Glasgo Road, Griswold, CT 06351) Per Policy 7113.1
 - H. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Turn Over the 201 Alternative School Property (1553 Glasgo Road, Griswold CT 06351) to the Town of Griswold
10. Unfinished Business
- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Version 7.0 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
11. Administrator's Report
- A. District Accountability Index: Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent
 - B. Progress Update on Building Goals-
 - 1. Griswold Elementary School—Joseph Bordeaux, Principal & Jackie Love, Assistant Principal
 - 2. Griswold Middle School—Louis Zubek, Principal & Jeff Parkinson, Assistant Principal
 - 3. Griswold High School---Erin Palonen, Principal & Art Howe, Associate Principal
 - C. Kindergarten Age Requirement: Joseph Bordeaux, GES Principal; Katy Sawaryn; Student Services and Family Engagement Coordinator; and Jenna Motta, Teacher of Kindergarten, GES.
12. Superintendent's Report
- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations
 - B. Superintendent's Timely Updates
 - 1. Reading Waiver & Next Steps
 - 2. District Committee Reports
 - a. District Safety, Health & Wellness
 - b. Teaching, Learning, & Innovation
 - c. Ensuring Equity
 - 3. Search & Selection Process for the Director of Technology
13. Committee/Board Reports
14. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board
15. Adjournment

*The Board may go into executive session on these items per Connecticut State Statute § 1-200 (6).

Board of Education Meeting Notes
REGULAR MEETING
LIVE: GRISWOLD MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
Thursday, December 14th, 2023
6:00 PM

1. *Griswold Public Schools will commit to the advancement of social and emotional competencies in inclusive and equitable learning environments so that all of our students can grow and thrive.*
2. *Griswold Public Schools will focus on promoting the implementation and expansion of Blended and Personalized Learning in all PreK (Early Childhood Program)-12 learning environments.*
3. *Griswold Public Schools will explore and implement research-based instruction to improve outcomes for all Griswold students.*

ENCLOSED ARE THE MEETING NORMS

NOTE: The purpose of the notes is to provide more context to each agenda item, so that our meeting times are productive and offer Board members the background information to ask for clarification, to ask for additional information, and to discuss matters they deem necessary. If there are any questions or information not included in the notes or packet and you have questions ahead of time, please let us know.

Board members who have questions regarding the agenda are encouraged to email those questions ahead of time to the Board Chair.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Regular Meeting, November 30th, 2023 – Meeting minutes are enclosed for your review.
4. Communications
 - A. December 1, 2023, Letter from the Commissioner of Education to Superintendent Sean McKenna, Informing Griswold on Status of Application Requesting a Waiver of Connecticut Approved K-3 Reading Curriculum - Enclosed for your review. Under the Superintendent's report, I will address how the district will respond to this waiver status.
 - B. Connecticut State Department of Education List of Districts & Reading Waiver Status - Enclosed for your review.
 - C. List of Board of Education Subcommittees - Enclosed for your review. Note: The Athletics Subcommittee meeting scheduled for 12/14 has been canceled due to scheduling conflicts.
5. Recognitions
 - A. Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), Student Award Recognition Program - The CAPSS Award Recognition Program affords superintendents and high schools the opportunity to recognize outstanding students who excel and who distinguish themselves in their academic performance and overall involvement in their school community. The recipients of the CAPPS Superintendent awards are:
 1. Ava Mehrens
 2. Owen Pappas

- B. New England School Development Council (NESDEC)/National School Development Council Recognition for Academic Growth & Student Leadership in Learning - Griswold Public Schools belongs to NESDEC, which is a part of the National School Development Council. Each year, the National School Development Council strives to recognize students for their academic growth and student leadership. The recipients of the NSDC awards are:
 - 1. Amelia Stearnes
 - 2. Alicia Fonseca Morales
- C. Recognition of Griswold Public Schools' Recent Retirees - We will recognize two employees who have announced mid-school year retirements. Each employee has provided over 10 years of service to the district.
 - 1. Jill Curioso, Director of Technology
 - 2. Susan Boland, Paraeducator
- D. Recognition of New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) Exemplary Service Award - NEASC recently recognized Principal Erin Palonen for her exemplary services to the association over the past several years. NEASC is the organization that evaluates educational institutions, including high schools, throughout New England. Participation in the NEASC visits and seminar offerings make for meaningful professional development for educational leaders. Mrs. Palonen has participated in 8 NEASC visits, 6 of which she has served as the Chair of the Visitation Committee. Mrs. Palonen will add to this impressive list of chairing visits with another visit, scheduled for the late winter 2024.
 - 1. Erin Palonen, Principal of Griswold High School
- E. Recognition of GPS Employee of the Quarter - Please join us in recognizing Christine Peer, who joined Griswold Public Schools over three years ago and who has been a stabilizing presence in the Office of Fiscal and Personnel Services. Mrs. Peer, who was previously the payroll assistant, is known for her attention to detail, analytical skills, and outstanding customer service.
 - 1. Christine Peer, Financial Assistant, Department of Fiscal and Personnel Services
- 6. Student Representative Reports
 - A. GES Student Representative Report: Lucy Bonchuk, Seth Houle, & Carter Lalumiere - The elementary school students will provide the latest updates from GES.
 - B. GMS Student Representative Report: Samiah Vincent - Middle school student, Samiah Vincent, will provide the latest updates from GMS.
 - C. GHS Student Representative Report: Amelia Stearnes & Max Brown - The high school students will provide the latest updates from GHS.
- 7. Public Comments
- 8. Consent Agenda (All routine items can be approved with one motion and without discussion. Points of clarification and discussion requests can be allowed.) – There are no items for consent agenda this evening.

9. New Business

- A. Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Proposed Out-of-State Field Trip for the Griswold High School Cheerleaders - Enclosed is the packet. There is a typographical error with a December 5th date in the packet—please disregard that date. This packet mirrors other “overnight” field trip requests that have come before the board.
- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Calendar for the School Year, 2024-2025 - This school calendar mirrors other regional calendars and it has been vetted by our teacher union and TLI (Teaching, Learning and Innovation) Committee, which functions also as our PDEC (Professional Development and Evaluation) Committee.
- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Naming Committee for the Alternative School Program per Policy 7551 - Please see enclosed/attached MEMO that reviews this agenda item.
- D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Waive Placing a Notice in the Newspaper Regarding the Name Change for the Alternative School - Please see enclosed/attached MEMO that reviews this agenda item.
- E. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Nominate (and then appoint) a Member of the Griswold Board of Education to the Gerard & Wanda Brunet Scholarship Committee - Please see enclosed/attached letter from Principal Palonen regarding this agenda item.
- F. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Gerard & Wanda Brunet Scholarship Committee for the 2023/24 School Year - Please see enclosed/attached letter from Principal Palonen regarding this agenda item.
- G. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Waive a Public Hearing on the Retirement of the 201 Alternative School Location (1553 Glasgo Road, Griswold, CT 06351) Per Policy 7113.1 - Please see enclosed/attached MEMO that reviews this agenda item.
- H. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Turn Over the 201 Alternative School Property (1553 Glasgo Road, Griswold CT 06351) to the Town of Griswold - Please see enclosed/attached MEMO that reviews this agenda item.

10. Unfinished Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Version 7.0 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan - The ARP ESSER 3 Grant requires that we review this plan every 6 months or so. Please know that there are no major changes and also that I am not reviewing this item in detail, as this item is routine to comply with the grant requirements.

11. Administrator's Report

- A. District Accountability Index: Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent - Glenn LaBossiere and members of the Teaching, Learning and Innovation Department will review the district's accountability report and then we will move into the progress updates from the buildings on their goals.

- B. Progress Update on Building Goals - Each building administration will provide an update on the progress of their goals.
 - 1. Griswold Elementary School - Joseph Bordeaux, Principal & Jackie Love, Assistant Principal
 - 2. Griswold Middle School - Louis Zubek, Principal & Jeff Parkinson, Assistant Principal
 - 3. Griswold High School - Erin Palonen, Principal & Art Howe, Associate Principal
- C. Kindergarten Age Requirement: Joseph Bordeaux, GES Principal; Katy Sawaryn; Student Services and Family Engagement Coordinator; and Jenna Motta, Teacher of Kindergarten, GES - Members of the Steering Committee will provide an update on our work to implement this new age requirement.

12. Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations - Enclosed/attached for your review.
- B. Superintendent's Timely Updates - Enclosed/attached for your review.
 - 1. Reading Waiver & Next Steps
 - 2. District Committee Reports
 - a. District Safety, Health & Wellness
 - b. Teaching, Learning, & Innovation
 - c. Ensuring Equity
 - 3. Search & Selection Process for the Director of Technology

13. Committee/Board Reports

14. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board

Dates to Remember:

<i>December 14</i>	<i>School Building Committee Meeting, 5 PM, GMS Library Media Center/Learning Commons</i>
<i>December 14th</i>	<i>Athletic Subcommittee Meeting, 5:15 PM - CANCELED</i>
<i>December 22</i>	<i>Half Day for Students & Staff</i>
<i>December 25 – January 1</i>	<i>Holiday Recess – No School</i>
<i>January 2</i>	<i>Classes Resume</i>
<i>January 11</i>	<i>Public Relations Subcommittee Meeting, 5:15 PM, GMS Library Media Center/Learning Commons</i>
<i>January 11</i>	<i>Board of Education Meeting, 6 PM, GMS Café</i>
<i>January 15</i>	<i>Martin Luther King Day Celebrated – No School</i>

BOE Meeting Norms

Norm	By . . .
<i>We adhere to clear meeting guidelines</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focusing on students ● Having high expectations ● Previewing topics and ensuring the essential items are included on the agenda ● Staying on topic ● Participating in an orderly way ● Appreciating community members' participation ● Notifying the chair or superintendent if we will be absent
<i>We are actively involved</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participating and sharing our thoughts ● Asking questions and seeking clarity ● Using all available information to make informed decisions
<i>We celebrate successes.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharing celebrations at each meeting ● Highlighting student successes
<i>We respect each other</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hearing all voices ● Sharing different views ● Maintaining positive relationships despite differing opinions ● Being courteous

DRAFT

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, November 30, 2023, in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the first floor, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Sean McKenna, Griswold Superintendent of Schools.

PRESENT

Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga; Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik, Griswold BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT

Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Joseph Bordeaux, GES Principal; Thomas O'Connor, GPS Food Service Director; and Thomas Verville, GPS Facilities Director.

ABSENT

Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Jeff Parkinson, GMS Assistant Principal; and Jackie Love, GES Assistant Principal.

2. Pledge of Allegiance -The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of the Minutes

A. Special Meeting- November 9, 2023

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Mary Beth Malin

To approve the special meeting minutes of November 9, 2023, as presented.

Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Stuart Norman, Jr. and Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton.

Nays –

Abstain – Martin Osga; Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik.

Motion carried.

B. Special Meeting – November 14, 2023

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Mary Beth Malin

To approve the special meeting minutes of November 14, 2023, as presented.

Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Martin Osga and Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton.

Nays –

Abstain – Stuart Norman, Jr., Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik

Motion carried.

4. Communications
 - A. November 16th, 2023, MEMO from Superintendent McKenna to the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance – The Board received a copy of the memo to the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance.
5. Public Comments - None.
6. Consent Agenda (All routine items can be approved with one motion and without discussion. Points of clarification and discussion requests can be allowed.) – There were no consent agenda items to review this evening.
7. New Business
 - A. Election of Officers of the Newly Elected Board of Education: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson; and Secretary – The Superintendent read the following statement:

The election of officers will be consistent with Robert's Rules of Order. Nominations will come from the floor (from the Board). Nominations do not require a second. Once it becomes certain that nominations have ended for a particular office, the individual running the meeting will ask 3 times if there are any additional nominations. Providing that there are no more nominations for a particular office, the nominations will close. Board of Education bylaw 9120 stipulates the Board will elect by "roll call." Once a nominee has received a majority vote, that vote will prevail. Once a chair prevails, the Superintendent will turn the meeting over to the chair who will conduct the nominations for Vice Chair and Secretary.

At this time, the Superintendent opened the floor and called for nominations for Board Chair. Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton nominated Mary Beth Malin. Martin Osga nominated Stuart Norman, Jr. After three calls for any more nominations in which there were none, the Superintendent closed the nominations and the Board voted as follows:

Stuart Norman received votes from Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga, and Jennifer Norman.
Mary Beth Malin received votes from Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, and Cathy Waselik. **Mary Beth Malin prevailed** and was named Chair of the Griswold Board of Education. The Superintendent turned the meeting over to Mrs. Malin to continue on with the meeting.

Griswold BOE Chair, Mary Beth Malin, opened the floor for nominations for Board of Education Vice – Chair. Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton nominated Yvonne Palasky. Stuart Norman, Jr. nominated Marty Osga. After three calls for additional nominations in which there were none, the BOE Chair closed the nominations for Vice Chair and the Board voted and follows:

Yvonne Palasky received votes from Yvonne Palasky, Mary Beth Malin, Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton and Cathy Waselik.

Martin Osga received votes from Martin Osga, Stuart Norman, Jr., and Jennifer Norman.
Yvonne Palasky prevailed as Griswold BOE Vice-Chair.

Griswold BOE Chair, Mary Beth Malin, opened the floor for nominations for Board of Education Secretary. Yvonne Palasky nominated Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton. Stuart Norman, Jr. nominated Jennifer Norman. After three calls for additional nominations in which there were none, the BOE Chair closed the nominations for Secretary and the Board voted as follows:

Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton received votes from Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton and Cathy Waselik.

Jennifer Norman received voted from Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga, and Jennifer Norman.

Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton prevailed as Griswold BOE Secretary.

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Proposed Jewett City Electric, DPU, GHS LED Lighting Retrofit Project – The Board approved a proposal from the Jewett City DPU for an LED lighting retrofit project at Griswold High School.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To approve the Jewett City DPU LED Lighting Retrofit Project for GHS, as presented.

Motion unanimously carried.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Capital Committee Project Proposals for the 2024-2025 School Year – The Board reviewed and revised the list of Capital requests for the 2024/2025 school year and approved them as prioritized.

MOTION

By Jennifer Norman

Seconded by Martin Osga

To accept the Capital Committee Proposal requests for the 2024/2025 school year, as discussed.

Motion unanimously carried.

9. Administrator's Reports

- A. Food Services Department Report – Tom O'Connor – GPS Food Service Director, Mr. Tom O'Connor, provided an update to the Board on the progress of his department.
- B. Financial Update, 2023/2024 SY—Deb Martin, Director of Fiscal and Personnel Services – The Board received an update on the current financial status of the 2023/2024 school budget from Deb Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services.

10. Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Board received an update on recent vacancies, appointments, and resignations.
- B. Superintendent's Timely Updates
- i. Alternative School Move from Route 201 to Soule Street
 - ii. Kindergarten Age Requirement for the 2024/2025 School Year
 - iii. Budget Development Booklet (separate document)

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,
November 30th, 2023**

The Board received some timely updates from the Superintendent on the topics listed above, items i. through iii.

11. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Facilities Subcommittee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update from Martin Osga on the work of the Facilities subcommittee.
- B. Town of Griswold, Capital Committee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update from Martin Osga, who serves as the Board of Education member appointed to the Town of Griswold, Capital Committee. He provided feedback on their most recent meeting.
- C. Town of Griswold, Board of Finance—Sean McKenna – The Board received an update from Superintendent, Sean McKenna, on the recent Town of Griswold, Board of Finance meeting that took place.

12. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board – Mary Beth Malin asked all Board members to e-mail her by December 6, 2023, to inform her of the subcommittees they would be interested in serving on.

Yvonne Palasky congratulated Sean McKenna on a job well done with a recent presentation he gave at this year's CABA/CAPSS Convention.

The Superintendent gave a shout out to congratulate the GHS football team for a great season.

13. Adjournment

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neil-Eaton
To adjourn the regular Board of Education meeting at
6:56 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



December 1, 2023

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Griswold Public Schools
211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, CT 06351

Dear Superintendent McKenna,

Thank you for submitting an *Application Requesting a Waiver of Connecticut Approved K–3 Reading Curriculum Models or Programs* (Waiver). The time and effort that your organization devoted to organizing the submitted materials were evident.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Waiver review process has been completed by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE). After a thorough review and careful deliberation of your Waiver, your curriculum model or programs show evidence of meeting the expectations of Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) 10-14hh, as amended by Public Act (P.A.) 23-167 in **phonemic awareness and phonics**. However, your curriculum model or programs do not meet expectations regarding **fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension**. Thus, your district is being granted a *transitional waiver*. A transitional waiver requires a district to add and substitute specific programmatic or curriculum components.

To fully meet the legislated requirement of implementing an evidence-based, scientifically based comprehensive reading curriculum your district must substitute a core program that meets expectations for **fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension** from the list of Connecticut Approved K–3 Reading Curriculum Models or Programs.

As a result of the Waiver review process, the list of Connecticut Approved K–3 Reading Curriculum Models or Programs was expanded to include the following comprehensive reading curriculum models or programs and the comprehensive compendiums of reading curriculum models or programs:

Comprehensive Reading Curriculum Models or Programs:

The following list of comprehensive reading curriculum models or programs each meet all the requirements of C.G.S. 10-14ii, as amended by P.A. 23-167.

- Benchmark Education - Benchmark Advance (2022)
- McGraw Hill - Open Court Reading (2016)

Compendiums of Curriculum Models or Programs:

The following list of compendiums of curriculum models or programs must be used as a unit, as listed below, to meet the requirements of C.G.S. 10-14ii, as amended by P.A. 23-167. Please note that each curriculum model or program has been marked to reflect the evidence-based, scientifically based area of reading it addresses (e.g., Phonemic Awareness-PA, Phonics-P, Fluency-F, Comprehension and Vocabulary-CV).

- Great Minds - Wit and Wisdom®, 2016 (CV) with Curriculum Associates - Magnetic Reading Foundations, 2023 (PA, P, F)
- Great Minds - Wit and Wisdom®, 2016 (CV) with
 - Great Minds - Geodes® (F)
 - Literacy Resources, LLC. - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum® (PA)
 - University of Florida Literacy Institute - UFLI Foundations, 2022 (P)
- Great Minds - Wit and Wisdom®, 2016 (CV) with
 - Great Minds - Geodes® (F)
 - Literacy Resources, LLC. - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum® (PA)
 - William H. Sadlier, Inc. - From Phonics to Reading by Wiley Blevins, 2020 (P)

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- Great Minds - Wit and Wisdom®, 2016 (CV) with
 - Great Minds - Geodes® (F)
 - Literacy Resources, LLC. - Heggerty Phonemic Curriculum (PA)
 - Wilson-Fundations®, 2012 (P)
- Open Up Resources – Bookworms, 2021 (CV) with Curriculum Associates - Magnetic Reading Foundations 2023 (PA, P, F)
- Open Up Resources – Bookworms, 2021 (CV) with
 - Great Minds - Geodes® (F)
 - Literacy Resources, LLC. - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum® (PA)
 - University of Florida Literacy Institute - UFLI Foundations, 2022 (P)
- Open Up Resources – Bookworms, 2021 (CV) with
 - Great Minds - Geodes® (F)
 - Literacy Resources, LLC. - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum® (PA)
 - William H. Sadlier, Inc. - From Phonics to Reading by Wiley Blevins, 2020 (P)
- Open Up Resources – Bookworms, 2021 (CV) with
 - Great Minds - Geodes® (F)
 - Literacy Resources, LLC. - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum® (PA)
 - Wilson - Foundations®, 2012 (P)
- Savvas Learning Company - ReadyGEN® K-6, 2016 (CV, F, PA) with Wilson – Foundations, 2012 (P)

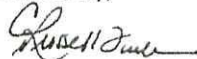
Enclosed with this letter is the completed Waiver Application Review Tool that documents the findings of your district's individual review and identifies areas in which the legislative requirements of your submitted materials are met or are not met.

Pursuant to C.G.S. 10-14hh, as amended by P.A. 23-167, your district is required to have fully implemented an approved comprehensive reading curriculum model or program or a comprehensive compendium of reading curriculum models or programs by July 1, 2025. Your district will have the 2024-2025 school year to begin partial implementation of an approved comprehensive reading curriculum model or program or a comprehensive compendium of reading curriculum models or programs.

If you are interested in receiving technical assistance regarding the implementation of the approved comprehensive Connecticut Approved K-3 Reading Curriculum Models or Programs, please contact the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success at sde.literacycenter@ct.gov.

Thank you for your dedication to this effort and working together to increase the effectiveness of literacy teaching and learning so that all Connecticut students are reading at or above grade level independently and proficiently by the end of third grade.

Sincerely,



Charlene M. Russell-Tucker
Commissioner of Education

cc: Dr. Charles Hewes, Deputy Commissioner for Academics and Innovation
Michael P. McKeon, Director of Legal and Governmental Affairs
Laura Stefon, Chief of Staff and Legislative Liaison
Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer
Ajit Gopalakrishnan, Chief Performance Officer
Dr. Melissa K. Wlodarczyk Hickey, Director of the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success

Enclosure: (1)



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Determinations of K-3 Reading Waiver Requests by District

Meeting Expectations = Approved

Partially Meeting Expectations =
Must add an additional component

Transitional = Must add and
substitute specific programmatic or
curriculum components

Limited = Not Approved

Districts/Schools

Achievement First Bridgeport Academy District
Achievement First Hartford Academy District
Amistad Academy District
Bloomfield School District
East Hartford School District
East Haven School District
Elm City College Preparatory School District
Hartford School District
Marlborough School District
New London School District
Regional School District 17
Shelton School District
Torrington School District
Wallingford School District
Waterbury School District
Waterford School District
West Hartford School District
Avon School District
Bethany School District
Chaplin School District
LEARN
(ER9) Easton/Redding School District
Andover School District
Barkhamsted School District
Bolton School District
Bristol School District

Waiver Result

Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Meeting Expectations
Partially Meets
Partially Meets
Partially Meets
Partially Meets
Transitional
Transitional
Transitional
Transitional
Transitional

Canton School District	Transitional
Coventry School District	Transitional
Cromwell School District	Transitional
Darien School District	Transitional
East Haddam School District	Transitional
Eastford School District	Transitional
Ellington School District	Transitional
Greenwich School District	Transitional
Griswold School District	Transitional
Hartland School District	Transitional
Killingly School District	Transitional
Ledyard School District	Transitional
Manchester School District	Transitional
Mansfield School District	Transitional
Monroe School District	Transitional
New Canaan School District	Transitional
New Fairfield School District	Transitional
Newington School District	Transitional
North Branford School District	Transitional
Old Saybrook School District	Transitional
Plainville School District	Transitional
Pomfret School District	Transitional
Regional School District 10	Transitional
Regional School District 14	Transitional
Regional School District 4 Deep River/Chester/Essex School District	Transitional
Ridgefield School District	Transitional
Rocky Hill School District	Transitional
Simsbury School District	Transitional
South Windsor School District	Transitional
Tolland School District	Transitional
Trumbull School District	Transitional
Vernon School District	Transitional
Winchester School District	Transitional
Windsor School District	Transitional
Berlin School District	Limited
Brooklyn School District	Limited
Cheshire School District	Limited
Colebrook School District	Limited
Glastonbury School District	Limited
Granby School District	Limited
Groton School District	Limited
Hebron School District	Limited
Madison School District	Limited
Milford School District	Limited

Montville School District	Limited
New Milford School District	Limited
North Haven School District	Limited
Orange School District	Limited
Plymouth School District	Limited
Regional School District 15	Limited
Regional School District 18- Old Lyme Lyme	Limited
Southington School District	Limited
Suffield School District	Limited
Thomaston School District	Limited
West Haven School District	Limited
Westport School District	Limited
Willington School District	Limited
Wilton School District	Limited
Woodbridge School District	Limited

BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPOSED SUB-COMMITTEES
2023/2025

Each subcommittee will appoint a chairperson at their first meeting following elections. This list will be updated to reflect the newly elected Chair for each subcommittee once they are appointed.

BUDGET/NEGOTIATIONS	POLICY
---------------------	--------

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Mary Beth Malin</u> | 1. <u>Mary Beth Malin</u> |
| 2. <u>Yvonne Palasky</u> | 2. <u>Yvonne Palasky</u> |
| 3. <u>Martin Osga</u> | 3. <u>Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton</u> |

TRANSPORTATION	FACILITIES
----------------	------------

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Cathy Waselik</u> | 1. <u>Martin Osga</u> |
| 2. <u>Jennifer Norman</u> | 2. <u>Stuart Norman, Jr.</u> |
| 3. <u>Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton</u> | 3. <u>Mary Beth Malin</u> |

ACADEMIC	ATHLETIC
----------	----------

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Full BOE</u> | 1. <u>Martin Osga</u> |
| 2. _____ | 2. <u>Stuart Norman, Jr.</u> |
| 3. _____ | 3. <u>Cathy Waselik</u> |

PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
2. Jennifer Norman
3. Cathy Waselik

Board of Education Representation Roles

CABE: TBD EASTCONN: TBD

Capital Improvements Committee: Martin Osga Ordinance Review Committee: TBD

Killingly Reg. Ag. Education Center Consulting Committee Liaison: Mr. Richard Campbell, Jr.



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

November 30, 2023

Miss Ava Mehrens
72 Haley Meadow Road
Griswold, CT 06351

Dear Ava,

It is with great pleasure that I share with you that you have been selected as a recipient of the Griswold Superintendent's award for 2023/2024. As a member of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), I am proud to have you represent our community. This award is based on your service, leadership and academic prowess. You join hundreds of other Connecticut students who are being saluted for these qualities in other school districts.

You and your family are invited to attend the Griswold Board of Education meeting scheduled for **Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM** in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the 1st floor of GMS, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, Connecticut.

May this award be an opportunity to reflect on your contributions and an inspiration to continue to lead and serve. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Griswold BOE
GHS Administration
K. Flynn, GHS School Counselor
Student File



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

November 30, 2023

Mr. Owen Pappas
66 BMW Drive
Griswold, CT 06351

Dear Owen,

It is with great pleasure that I share with you that you have been selected as a recipient of the Griswold Superintendent's award for 2023/2024. As a member of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), I am proud to have you represent our community. This award is based on your service, leadership and academic prowess. You join hundreds of other Connecticut students who are being saluted for these qualities in other districts.

You and your family are invited to attend the Griswold Board of Education meeting scheduled for **Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM** in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the 1st floor of GMS, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, Connecticut.

May this award be an opportunity to reflect on your contributions and an inspiration to continue to lead and serve. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

cc: GHS Administration
K. Flynn, GHS School Counselor
Student File



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

November 30, 2023

Miss Amelia Stearnes
83 Leha Avenue
Griswold, CT 06351

Dear Amelia,

Because Griswold is a school district affiliated with the New England School Development Council (NSDC), it is with great pleasure that I share with you that you have been selected as a recipient of the National School Development Council Award for Academic Growth and Student Leadership in Learning. I am proud to have you represent our community.

This award is presented to a high school senior who has consistently pursued a high level of academic effort, and who has served as a positive role model for the student body. Recipients of the award exemplify admirable character and accomplishment.

You and your family are invited to attend the Griswold Board of Education meeting scheduled for **Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM** in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the first floor of GMS, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, Connecticut.

May this award be an opportunity to reflect on your contributions and an inspiration to continue to lead and serve. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Griswold Board of Education
GHS Administration
E. Taylor, GHS School Counselor
Student File



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

November 30, 2023

Miss Alicia Fonseca Morales
116 North Main Street
Jewett City, CT 06351

Dear Alicia,

Because Griswold is a school district affiliated with the New England School Development Council (NSDC), it is with great pleasure that I share with you that you have been selected as a recipient of the National School Development Council Award for Academic Growth and Student Leadership in learning. I am proud to have you represent our community.

This award is presented to a high school senior who has consistently pursued a high level of academic effort, and who has served as a positive role model for the student body. Recipients of the award exemplify admirable character and accomplishment.

You and your family are invited to attend the Griswold Board of Education meeting scheduled for **Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM** in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the first floor of GMS, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, Connecticut.

May this award be an opportunity to reflect on your contributions and an inspiration to continue to lead and serve. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Griswold Board of Education
GHS Administration
L. Chavez, GHS School Counselor
Student File



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

October 27, 2023

Mrs. Jill Curioso
29 Pequot Trail
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Dear Jill,

On behalf of the Griswold Board of Education and the entire Griswold Public Schools community, I extend our congratulations and best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement. I received your letter of retirement and will note that your final day as a Griswold Public Schools' employee will be recorded as January 1st, 2024. Your retirement start date will be considered January 2, 2024, which is the date you noted in your retirement letter.

I would like take this opportunity to extend an invitation for you to attend an upcoming Griswold Board of Education meeting, scheduled to take place on Thursday evening, December 14th, 2023 beginning at 6:00 PM in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria. The Board and our administrators would like to take a moment to recognize you as a Griswold retiree and to thank you for your service to the Griswold Public Schools.

Please contact my executive assistant, Robin Drobiak, at 860-376-7600 to confirm your attendance. We are looking forward to recognizing you, Jill. Congratulations on your plan to retire!

Best wishes,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Office of Fiscal & Personnel Services
Personnel File



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

October 27, 2023

Mrs. Susan Boland
553 Hopeville Road
Griswold, CT 06351

Dear Susan,

On behalf of the Griswold Board of Education and the entire Griswold Public Schools community, I extend our congratulations and best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement. I received your letter of retirement and will note that your final day as a Griswold Elementary School employee will be recorded as January 1, 2024, which is the date you noted in your letter of retirement.

I would like take this opportunity to extend an invitation for you to attend an upcoming Griswold Board of Education meeting, scheduled to take place on Thursday evening, December 14th, 2023 beginning at 6:00 PM in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria. The Board and our administrators would like to take a moment to recognize you as a Griswold retiree and to thank you for your service to the Griswold Public Schools.

Please contact my executive assistant, Robin Drobiak, at 860-376-7600 to confirm your attendance. We are looking forward to recognizing you, Susan. Congratulations on your plan to retire!

Best wishes,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

cc: GES Administration
C. Champlin, Director of Student Services
Office of Fiscal & Personnel Services
Personnel File



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

December 5th, 2023

Mrs. Erin Palonen
P.O. Box 395
Jewett City, CT 06351

Dear Erin,

I am thrilled to extend my heartfelt congratulations to your involvement with NEASC in doing evaluations for high schools across New England.

Your active participation and invaluable insights have undoubtedly played a pivotal role in ensuring the quality and standards upheld by educational institutions throughout the region. Your dedication to excellence and your willingness to go above and beyond in this evaluation process are truly commendable.

I would like to take a moment to recognize you at an upcoming Board of Education meeting, which will take place on Thursday, December 14th, 2023, at 6 PM in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria.

I look forward to recognizing your efforts and your deep commitment to enhancing the educational experiences of students and educators alike.

Sincerely,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah A. Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

December 7, 2023

Mrs. Christine Peer
194 Snake Meadow Road
Moosup, CT 06354

Dear Christine,

We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to you on being selected as the Griswold *Employee of the Quarter* for the 2023/2024 school year. This recognition is a testament to your exceptional dedication, unwavering commitment, and outstanding contributions to our educational community.

To honor you, we would like to invite you to the next Griswold Board of Education meeting, which will take place on Thursday, December 14, 2023, in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, beginning at 6 PM where we will formally acknowledge your invaluable contributions. This event will be an opportunity for us to express our gratitude and appreciation for your exemplary service. Please confirm with my Executive Assistant, Robin Drobiak, whether you will be able to attend.

I am looking forward to recognizing and seeing you on December 14th. Once again, congratulations on this well-deserved honor!

Sincerely,

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools

cc: D. Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services
BOE
Personnel File



November 8, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the Griswold High School Cheerleading Trip Meeting. The Griswold High School Cheer Competition Trip this year is Ocean City, Maryland! The dates for the trip are February 23-25, 2024. The cost of the trip is **\$700.00** per cheerleader attending the trip. Attached, you will find helpful information regarding the cheerleading trip, contract, payments and fundraisers.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the contact information below or one of my assistant coaches.

Thank you!

Griswold High School Cheer Coach

Shannon Withey
(860) 383-9922
swithey@griswoldpublicschools.org

Student's Name _____

Contract for Griswold High School Cheerleading Competition Trip
Reach the Beach, Ocean City, Maryland
February 23-25, 2024

Your decision to participate in the 2024 Reach the Beach Cheerleading Nationals Competition trip must be made carefully. Although the trip promises many rewards, a decision to participate is a financial commitment. The rates for our trip are kept to a minimum by assuring the travel company of a certain number of travelers. Once we have committed, we owe for that number of slots. **Therefore, once the initial deposit and a signed contract is turned in to us, you are committed to paying for the entire trip. Refunds of any kind will not be issued for any reason through GHS CHEERLEADING. Please make your decision to attend this trip carefully.**

The following are examples of just some of the reasons that your student may be removed from the trip (and you would still be responsible for the remaining balance of the trip, regardless of your child's attendance on it). This list is not exclusive:

- School discipline (suspensions, expulsions)
- Off campus behavior that threatens the safety of self, property or others
- Substance dependencies or conditions that require professional monitoring/intervention
- Truancy/attendance issues
- Personal/family situations or conditions that prevent participation
- Dis-enrollment for any reason
- Home discipline
- Failure in music ensemble
- Student/family change of decision for any reason
- Concerns about travel climates
- Medical issues/concerns
- Non-Payment In Full
- Other exclusions not specifically outlined above

Students and families concerned about forfeited funds are encouraged to consider purchasing trip insurance. Please read the terms of such policies carefully as they may not fully include our list of exclusions and do not cover 100% of your expenses. Please see the information attached to this packet for more information. We strongly encourage opting in for Cancel for Any Reason (CFAR) See attached document. **If you opt in for CFAR, the deadline is January 9, 2023.**

All payments are due on time. Please be mindful of any fundraising totals that you do and **keep track of the amount of profit your student earned. If payments are not made by the payment due date, there will be a \$25 late fee per payment added to your athlete's account. This rule will be strictly enforced due to past problems with late payments.** Athletes will not be allowed to attend the trip unless all late fees are paid.

Payment deadlines are as follows: Checks made payable to GHS CHEERLEADING – Payments can be handed to the coaches or made on our team Venmo account @wolverinespride23.

- **Tuesday, December 5, 2023** - Initial Deposit (**\$234**) and Signed Trip Contract Due.
 - No late payments and contracts will be accepted.

- Initial Deposits cannot be made with fundraiser account balance, **must be check/cash/Venmo.**
- **Wednesday, December 19, 2023 - 2nd Payment Due (\$233)**
- **Wednesday, January 8, 2024 – 3rd Payment Due (\$233)**

I have read the above terms and understand that I am responsible to pay the entire balance of the trip even if my student cancels or is removed:

PRINT Parents name

PRINT Students name

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Parent cell number

Student cell number

Trip Chaperones

Every year parents ask how they can help with our team. Your main objective should be to support and be involved in your child's activities. This will be our first out-of-state overnight trip with our team, so having parental chaperones is extremely helpful. However, Coach Shannon, Coach Andy and Coach Libby are taking many things into consideration such as:

- This year each chaperone will be asked to contribute \$100 toward the cost of their travel, if invited to join us.
- Helping out with various duties during the year such as helping us with team and individual fundraisers.
- If you are chosen to go on the trip you must be helpful and able to enforce the rules set by the GHS Cheerleading Coaches; United front.
- Consideration might be given to parents with certified medical training.
- Senior parents are usually given first consideration, but it is not guaranteed.
- You must understand that if you are asked to chaperone and an athlete needs to go home you may be asked to accompany the athlete.



~Notes from GHS Cheerleading~

Fundraising

- All deadlines are non-negotiable. No orders will be accepted after these deadlines. Fundraisers are due by the end of the school day at 2:30pm (11:59pm for online sales.)
- Please send in checks, money orders or Venmo (@wolverinespride23) for all fundraising.
- Label any envelopes and memo space on checks or money orders with athletes name (first and last) as well as the dollar amount, included on the envelope. Also include their team, JV Competition or Varsity Competition, so we know who to contact if we have issues to discuss.
- Pick-ups for fundraisers are not negotiable. Please be sure to arrive in a timely manner for picking up any fundraisers. Please do not arrive early as we need time to sort the athletes orders and get them organized.

Email is the best form of contact as I work full-time. Please understand phone calls will take longer to get back to you. swithey@griswoldpublicschools.org

Facebook! We have a closed group FB page for our athletes and parents: GHS Cheerleading 2023-2024 "like" us to receive updates of deadlines and team information.

GHS Cheerleading Fundraising Dates 2023/24

- October 27th - November 14th **Thanksgiving Dinner Raffle Basket (100% profit)**
 - Money and raffle entries are to be turned in by 5:45pm November 14th. Winner will be chosen by live raffle. Cost = \$3 per entry
 - Delivery date November 17th. Picked up at 6pm by winning recipient.
 - Delivery in time for Thanksgiving!
- November 13th - November 17th **Double Good Popcorn (50% Profit)**
 - Money and orders are to be turned in online at time of purchase.
 - Delivery shipped directly to purchaser.
 - Turn around is 3-4 days!
- November 26th - **GHS Cheer Family Portrait Fundraiser (100% profit)**
 - Community members sign up for a portrait time slot via Google Sheets
 - Photographer (ACS Photography) donating her time and all funds to our team.
 - Photographs will be emailed to purchasers.
- November 28th-December 15th - **Pay a date card (100% profit)**
 - Athletes have a card with 31 days listed. Supporters pick a date and pay that amount. Example: number 5 = \$5 collected. Total possible earnings is \$496 per athlete, per card.
- December 17th - **GHS Cheer Family Portrait Fundraiser with Santa (100% profit)**
 - Community members sign up for a portrait time slot via Google Sheets
 - Photographer (ACS Photography) donating her time and all funds to our team.
 - Photographs will be emailed to purchasers.

PERKINS TRAVEL CORPORATION
TRAVEL SPECIALISTS
BUSINESS ~ VACATION ~ GROUP ~ CONVENTION
40 SOUTH HIGH STREET, NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, U.S.A 06051
PHONE: (860) 223-1655 FAX: (860) 827-4546
www.perkinstravel.com

December 5, 2023

Shannon Withey
GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL
267 Slater Avenue
Griswold, CT 06351

Dear Shannon,

I have been diligently working on your cheerleading team's proposal to Ocean City, MD, February 23-25, 2024. I am pleased to offer you the following package:

GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADING TO OCEAN CITY, MD
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024 TO SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

- DELUXE MOTORCOACH TRANSPORTATION EQUIPPED WITH LAV, DVD PLAYERS, AC, WIFI AND OUTLETS (ONE 36 PASSENGER COACH IS CONFIRMED WITH DATTCO)
- BUS DRIVER GRATUITES
- TWO NIGHTS HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE QUALITY INN OCEANFRONT OCEAN CITY HOTEL (11 ROOMS ARE ON HOLD)
- HOTEL TAXES
- BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL EACH MORNING (PENDING CONFIRMATION)
- ONE DINNER ON FRIDAY (PENDING- BASED ON ESTIMATE OF \$35.00)
- SIX CHAPERONES COMPLIMENTARY IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY BASED ON ABOVE PACKAGE FEATURES
- THREE COACHES COMPLIMENTARY IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY BASED ON ABOVE PACKAGE FEATURES
- 24/7 ON CALL PERKINS TRAVEL REPRESENTATIVE TO ASSIST WHILE YOU ARE TRAVELING
- LUGGAGE TAGS
- TAXES AND GRATUITY ON ABOVE PACKAGE FEATURES

BASED ON STAY AT FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES OCEAN CITY - TWO DOUBLE BEDS WITH FULL SLEEPER SOFA (MAX OF 6 PEOPLE TO A ROOM)

COST: \$ 603.00 PER STUDENT BASED ON FOUR TO A ROOM
\$ 623.00 PER STUDENT BASED ON THREE TO A ROOM
\$ 663.00 PER STUDENT BASED ON TWO TO A ROOM

I have predicated the above costs on a minimum of 21 students. If this number should increase or decrease the costs are subject to change. The final per student cost will depend on their placement on the rooming list. Once I receive the rooming list I will then invoice you according to the number of quad, triple, and double student bedrooms.

PLEASE NOTE WE ARE NOT HOLDING SPACE WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE VENDORS. THE STUDENT PRICES HAVE BEEN ESTIMATED AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL 2024 PRICING FROM ALL VENDORS IS RECEIVED AND SPACE IS CONFIRMED. THE ABOVE PROPOSAL IS BASED ON THE PACKAGE FEATURES YOU HAVE REQUESTED. PLEASE REVIEW AND LET ME KNOW IF ANY ADJUSTMENTS NEED TO BE MADE. ONCE THE TRIP HAS BEEN APPROVED, WE WILL THEN MOVE FORWARD IN SECURING THE ABOVE SPACE.

Please be advised, with the current economic situation and potential of escalating fuel prices, a surcharge might be levied which is beyond our control.

THE FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION HAS IMPLEMENTED ELECTRONIC LOGS IN ALL COACH BUSES. THIS WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF THE PAPER LOG BOOKS. THE PURPOSE OF THE ELECTRONIC LOGS IS TO ENFORCE THE LEGALITY OF THE BUS DRIVER HOURS. BUS DRIVERS CAN LEGALLY BE ON DUTY FOR 15 HOURS IN ONE DAY WITH 10 OF THOSE HOURS DRIVING. THEY MUST HAVE 8 HOURS OFF BETWEEN THE 15 HOURS ON DUTY DAY. THE 10 HOURS OF DRIVING INCLUDE ALL THE HOURS A DRIVER HAS DRIVEN IN A DAY, NOT JUST THOSE HOURS RELATING TO THE ITINERARY.

We offer limited insurance coverage. It is mandatory that you convey this information to each participant, in writing, when sending home details on the trip. This information will be emailed to you once we know the trip has been approved and is moving forward with our agency. All insurance premiums are non-refundable once purchased.

Going forward, services with Perkins Travel will include a cancellation policy. Perkins Travel will be assessing a cancellation fee. The cancellation letter will include the specific details. Please note, this fee goes into effect regardless of the School Board policy changes and/or world events. Once we receive trip approval and all the package features are confirmed a detailed cancellation letter will be emailed to you.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. We hope to have the opportunity to work with you on this trip.

Sincerely,

Janet Buslewicz
Group Services
PERKINS TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADING
TENTATIVE ITINERARY- OCEAN CITY, MD
FEBRUARY 23-25, 2024

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024

6:30AM BUS ARRIVES AT GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL (267 SLATER AVE, GRISWOLD, CT) FOR LOADING
DEPART GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL FOR OCEAN CITY, MD WITH REST/LUNCH STOP ON ROUTE (ON
OWN)
3:00PM APPROXIMATE ARRIVAL AT THE QUALITY INN OCEANFRONT OCEAN CITY HOTEL
4:30PM DEPART HOTEL FOR GROUP DINNER AT RESTAURANT NEAR HOTEL
5:00PM GROUP DINNER
6:00PM DEPART RESTAURANT FOR HOTEL
TBA CURFEW

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024

TBA WAKE UP
TBA BREAKFAST AT HOTEL (INCLUDED)
TBA DEPART HOTEL FOR ROLAND E. POWELL CONVENTION CENTER, 4001 COASTAL HIGHWAY, OCEAN CITY,
MD
TBA APPROXIMATE ARRIVAL AT CONVENTION CENTER FOR FULL DAY OF CHEERLEADING COMPETITION
TBA BOARD BUS AND DEPART CONVENTION CENTER FOR HOTEL
TBA APPROXIMATE ARRIVAL AT THE HOTEL
TBA CURFEW

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

TBA WAKE UP
7:00AM BREAKFAST AT HOTEL (INCLUDED)
8:00AM IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING BREAKFAST START CHECKING OUT OF ROOMS AND LOADING BUS
8:30AM DEPART HOTEL FOR GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL WITH REST/LUNCH STOP ON ROUTE (ON OWN)
5:00PM APPROXIMATE ARRIVAL AT GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL

WHERE YOU ARE STAYING:

QUALITY INN OCEANFRONT OCEAN CITY
5400 COASTAL HIGHWAY
OCEAN CITY, MD 21842

STUDENT TRAVEL PROTECTION



**TRAVEL INSURED
INTERNATIONAL**
A CRUM & FORSTER COMPANY

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN FOR STUDENT GROUPS

SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE BENEFITS AND OTHER NON-INSURANCE SERVICES

<u>Benefit</u>	<u>Maximum Benefit Amount</u>
Trip Cancellation**1	Up to 100 % of Trip Cost*
Trip Interruption***1	Up to 150% of Trip Cost*
Trip Delay – 6 hours	Up to \$2,500 (\$250 per day)
Missed Trip Connection – 3 hours	Up to \$500
Single Supplement	Included
Baggage and Personal Effects	Up to \$1,000 (\$250 per article)
Baggage Delay – 24 hours	Up to \$300
Medical Evacuation & Repatriation of Remains	Up to \$250,000
Accident & Sickness Medical Expense	Up to \$50,000
Political or Security Evacuation and Natural Disaster Evacuation	Up to \$150,000
Optional Cancel for Any Reason (CFAR)****	Up to 75% of Trip Cost*

Non-Insurance Worldwide Emergency Assistance Services

Included

*Up to the lesser of the Trip Cost paid or the limit of coverage on Your confirmation of coverage.

**Trip Cancellation is not applicable when \$0 Trip Cost displayed on Your confirmation of coverage

***\$500 Return air ticket cost only if \$0 Trip Cost displayed for Trip Cancellation on Your confirmation of coverage

****CFAR is optional and available provided: 1. You purchase the Cancel for Any Reason Benefit within the Time Sensitive Period; and 2. You cancel Your Trip no later than 48 hours prior to the Scheduled Departure Date of Your Trip. This Cancel for Any Reason Benefit does not cover penalties associated with any Travel Arrangements not provided by Retail Travel Supplier or the failure of Retail Travel Supplier to provide the bargained for Travel Arrangements due to cessation of operations for any reason. This benefit is not available to residents of NY State. Additional costs and terms apply.

¹ Trip Cancellation and Trip Interruption coverage only applies if trip is cancelled/interrupted by a covered peril.

PER PERSON RATES

Cost of Trip	Rates	With CFAR*	Cost of Trip	Rates	With CFAR*
\$0	\$10.00	N/A	\$5,001-\$5,500	\$230.00	\$345.00
\$1-\$250	\$26.00	\$39.00	\$5,501-\$6,000	\$252.00	\$378.00
\$251-\$500	\$32.00	\$48.00	\$6,001-\$6,500	\$273.00	\$409.50
\$501-\$1,000	\$46.00	\$69.00	\$6,501-\$7,000	\$293.00	\$439.50
\$1,001-\$1,500	\$63.00	\$94.50	\$7,001-\$8,000	\$337.00	\$505.50
\$1,501-\$2,000	\$83.00	\$124.50	\$8,001-\$9,000	\$382.00	\$573.00
\$2,001-\$2,500	\$105.00	\$157.50	\$9,001-\$10,000	\$403.00	\$604.50
\$2,501-\$3,000	\$125.00	\$187.50	\$10,001-\$11,000	\$446.00	\$669.00
\$3,001-\$3,500	\$145.00	\$217.50	\$11,001-\$12,000	\$488.00	\$732.00
\$3,501-\$4,000	\$167.00	\$250.50	\$12,001-\$13,000	\$531.00	\$796.50
\$4,001-\$4,500	\$187.00	\$280.50	\$13,001-\$14,000	\$573.00	\$859.50
\$4,501-\$5,000	\$208.00	\$312.00	\$14,001-\$15,000	\$616.00	\$924.00

The above rates are for trips up to 30 days. For each day over 30, add \$5.00 per person, per day. Maximum trip length is up to 60 days for all states, except Hawaii. Hawaii has a maximum trip length of up to 30 days. All of the above rates are for the plan which includes insurance and non-insurance services. The rates above do not apply to residents of Pennsylvania, California, Hawaii and Virginia.

*Optional Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) benefit not available to residents of NY State.

Travel Insured International
844-440-8113
groups@travelinsured.com
www.travelinsured.com

EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Unless otherwise shown below, these exclusions apply to You, Your Traveling Companion, or Family Member scheduled and booked to travel with You.

The following exclusion(s) apply(ies) to the Trip Cancellation and Trip Interruption. We will not pay for any loss or expense caused due to, arising or resulting from: 1. a Pre-Existing Medical Condition, as defined in the policy.

The following exclusions apply to the Medical Expense benefits. We will not pay for any loss or expense caused due to, arising or resulting from: 1. routine physical examinations or routine dental care; 2. traveling for the purpose or intent of securing medical treatment or advice; 3. Elective Treatment and Procedures; 4. Normal pregnancy (except Complications of Pregnancy) or childbirth, except as specifically covered under Trip Cancellation or Trip Interruption or elective abortion; 5. a Mental, Nervous or Psychological Condition or Disorder unless Hospitalized or Partially Hospitalized while the policy is in effect; 6. Your participation in Adventure or Extreme Activities, riding or driving in any races, or participation in speed or endurance competition or events, except as a spectator; 7. Your participation in an organized athletic or sporting competition, contest, or stunt under contract in exchange for an agreed-upon salary or compensation. This does not include athletes participating in exchange for a scholarship or tuition.

In addition to any applicable benefit-specific exclusion, the following general exclusions apply to all losses and all benefits. We will not pay for any loss or expense caused due to, arising or resulting from: 1. suicide, attempted suicide or any intentionally self-inflicted injury of You, a Traveling Companion, Family Member or Business Partner booked and scheduled to travel with You, while sane or insane; 2. being under the influence of drugs or narcotics, unless administered upon the advice of a Physician as prescribed; 3. activities, losses, or claims involving or resulting from possession, production, processing, sale, or use of marijuana, illegal drugs, alcohol or substances are excluded from coverage; 4. war or act of war, including invasion, acts of foreign enemies, hostilities between nations (whether declared or undeclared), or civil war, except as the policy specifically provides otherwise; 5. the commission of or attempt to commit a felony or being engaged in an illegal occupation by You, a Traveling Companion, Family Member, or Business Partner; 6. directly or indirectly, the actual, alleged or threatened use, discharge, dispersal, seepage, migration, escape, release or exposure to any hazardous biological, chemical, nuclear radioactive weapon, device, material, gas, matter or contamination; 7. piloting or learning to pilot or acting as a member of the crew of any aircraft; 8. a loss or damage caused by detention, confiscation, or destruction by customs.

EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS apply to Baggage and Personal Effects, Musical Instruments, Baggage Delay, and Musical Instruments

Equipment Rental: We will not provide benefits for any loss or damage for the following items: a. animals; b. automobiles and automobile equipment; c. boats or other vehicles or conveyances; d. trailers; e. motors; f. aircraft; g. bicycles, except when checked as baggage with a Common Carrier; h. household effects and furnishings; i. antiques and collectors' items; j. sunglasses, contact lenses, artificial teeth, dentures, dental braces, dental bridges, retainers or other orthodontic devices or earing aids; k. artificial limbs or other prosthetic devices; l. prescribed medications; m. keys, money, stamps and credit cards (except as otherwise specifically covered herein); n. securities, stamps, tickets and documents (except as coverage is otherwise specifically provided herein); o. professional or occupational equipment or property, whether or not electronic business equipment; p. telephones or wireless devices, computer hardware or software.

Losses not covered: We will not provide benefits for any loss or damage caused by or resulting from: a. breakage of brittle or fragile articles (except musical instruments); b. wear and tear or gradual deterioration; c. confiscation or appropriation by order of any government or custom's rule; d. theft or pilferage while left in any unlocked or unattended vehicle; e. property illegally acquired, kept, stored or transported; f. Your negligent acts or omissions; g. property shipped as freight or shipped prior to the Scheduled Departure Date; h. electrical current, including electric arcing that damages or destroys electrical devices or appliances.

Pre-Existing Medical Condition Exclusion Waiver!

The Pre-Existing Medical Condition Exclusion will be waived if the protection plan is purchased within the time sensitive period, and you are medically able and not disabled from travel at the time you pay the plan cost.

PLEASE REFER TO THE PLAN DOCUMENTS FOR A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF COVERAGE.

This advertisement contains highlights of the plans developed by Travel Insured International, which include travel insurance coverages underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company, Principal Office located in Morristown, New Jersey, under form series T7000 et al, T210 et al and TP-401 et al, and non-insurance Travel Assistance Services provided by C&F Services. The terms of insurance coverages in the plans may vary by jurisdiction and not all insurance coverages are available in all jurisdictions. **Insurance coverages in these plans are subject to terms, limitations and exclusions including an exclusion for pre-existing medical conditions.** In most states, your travel retailer is not a licensed insurance producer/agent, and is not qualified or authorized to answer technical questions about the terms, benefits, exclusions and conditions of the insurance offered or to evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. Your travel retailer may be compensated for the purchase of a plan and may provide general information about the plans offered, including a description of the coverage and price. The purchase of travel insurance is not required in order to purchase any other product or service from your travel retailer. CA DOI toll free number is 800- 927-4357. The cost of your plan is for the entire plan, which consists of both insurance and non-insurance components. Individuals looking to obtain additional information regarding the features and pricing of each travel plan component, please contact Travel Insured International. P.O. Box 6503, Glastonbury, CT 06033; 855-752-8303; customer@travelinsured.com; California license #0113223. While Travel Insured International markets the travel insurance in these plans on behalf of USF, non-insurance components of the plans were added to the plans by Travel Insured International, and Travel Insured International does not receive compensation from USF for providing the non-insurance components of the plans.

GRISWOLD PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR

2024/2025

DRAFT

AUGUST 2/2					SEPTEMBER 20/22					OCTOBER 21/43				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
					2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4
					9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11
19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18
26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25
					30					28	29	30	31	
NOVEMBER 17/60					DECEMBER 15/75					JANUARY 21/96				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				27	28	29	30	31
FEBRUARY 17/113					MARCH 20/133					APRIL 17/150				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4
10	11	12	13	14	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11
17	18	19	20	21	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18
24	25	26	27	28	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25
					31					28	29	30		
MAY 12/171					JUNE 9/180									
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F					
			1	2	2	3	4	5	6					
5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13					
12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20					
19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27					
26	27	28	29	30	30									

August 29	First Day of School for Students
June 12/Shortened Day for Students	Last Day of School for Students

SHORTENED DAYS

November 27	Shortened Day
December 20	Shortened Day
May 23	Shortened Day

HOLIDAYS /VACATIONS - NO SCHOOL

September 2	Labor Day
October 14	Columbus Day/Indigenous People Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 28, 29	Thanksgiving Break
December 23 – January 1	Holiday Recess
January 20	Martin Luther King Day
February 17, 18	President's Day Recess
April 14-17	Spring Break
April 18	Good Friday
May 26	Memorial Day

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

August 26, 27, 28	Staff Development Days/No Students
October 11	Staff Development Day/No Students
November 5	Staff Development Day/No Students
February 14	Staff Development Day/No Students
March 7	Staff Development Day/No Students
May 23	Staff Development Day/PM
June 12	Staff Development Day/PM

CONFERENCE DATES

November 7, 8	Shortened Days for All Students
March 5, 6	Shortened Days for All Students

Snow days will be made up in this order: June 13, June 16, June 17, 18, 19, and 20. Should we exceed five snow days by 2/1/25, the Board may consider vacation days/staff development days to be school days.

GHS Exam Shortened Days: January 21, 22, 23, 24 and June 6, 9, 10, 11. Please keep in mind that June exam dates could change and will be based on number of snow days to be made up at the end of the school year.

Calendar Break Down:

180 Student Days/8 Staff Professional Development Days – 7 Full and 2, ½ Days = 8

School Hours:

GES = 8:40 – 3:10 PM GMS, GHS, GAHS = 7:30 – 2:19 PM



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean P. McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah Martin, Director, Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Director, Teaching, Learning & Innovation
Christopher C. Champlin, Director, Student Services

MEMO

To: Griswold Board of Education

From: Sean P. McKenna/Superintendent

Subject: Naming of Facility/Policy 7551

Date: December 7th, 2023

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The purpose of this MEMO covers the information necessary for agenda items 9C & 9D.

As you know, we have been discussing re-naming the Alternative School given the move from the Glasgo Road/201 to the Soule Street location. The district administration, faculty and staff, and students are in agreement that the move to a renovated building provides us with ideal timing to make such a change.

In reviewing policy 7551--Naming of Facility, the policy provides guidance on how to proceed with naming a facility. The policy calls for convening committee, subject to the Board of Education approval, composed of the Superintendent, building principal/administrator, faculty members, community members and students. We have formed such a committee--please see committee members below:

Sean McKenna, Superintendent
Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent & Community Member
Chris Champlin, Director of Student Services/Building Administrator
Katy Sawaryn, Student Services and Family Engagement Coordinator
Ashley Huhn, Alternative Program Teacher
Megan Sorder, Alternative Program Teacher/Community Member
Sarah Castleberry, Alternative Program Teacher
Alternative Program Students (not to be named to protect confidentiality)
Alternative School Parents (not to be named to protect confidentiality)

Per policy 7551, a committee has been formed. We are looking for the Board to approve of this committee.

Next, while we are not prepared to bring forward name recommendations at this point, we have done the following, to adhere to the policy, to enlist community input:

- ☐ We created a survey for people to weigh-in on suggested names and/or to provide names.
- ☐ We emailed all families and faculty about the survey; the survey is on our website, and the survey is also online.
- ☐ We have made the survey available on Facebook.

Note: Policy 7551 does indicate that “public input must be publicly announced in the newspapers and on the District website.” While we are happy to place an ad in the paper, we believe that social media outreach has been more than effective. We also recommend that the Board waive that component of the policy.

New Construction

Naming of Facility

The naming of school buildings, major portions of buildings, or school grounds is the responsibility of the Board of Education. In fulfilling this responsibility, the Board of Education will make every effort to respect community preferences. Such names should be clearly identifying, widely known, and recognized.

It is the policy of the Board of Education to name school buildings as close as possible to the time construction begins in order to lessen the confusion about the new schools.

When naming new buildings, major portions of buildings, or school grounds, the Board of Education shall formally identify the need for a naming process for the identified school locations, as well as criteria it wishes to be considered in the process.

When naming a school building, major portions of school buildings, or school grounds the Board of Education shall direct the Superintendent to establish a committee, subject to Board of Education approval, comprised of the Superintendent or designee, the building Principal, faculty member, parents, community members, and, if appropriate, students to consider name recommendations for consideration by the Board of Education. Opportunities for public input must be made available prior to the committee's recommendation to the Board of Education. Such opportunities for public input must be publicly announced in newspapers and on the District website.

When naming new buildings, the committee shall have representation by the community members that is representative of the entire school district. The committee shall propose a list of names to the school board of not more than five (5) names for Board of Education consideration.

If a major portion of a school building or school grounds (media center, auditorium gymnasium, field, etc.) is proposed to be named after an individual, that person shall have attained local or national prominence via significant contributions in any field of endeavor. Such contributions or the significance of their place in history shall be clearly established beyond the generation of the contribution. Individuals so recognized shall no longer be active in his/her career. Further, the individual for whom a portion of a school building or school grounds is to be named must be shown to have broad-based, long-term impact to the school district community.

Collections of works, memorials, or other major gifts to the school district may be acknowledged and named by individual schools, subject to the district's policy and procedures for accepting donations. Prior to accepting such donations and naming, a plan for maintenance and upkeep must be identified and presented to the Board of Education.

The Board of Education retains the right to make final determination in the naming of buildings, major portions of school buildings, or school grounds. This policy notwithstanding, it is the intent of the Board that naming of portions of the building and school grounds occur infrequently and on a limited based.



Griswold High School

267 Slater Ave

Griswold, CT 06351

Phone (860) 376-7640 Fax (860) 376-7684

www.griswold.k12.ct.us

Erin Palonen, Principal

Art Howe Jr., Associate Principal

December 4, 2023

Re: Gerard & Wanda Brunet Scholarship Committee Selection

Dear Griswold Board of Education Members,

The Gerard and Wanda Brunet Foundation Scholarship Committee is comprised of the principal of Griswold High School and two full-time high school teachers, selected annually and subject to board of education approval. Ex-officio members *may* include the School Counseling Director, a high school counselor and the chair of the Board of Education or other members of the Board of Education selected by the board chair in their place.

I am seeking your approval for the following Griswold High School faculty to represent the selection committee for the Gerard and Wanda Brunet Scholarship Committee for the 2023-2024 school year:

Erin Palonen, Principal
Elaine Taylor, School Counseling Director
Kiley Flynn, School Counselor
Andrew Meislitzer, Science/Technology Teacher
Kelsey Tobler, English Teacher

In addition, we look to the Board to nominate and elect a member to serve on this committee.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Erin Palonen, Griswold High School Principal



Griswold Public Schools

211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, Connecticut 06351

Tel: (860) 376-7600 Fax: (860) 376-7607

Sean P. McKenna, Superintendent
Deborah Martin, Director, Fiscal & Personnel Services

Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent
Christopher C. Champlin, Director, Student Services

MEMO

To: Griswold Board of Education

From: Sean P. McKenna/Superintendent

Subject: “Retiring” the Alternative School Location at 1553 Glasgo Road & Turn the Building Over to the Town

Date: December 7th, 2023

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This memo addresses agenda items 9 g & h.

Policy 7113.1 and its regulation address the retirement of buildings and provide guidance on how we should handle the property on route 201. Because the move to the Soule street location has been in the works for well over 4 years, since the authorized a new senior center construction and the then First Selectman assembled Alternative School Space Needs Committee. The work of this committee and the work of the School Building Committee in many ways take the place of what would be considered a “closing study” of the 201 property. At the same time, the collective committee work more than justified the need for the move from the 201 location to the Soule Street location.

The policy 7113.1 calls for a public hearing for the closing. Given that there have been various town and board of education meetings that have addressed this matter, there has been ample opportunities for the Griswold community to voice their perspectives and concerns on the prospect of closing the Alternative School location on 201 to move to a newly renovated location on Soule Street.

Therefore, we are recommending that the Board waive the requirement of public hearing on this closing and turn the building over to the Town of Griswold. Faculty and staff moved to the Soule Street location. At this point and time, the Board remains responsible for all utilities, fees, and related services needed for the 201 location.

New Construction

Retirement of Buildings

A. building owned by the school district may be retired from use when the Board of Education determines that it is no longer useful to the district and/or is unsuitable to the current needs or projected needs of the district. The CLRFP for the district should be the base for considering the closing of a facility, and should require additional study of the possibility of remodeling the facility for other educational purposes.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-240 Control of Schools

Policy adopted: March 25, 2019

GRISWOLD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Griswold, Connecticut

New Construction

Retirement of Facilities

If any school building becomes inadequate because of age, condition, size of site, lack of need, or other overriding limitations, and cannot reasonably and economically be brought up to the current educational standards, the building should be considered for a comprehensive closing study. The Superintendent will recommend to the Board of Education which facility(ies) appear to justify further analysis.

The Board of Education will seek both professional advice and the advice of the community in making its final determination as to the retirement of any school facility in order that the public which originally acquired the property benefits from its recycling or retirement.

A closing study will include direct involvement by those communities considered in the study and will be concerned with all of the following factors:

- 1. Building characteristics, age and current physical condition of the facilities including:**
 - a. Age and condition of building including whether or not the building is energy efficient.
 - b. Adequacy of building for programs; existence of a multipurpose room and/or other special areas; feasibility of replacement and/or additions.
 - c. Suitability of the building for other uses.
 - d. Capacity of buildings, space to house additional students.
- 2. Adequacy of site, location, access, and other environmental conditions including:**
 - a. Adequacy of the building in terms of student health and safety.
 - b. Frequency of vandalism and amount of damage.
 - c. Location and size of site.
 - d. Traffic hazards and/or serious deterrents to learning in the surrounding community.
- 3. Enrollment and program including:**
 - a. Enrollment size in relation to that needed to provide quality of educational programs and services.
 - b. Enrollment projections indicative of continued small student population.
 - c. Effect upon programs for pupils in all schools affected by the closing.
 - d. Proximity of the school to community resources.
 - e. Relationship to the plan for special education.
 - f. Transportation factors, including numbers of children bused, time, distance, and safety.

New Construction

Retirement of Facilities (continued)

4. Cost/Savings projected including:

- a. Staffing requirements.
- b. Comparative per student operating costs related to status quo.
- c. Food service and student transportation requirements and expenses resulting from school closure.
- d. Value of property for other uses.
- e. Saving which might accrue from reducing the number of schools in Griswold.

5. Community considerations

- a. Attitudes toward reducing the number of schools and reduction of costs.
- b. Hardships and/or benefits to parents and/or children resulting from closure; distance from where students reside to schools where assignments would be made.
- c. Reactions on the part of parents and other school patrons to the potential closing of a school(s).

6. Alternatives to closing a school will also be considered. These may include:

- a. Changing of boundaries; effect upon enrollments in schools affected by changes.
- b. Shifting of programs/grade levels from one building to another.
- c. Housing of new program(s) in building under consideration.

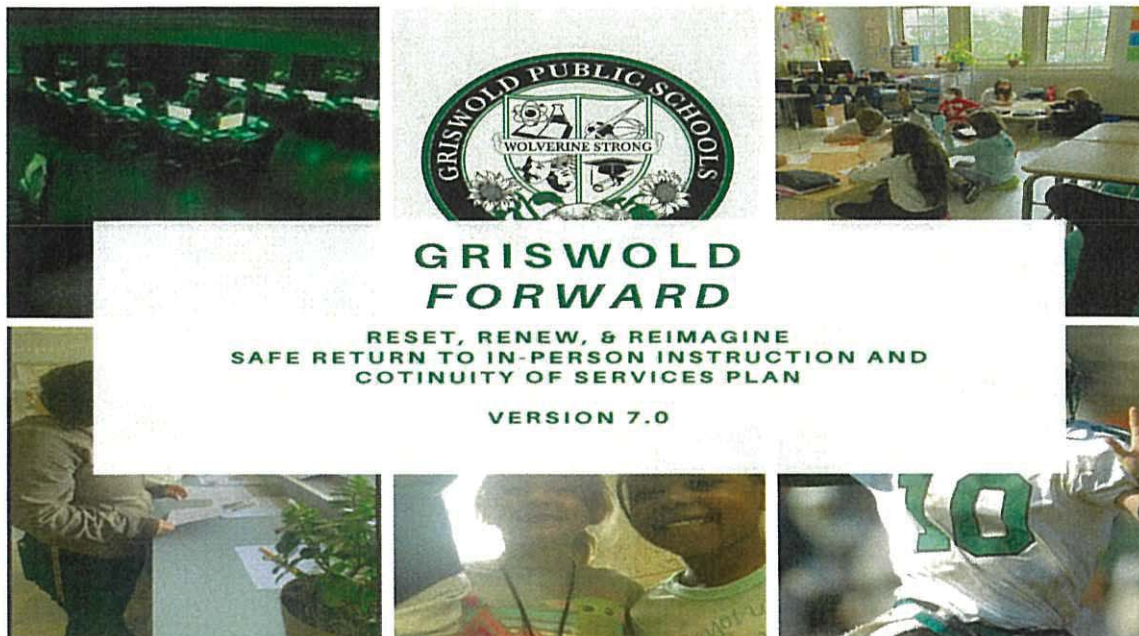
A school **closing study** shall follow these procedures before submitting their report to the Board of Education.

1. Parents and other school patrons will be involved early in discussions pertaining to possible school closings and program relocation.
2. An orderly procedure, including the provision of information to all who will be affected, will be used when closing a school. Parents will be informed in advance regarding recommendations and of possible Board of Education action.
3. Attendance boundaries will be realigned when a school is to be closed, taking into account distances from other schools, traffic patterns, building capacities, enrollments, and programs.
4. Time will be provided for adequate preparation for closing and reassignment of students and staff members.
5. Alternate uses of the building or disposition of the property will be considered in the light of current and projected needs.

New Construction

Retirement of Facilities (continued)

6. The closing committee may make use of outside consultants when considering school closings.
7. The full resources of the office of the Superintendent shall be available to the study committee throughout their deliberations.
8. Public hearings regarding the closing of a school will be held by the Board of Education prior to any vote by the Board of Education to close a school.



 *Griswold Forward - In-Person Learning & Continuity of Services Plan : December 2023, Version 7.0*

FOREWORD

December 2023

This plan is a requirement for Griswold's application for the ARP (American Rescue Plan)/ESSER (Emergency and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) grant that was submitted mid-August, 2021. We will continue to maintain a version of this plan, for all interested parties to access, on our website under the district tab. We will also make this plan available on our COVID-19 Information & Communications page. Most of elements from Version 6.0 remain unchanged. There are a few updates, including a status update on the relocation plans for Griswold Alternative School.

We want to continue to highlight how we have used our ARP-ESSER investments to move Griswold forward. Included in this report is a new section entitled "accomplishments and achievements." There are many hyperlinks in this document, so that any reader/viewer can access relevant information and artifacts. We encourage you all to explore.

We are in full-swing in the 2023-24 school year. Students and staff may wear face- masks, if they elect to do so. We respect an individual's choice. We will continue to keep our community informed about the work we do, including developments from the Department of Public Health and the Connecticut State Department of Education.

FORMAT & REVIEW PROCESS

- Version 7.0 was reviewed and approved by the Griswold Board of Education on December 14th, 2023
- Version 6.0 was reviewed and approved by the Griswold Board of Education on June 26th, 2023.
- Version 5.0 was reviewed and approved by the Griswold Board of Education on December 12th, 2022.
- Version 4.0 was reviewed and approved by the Griswold Board of Education on September 26th, 2022.
- Version 3.0 was reviewed and approved by the Griswold Board of Education on May 23rd, 2022.
- Version 2.0 was reviewed and approved by the Griswold Board of Education on December 13th, 2021.
- Version 1.0 was reviewed and approved by the Griswold Board of Education on June 14th, 2021.
- If anyone needs a translated copy, please let us know. We are also happy to provide printed copies upon request.
- We will also provide an alternative format copy upon request.
- This plan will be dynamic, and we will make changes as they become necessary. Major changes will trigger the involvement and approval process of the Griswold Board of Education. Such changes will mean that the "version" of the plan will change. We will notify all stakeholders of "version" changes.



REVIEW AND REVISION SCHEDULE



The first version of this plan will be completed by early June, 2021. We are operating on the information made available to us at this time. It is very important to note that things could change and thus trigger version updates. While our goal is to follow the review & revision schedule below, it is very possible that reviews and revisions will happen before and/or in-between these dates.

- Version 1.0 Targeted Date of Publication: June 15th, 2021
- Version 2.0 Targeted Date of Publication: December 13th, 2021
- Version 3.0 Targeted Date of Publication: June 15th, 2022
- Version 4.0 Targeted Date of Publication: September 1st, 2022 (9/26/22, actually reviewed)
- Version 5.0 Targeted Date of Publication: December 1st, 2022 (12/12/22, actually reviewed)
- Version 6.0 Targeted Date of Publication: June 15th, 2023 (6/26/23, actually reviewed)
- Version 7.0 Targeted Date of Publication: December 15th, 2023



INITIAL STAKEHOLDER PLAN REVIEW, INPUT SESSIONS & BOE REVIEW



STAKEHOLDER GROUP	MEETING DATES
Griswold Public Schools Faculty and Staff	Monday, June 7th, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:45 pm 3:45 pm
Griswold Public Schools Families & Guardians	Monday, June 7th, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 pm
GMS & GHS Student Focus Groups	Tuesday, June 8th, 2021
Griswold Public Schools School Reopening Committee	Thursday, June 10th, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am
Griswold Board of Education, regular meeting	Monday, June 14th, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 pm
Griswold Board of Education, regular meeting	Monday, December 13th, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 pm
Griswold Board of Education, regular meeting	Monday, May 23rd, 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 pm

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INITIAL STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK NOTES & ARCHIVE

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	MEETING DATE	FEEDBACK ARCHIVE & NOTES
Griswold Public Schools Faculty and Staff	Monday, June 7th, 2021 2:45 pm & 3:45 pm	NOTES
Griswold Public Schools Families & Guardians	Monday, June 7th, 2021 6:00 pm	NOTES
GMS & GHS Student Focus Groups	Tuesday, June 8th, 2021	NOTES
Griswold Public Schools School Reopening Committee	Thursday, June 10th, 2021 9:00 am	Reviewed
Griswold Board of Education, regular meeting	Monday, June 14th, 2021	Initial Approval





**Connecticut's American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021
Emergency and Secondary School
Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) Guidance:
Reimagining Schools to Transform Students' Lives**



7



**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) & EMERGENCY AND
SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (ESSER)
GRANT**

- Makes available federal funds for a multi-year implementation.
- Spans the 2021-2022 school year and future school years (2022-2023 & 2023-2024), through September 2024.
- Supports priorities that must be addressed in the grant application.
- Focuses on transforming schools, education renewal, and learning recovery/acceleration and enrichment for all students.
- Requests district to establish a safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services plan.
- Must be submitted to the State of Connecticut for review, approval, and continuous monitoring.

8



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) & EMERGENCY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (ESSER) GRANT

- Establishes clear priorities to transform schools.
- Requires districts to write grant application by addressing priorities.
- Allows districts some flexibility in assigning priorities to particular needs.
- Expects districts to monitor grant use and to measure progress, especially in terms of student performance on standardized measures.
- Mandates districts to create a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.

9



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) & EMERGENCY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (ESSER) GRANT

PRIORITIES

10



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) & EMERGENCY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (ESSER) GRANT PRIORITIES

- **Learning Acceleration, Academic Renewal, and Student Enrichment:**
Advancing equity and access in education for students in Connecticut remain top priorities. Resources must focus on academic supports and recovery to accelerate learning for our students, particularly those disproportionately affected by the pandemic.
- **Family and Community Connections:**
The complex issues brought about by the pandemic have made it clear that the success of schools, families, and communities are interdependent and all have a stake in students' well-being. Investing in mutually beneficial school-family-community partnerships will not only support students to achieve their full potential, but it will also strengthen families and stabilize communities.
- **Social, Emotional, and Mental Health of the Students and of our School Staff:**
The school community experience during the pandemic has been one of collective challenge and trauma. We must be prepared to use strategic wraparound social, emotional, and mental health supports to restore and successfully re-engage our school communities.

11



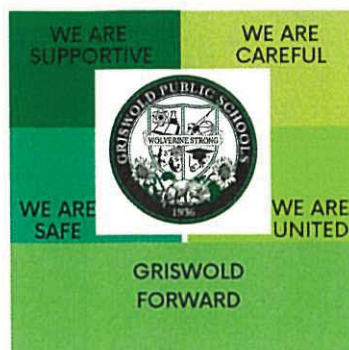
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) & EMERGENCY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (ESSER) GRANT PRIORITIES -CONTINUED

- **Strategic Use of Technology, Staff Development, and the Digital Divide:**
Applying what we have learned during the pandemic requires careful consideration of the importance of student access to in-person learning and enrichment balanced with the strategic use of technology to engage and expand learning opportunities. Resources should be allocated to maintain or upgrade access to technology and connectivity for the long term and to ensure that technology training and support is provided to students, school staff, and families to maximize student outcomes.
- **Building Safe and Healthy Schools:**
Ensuring our school buildings are safe and healthy environments that enable all of our students to excel remains an important aspect of recovering from COVID-19. Resources may be used consistent with federal relief funding allowable uses as a means to continue facility repairs and improvements, such as improving ventilation and providing more space for distancing. Resources should continue to be allocated to support the physical health and safety of our students and staff (e.g., to ensure adequate personal protective equipment).

12



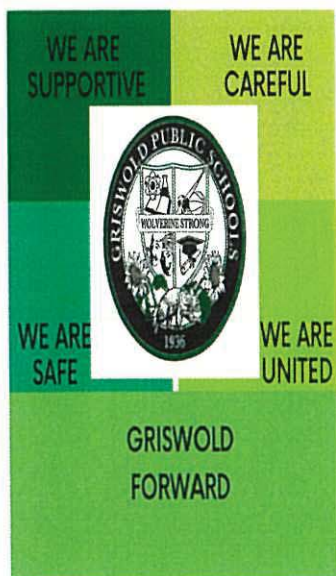
SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN



13



GPS & FULL IN-PERSON LEARNING



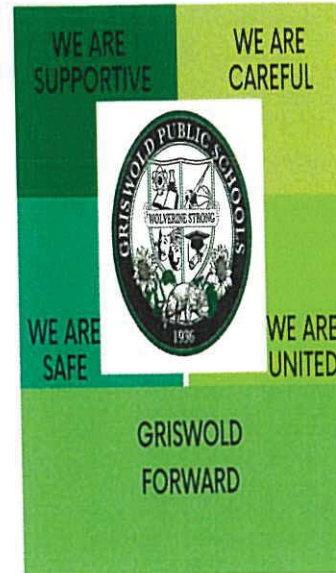
- GPS continues to operate in full in-person learning for the 2023-204 school year as we did last year.
- GPS operated with full in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. This will be a 5-days a week model.
- The Connecticut State Department of Education has clarified that remote learning days cannot be used for snow or inclement weather days.
- GPS is not authorized to offer a remote learning option for the 2021-2022 school year or for the 2022-2023 school year.
- If public health developments and/or the State of Connecticut require Griswold to offer a remote option, then the district will revisit the implementation of this learning model.

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HEALTH & SAFETY STRATEGIES: POLICIES

- The Griswold Board of Education (Board) has adopted a comprehensive set of policies to govern the efficient, effective, legal and ethical operations of the Griswold Public Schools. These policies are available for view on the Griswold Public Schools website, under the Board of Education tab.
- The Board has adopted, modified, and/or rescinded a series of policies with the onset of the pandemic as needed. This includes policy 4118.237 Personnel--Certified/Non-Certified Face Masks/Covering. This particular policy supports optional face-mask wearing, which the Board voted on at its February 16th, 2022, Special Meeting.
- In the event that the return to full in-person learning necessitates the revision of existing or implementation of new policies, the GPS administration will work with the Board to make such changes.



HEALTH & SAFETY STRATEGIES: MITIGATION

As was the case with our Reopening Schools 2020-2021 Academic Year Operational Plan, Griswold Public Schools closely follows the CDC and our local health district, [Uncas Health District](#).

MITIGATION STRATEGY	GPS IMPLEMENTATION
Optional but Recommended Mask-Wearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On February 16th, 2022, the Griswold Board of Education voted to make mask-wearing optional but recommended effective February 28th, 2022. • Beginning February 28th, 2022, Griswold Public Schools honors all individuals who elect to and who do not elect to wear face-mask as a mitigating strategy. • Upon request, GPS will provide face-masks and this includes the N95 face-mask, which can be provided to faculty and staff.
Vaccination and/or Testing of Faculty and Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination status was initially required by Executive Order 13G for the start of 2021-22 school year. This Executive Order was discontinued. • We currently do not monitor the vaccination status of our employees. • We are happy to provide self-test kits to faculty and parents, upon request; we do not distribute self-tests students, but we will provide self-tests to parents and guardians.
Physical distancing (e.g. including use of cohorts/podding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We encourage physical distancing when necessary; however, we no longer mandate specific physical distancing protocols. • Individuals who have concerns about physical distancing may want to consider the use of a face-mask.



HEALTH & SAFETY STRATEGIES: MITIGATION

MITIGATION STRATEGY	GPS IMPLEMENTATION
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students and adults are encouraged to wash/sanitize hands frequently while school is in session. In addition to bathrooms where soap and water will be available, hand sanitation will be available in classrooms, offices, and hallways. Respiratory etiquette, emphasizing covering the mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing, using and immediately disposing of tissues, and washing hands, will be enforced with signage and reminders.
Cohorting/Grouping of Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be grouped by the same class and associated with a particular teacher or teachers.
Cleaning & Maintaining Healthy Facilities including Ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will continue with increased cleaning and sanitation protocols for disinfecting lunch areas, bathrooms, high traffic areas and frequently touched surfaces. We will continue with fresh-air ventilation in our buildings to reduce any potential viral micron spread. Our HVAC systems are up-to-date with repair and scheduled preventative maintenance with NESC.

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HEALTH & SAFETY STRATEGIES: MITIGATION

MITIGATION STRATEGY	GPS IMPLEMENTATION
Efforts to Provide Vaccinations to Educators, other staff, and students, if eligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GPS established a working partnership with UCFS-Griswold to have close to 200 employees vaccinated last year. Additionally, in partnership with the Town of Griswold, we have hosted 3 vaccination clinics, including a Pfizer clinic focused on students. We will continue to work with our local partners to provide vaccination availability to GPS stakeholders. We post vaccination information, including scheduled clinics, on our COVID-19 Information & Communications webpage
COVID-19 Self-Test Kits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GPS has made COVID 19 self-test kits, upon request, available to families, students, faculty and staff. GPS continues to make COVID-19 self-test kits available and works with the Town of Griswold and UNCAS Health District on self-test kits resource sharing.
Isolation and Quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Griswold Public Schools follow the CDC guidelines, supported by the Uncas Health District, with respect to isolation and precautions. We strongly encourage anyone who needs clarification to contact our school nurses or members of our administrative team.

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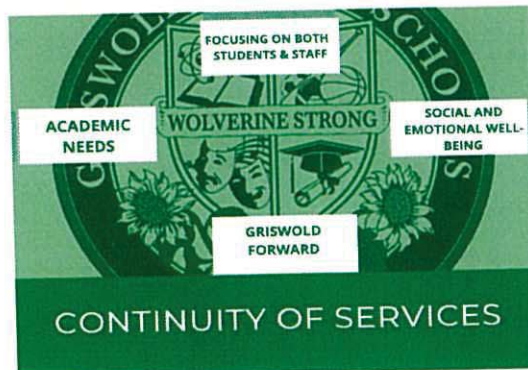
HEALTH & SAFETY STRATEGIES: MITIGATION

MITIGATION STRATEGY	GPS IMPLEMENTATION
Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities with Respect to the Health and Safety Policies	<p>Griswold Public Schools remain committed to providing high quality programs and services to our students who receive special education and related services. To that end, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comply with all federal and state mandates and statutes.• Survey Special Education case managers frequently to determine if individual students need additional assistance with implementing health and safety measures.• Monitor case managers and student programs; certified, and non-certified staff will work together to determine if individual students need alternative supports based on present level of functioning, developmental levels, and student/parent input.• Adjust plans as is necessary to accommodate appropriately.

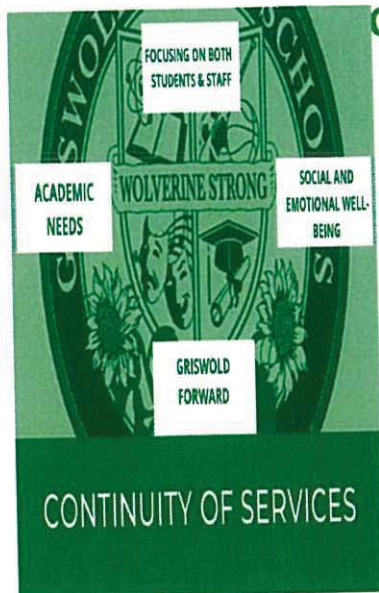
19



SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN



20



CONTINUITY OF SERVICES: ACADEMICS

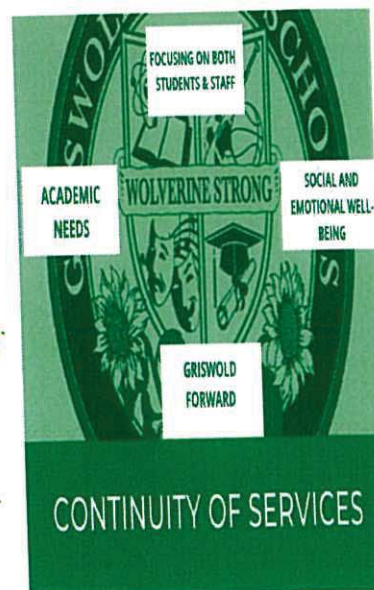
- Deliver and differentiate high quality instruction based on the needs of individual students.
- Enlist professional learning/coaching support from LEARN (math coaching) & EASTCONN (SEL coaching).
- Adopt an acceleration framework to address unfinished learning and skill gaps based on grade-level targets and prioritized standards.
- Offer after-school programs to further support students' learning growth with targeted interventions and with enrichment activities.
- Use a combination of standardized and non-standardized student performance data, classroom walk-through data, and anecdotal records to identify and expand upon strengths to accelerate learning.
- Support faculty and staff with aligned professional learning to our district improvement roadmap.
- Offer embedded guidance and coaching to our professional staff from our re-designed Department of Teaching, Learning, and Innovation. This includes training on culturally responsive teaching, SEL interventions, strengthening Tier 1, and blended and personalized learning.

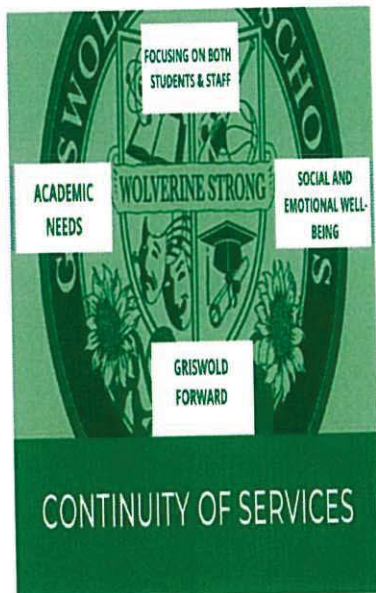
21



CONTINUITY OF SERVICES: SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

- Our Griswold Forward advancement plan identifies the Social and Emotional Well-Being of our students as our top priority.
- Continue cultivating a psychologically safe and responsive environment to learn, work, and grow.
- Promote positive student-to-student, adult-to-student, and adult-to-adult relationships.
- Collaborate with EASTCONN consultants on the implementation of our SEL programs: Kindness in the Classroom (elementary); Second Step (middle level); & Connections (secondary) using measurement and analysis protocols.
- Establish Social & Emotional Interventionist positions in all three buildings to offer additional supports to students and to faculty and staff working with students.
- Establish Family Engagement Specialist position to assist students and families with seeking opportunities for social and emotional well-being.
- Integrate research-based SEL interventions into classroom environments.
- Pinpoint effective strategies to re-engage disconnected learners and families.
- Continue partnerships with local agencies such as UCFS-Griswold and TVCCA.

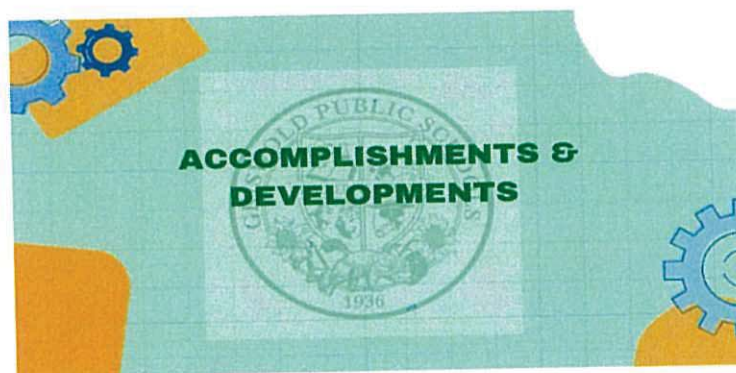




CONTINUITY OF SERVICES: STUDENT HEALTH, FOOD, AND ADVANCEMENT PLANNING

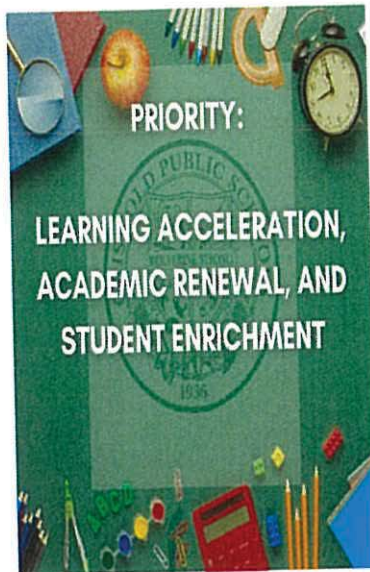
- Continue to focus on student overall health by ensuring a student-centered approach to all of our efforts.
- Provide students and families with in-district and community supports as needed and requested. Community supports agencies include, but are not limited to: UCFS-Griswold, TVCCA, Griswold Youth and Family Services, and Griswold Pride.
- Offer nutritious food by means of the Griswold Food Services Department, which will continue into the summer, during our Summer Learning Program, and will consist of on-site meal options and the Grab & Go delivery system. Free meals ended in December 2022; we returned to charge for meals in January 2023.
- Collaborate with all stakeholders on strategic advancement planning to identify district strengths, target areas of improvement, and stakeholders' needs.
- Create and expand learning opportunities for students that spark individual interests and reinforce engagement in learning.

23



IN THIS PLAN VERSION, WE WANTED TO REVIEW HOW WE HAVE INVESTED OUR ARP-ESSER FUNDS TO MOVE GRISWOLD FORWARD. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR AND PROUD OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS AS A COMMUNITY.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS & DEVELOPMENTS

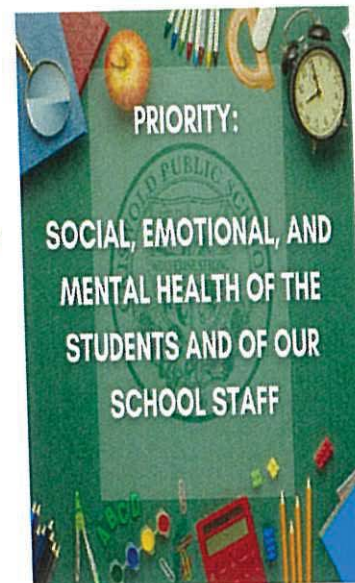
- [Griswold Forward](#), our district advancement plan, emphasizes social and emotional competencies, personalized and blended learning, and research-based instruction. To foster the scheduled professional learning to embed this work with our teachers and students, we continue our relationship with EASTCONN, which is partially funded by the ARP ESSER grant.
- We have re-designed a new approach to intervention support at Griswold High School by funding a Reading Interventionist and Math Interventionist to support students who may need targeted assistance in those areas.
- We have created a high quality before and after school, affordable program--[Wolverines Forward](#)--for parents and students, which emphasizes tutoring, active play, and extended learning opportunities.

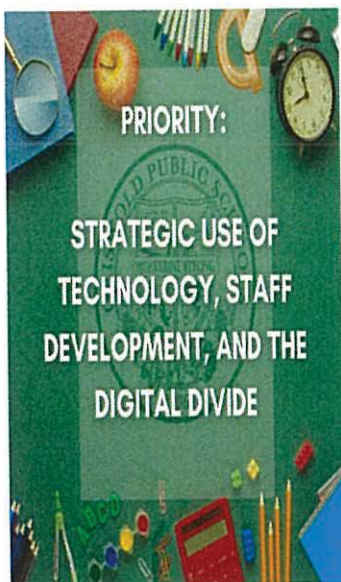
25



ACCOMPLISHMENTS & DEVELOPMENTS

- Our Griswold Forward plan prioritizes the social and emotional needs of our students, and, by extension, our staff. Our professional partnership with EASTCONN has allowed us to cultivate an overall SEL focus and approach to our work. This work includes nurturing positive relationships, learning environments of belonging, and the importance of behavior specific praise. We measure our progress in different ways: Student metrics on performance, attendance, and behavior; [classroom drop-ins to understand culture and climate](#); and the frequency of behavior specific praise.
- We also partially fund our SEL Interventionists in all 3 buildings with ARP-ESSER funding. The SEL Interventionist works closely with our schools and families to support students, as they navigate the different challenges during a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous time.
- In addition to celebrating our faculty and staff at different times throughout the year, we offer our certified staff blocked-off SEL time during scheduled professional development days.





ACCOMPLISHMENTS & DEVELOPMENTS

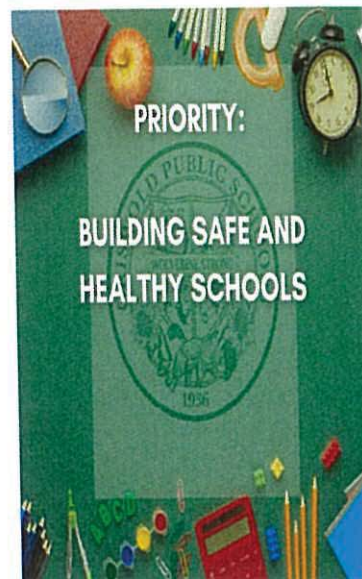
- GPS has adopted [Personalized and Blended learning as a district, building and individual goal](#). All certified staff (administrators and teachers) have this (and will have this) as a professional goal. We continue to support our administrators and teachers with [professional learning and resources](#) on this goal throughout the school year.
- We have redesigned our Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment area to a department rebranded as [Teaching, Learning, & Innovation](#). This department, partially funded by the ARP ESSER grant, includes personnel to help with the strategic use of technology and staff development.
- We have earmarked funding goals in terms of hardware and software in the ARP ESSER to address the digital divide to ensure that students are matched with a device.
- Offered E-Sports Program at Griswold High School in The Nexus Lab. Funded E-Sports Advisors Stipends from ARP ESSER 3. [Please visit The Nexus Lab site](#) at GHS. We also have implemented an advanced technology lab "The Launch Pad" at GMS, creating a middle school to high school pathway of advanced tech courses.

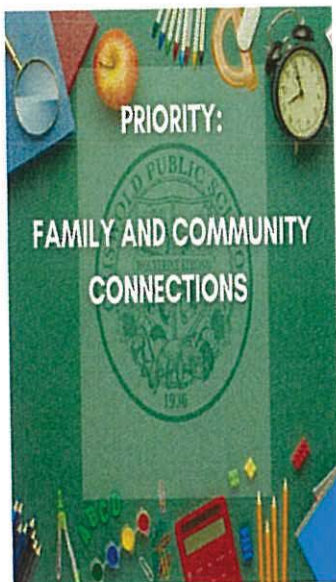
27



ACCOMPLISHMENTS & DEVELOPMENTS

- Students attending the Griswold Alternative School program moved into a renovated facility on November 27th, 2023.
- Work on renovating the former Griswold Senior Center to be the new location of our Alternative School is in the "punch list stage."
- We have earmarked and reallocated funding in the ARP-ESSER 3 grant for the renovation plans and work on the relocation of our Alternative School. This new, renovated facility is a vast improvement over the previous facility.
- We have earmarked ARP ESSER funds to assist with custodial, maintenance, and facilities needs as they arise.
- We have earmarked ARP ESSER funds to assist with fuel cost (natural gas), given that we use "fresh air" in the winter months to mitigate indoor micron spread.





ACCOMPLISHMENTS & DEVELOPMENTS

- Our [Wolverines Forward](#) program provides high quality before and after school care for our students and families. Beginning in the '23-24 year, we added a child-care offering in Wolverines Forward to assist PK students and families. This program is partially funded by the ARP ESSER grant. Due to low enrollment at the middle level, we have concentrated our efforts with elementary before and after school care.
- We have added a new position, a Community Relations and Special Projects Coordinator, point person to help with communications, [develop brand standards](#), and to maintain consistency in messaging on Social Media platforms. This position is funded by ARP ESSER funds.
- In our newly re-designed Student Services department, we have added Student Services & Family Coordinator. This administrative position is partially funded by the ARP ESSER grant. This administrator assists with:
 - Early childhood education and programming
 - School readiness
 - Assisting families with an assortment of needs

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PUBLIC COMMENT

- This plan is a dynamic plan and will change over the course of time. Public comment is welcome. Your voice matters. We will review comments and feedback as is necessary.
- As mentioned previously, we will be updating this plan as is necessary. We have targeted dates for different versions of the plan--see slide 4. However, any required updates from the state or public health may necessitate changes before those scheduled dates.
- Nonetheless, there are multiple ways to offer feedback:
 - The best method is to contact any Griswold Public Schools Administrator.
 - We have discontinued using a general email to send communications--please contact any GPS administrator; we are here to help.





Griswold Forward
RESET, RENEW, REIMAGINE



ACCOUNTABILITY & PROGRESS REPORT ON GOALS DECEMBER 14th, 2023



What is the Accountability Index?

Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System is a broad set of 12 indicators that help tell the story of how well a school is preparing its students for success in college, careers and life. It provides a holistic, multifactor perspective of district and school performance.



Indicators used to determine the Accountability Index

- Student Achievement
- Student Growth
- Chronic absenteeism
- Assessment participation
- On track for high school graduation
- 4 year graduation
- 6 year graduation for high needs students
- Postsecondary preparation
- Postsecondary readiness
- Postsecondary entrance rate
- Physical fitness
- The arts

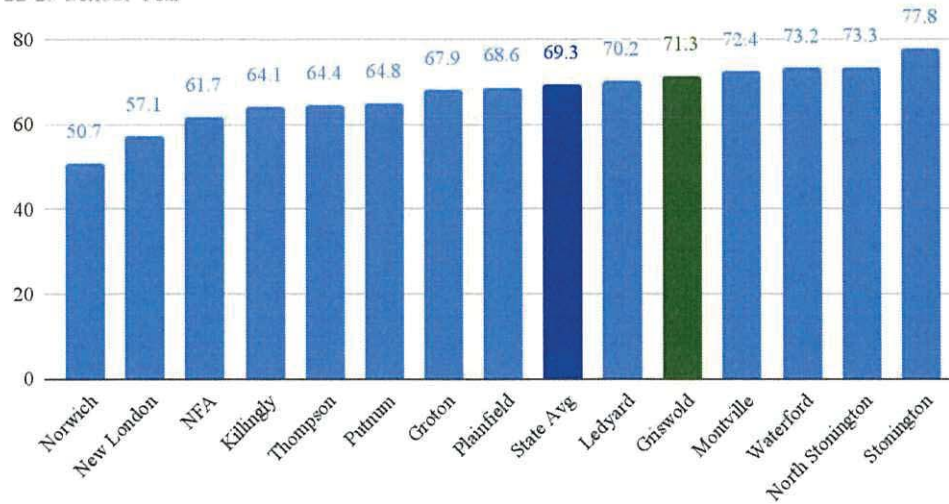
The percentage of total possible points earned on all indicators determines the Accountability Index

DISTRICT SCORE INDEX

Indicator	Index/Rate	Target	Points Earned	Max Points	% Points Earned	State % Points Earned
1a. ELA Performance Index - All Students	61.9	75	41.3	50	82.6	85.2
1b. ELA Performance Index - High Needs Students	56.6	75	37.7	50	76.6	72.1
1c. Math Performance Index - All Students	57.9	75	38.6	50	77.2	79.6
1d. Math Performance Index - High Needs Students	52.2	75	34.8	50	69.6	65.2
1e. Science Performance Index - All Students	62.5	75	41.7	50	83.3	82.1
1f. Science Performance Index - High Needs Students	57.2	75	38.2	50	76.3	68.2
2a. ELA Academic Growth - All Students	66.5%	100%	66.5	100	66.5	67.2
2b. ELA Academic Growth - High Needs Students	63.1%	100%	63.1	100	63.1	62.5
2c. Math Academic Growth - All Students	71.1%	100%	71.1	100	71.1	61.8
2d. Math Academic Growth - High Needs Students	65.8%	100%	65.8	100	65.8	55.5
2e. Progress Toward English Proficiency - Literacy		100%				55.3
2f. Progress Toward English Proficiency - Oral		100%				56.1
4a. Chronic Absenteeism - All Students	24.8%	<=5%	10.5	50	21.0	39.8
4b. Chronic Absenteeism - High Needs Students	33.1%	<=5%	0.0	50	0.0	6.0
5. Preparation for CCR - Percent Taking Courses	92.2%	75%	50.0	50	100.0	100.0
6. Preparation for CCR - Percent Passing Exams	35.9%	75%	23.9	50	47.9	59.0
7. On-track to High School Graduation	82.5%	94%	43.9	50	87.7	87.7
8. 4-year Graduation: All Students (2022 Cohort)	82.0%	94%	87.9	100	87.9	94.6
9. 6-year Graduation: High Needs Students (2020 Cohort)	90.8%	94%	96.6	100	96.6	91.1
10. Postsecondary Entrance (Graduating Class 2022)	53.3%	75%	71.1	100	71.1	88.2
11. Physical Fitness (estimated participation rate = 90.3%)	44.9%	75%	29.9	50	59.8	60.6
12. Arts Access	61.4%	60%	50.0	50	100.0	90.9
Accountability Index			902.5	1300	71.3	69.3

District Accountability Index Comparison

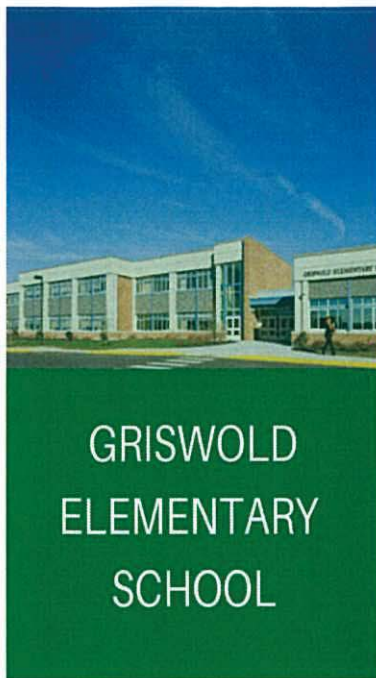
22-23 School Year



December 14th, 2023 BOE MEETING Building-Level Report: Goals, Progress Points, & the Next Phase of Work

Griswold Forward





OVERVIEW

This presentation

- Provides an update on the progress of our building goals.
- Forecasts next steps and direction for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
- Offers us an opportunity to answer questions, clarify understanding, and respond to feedback.

Griswold Forward



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will commit to the advancement of social and emotional competencies in inclusive and equitable learning environments so that all of our students can grow and thrive.

School Goal: Griswold Elementary school will foster respect, care, inclusiveness, integrity, responsibility, and courage in students by actively engaging in social and emotional learning opportunities, in an equitable environment, that will empower students to achieve their full potential.

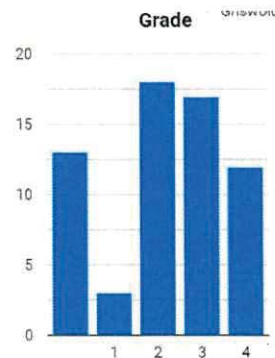
Second full year implementation of Kindness in the Classroom SEL curriculum.

SEL activity being observed based upon 60 visitations.

- 90% of classrooms implemented during designated time.
- Use of school wide SEL Language was observed in 95% of visitations.

Office Referral Data

- Currently, 65 office referrals. 32 students make up the total number. 6% of students have received 1 referral.



Griswold Forward



BLENDING & PERSONALIZED LEARNING GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will focus on promoting the implementation and expansion of Blended and Personalized Learning in all PreK-12 learning environments.

School Goal: Griswold Elementary School will investigate and implement blended and personalized learning strategies to promote student choice, flexible thinking, innovation and individual goal setting.

Student Engagement Data

- Walkthroughs showed 93% active student engagement
- Additionally, 95% of students were actively engaged for greater than 50% of the lesson
- Students were given the opportunity to respond an average of 12 times in a 5 to 10 minute walkthrough
- Feedback to Students noted as Timely, Specific, and of High Quality in 70%. Evident in 28%. Not Evident in 2% of the 60 classrooms visited.



Griswold Forward



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WIN Block

- 100% of Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, 3, and 4 have implemented the What I Need (WIN) Block. Students have different needs and different interests. Understanding the need for more flexibility to address students' interests, student academic needs, and counseling services, the WIN block was created as an additional block of time.



Griswold Forward



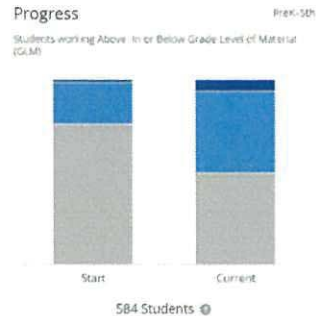
RESEARCH-BASED INSTRUCTION GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will explore and implement research-based instruction to improve outcomes for all Griswold students.

School Goal: Griswold Elementary Schools will commit to the advancement and strengthening of Tier 1 instruction by providing individual conferring, strategy/guided groups, and goal setting to improve student outcomes for all students.

Strengthening Tier 1 Instruction

- First year of full implementation of Aimsweb, a benchmark and progress monitoring system based on direct, frequent and continuous student assessment using brief, accurate measures of reading, math, spelling, and writing. Aimsweb is the most comprehensive K-12 assessment system that supports Response to Intervention (RTI) and tiered instruction.
- Second full year of implementing LEXIA reading in grades K-4.
- Students working Above, In or Below Grade Level of Material;
Start of School Year; Above 1% (5 students), In 23% (134 students),
Below 76% (445 students)
Currently; Above 6% (37 students), In 44% (256 students),
Below 50% (291 students)



Griswold Forward



RESEARCH-BASED INSTRUCTION GOAL

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Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Process

- Team is in the process of transitioning to MTSS from SST.
- Reading Interventionists, held end of the six week cycle conferences with classroom teachers for all intervention students.
- Student support team has conducted ten behavior intervention MTSS meetings.

Tiered Reading Intervention

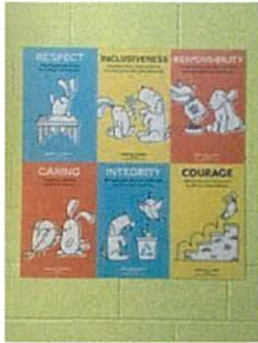
- 12 Kindergarten (Tier 2),
- 15 Grade 1 (Tier 2) and 8 (Tier 3),
- 15 Grade 2 (Tier 2) and 9 (Tier 3),
- 8 Grade 3 (Tier 2) and 10 (Tier 3), and
- 3 Grade 4 (Tier 2) and 4 Grade 4 (Tier 3).
 - 84 total students

Griswold Forward



FORECAST and OTHER NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- Intervention developed for each grade level. WIN time coordinated with intervention times.
- School-wide implementation plan for Lexia Reading Program. 830 Certificates have been given to students to recognize their "Level-Up" in the program.
- Data Teamwork continuing with grade levels.
- Station rotations. Small group instruction.



Griswold Forward

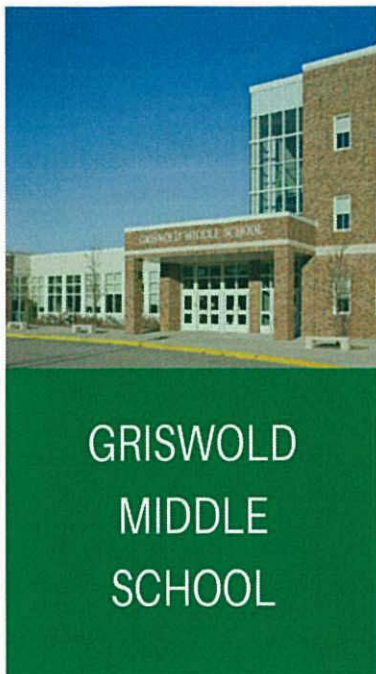


Questions or
comments?



Griswold Forward





OVERVIEW

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Griswold Forward



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will commit to the advancement of social and emotional competencies in inclusive and equitable learning environments so that all of our students can grow and thrive.

School Goal: Griswold Middle School commits to developing and strengthening all students' capacity in CASEL's five core competencies. This will be accomplished through the CREW program which will create supportive school communities in which all students are valued.

- Second year of full implementation of **Second Step SEL curriculum.**
- **SEL activity being observed based upon 101 visitations.**
 - 95% of classrooms implemented the SEL lesson.
 - Over 90% of the students observed were engaged in the lesson.
 - An average of **5.25:1** Praise to Correction was observed.
- First year of our building-wide "high-5" behavior incentive program.
 - Over 300 High-5's have been given out so far. 30 have received certificates
- GMS continues to recognize and celebrate student success/accomplishments with Students of the Month, Kids of Character and Griswold Greats



Griswold Forward



BLENDED & PERSONALIZED LEARNING GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will focus on promoting the implementation and expansion of Blended and Personalized Learning in all PreK -12 learning environments.

School Goal: Griswold Middle School staff will embrace and acknowledge the benefits of personalized learning through the use of blended learning. All teachers will be exposed to various methods of blended learning in order to create at least one unit to implement this school year.

- Walkthrough data showed 87.5% student engagement
- Additionally, 92% of students were actively engaged for greater than 50% of the lesson
- Educators were observed providing quality feedback to students in 95% of classrooms.
- Teachers continue to explore integrating VR and AI into blended learning lessons.



Griswold Forward



RESEARCH-BASED INSTRUCTION GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will explore and implement research-based instruction to improve outcomes for all Griswold students.

School Goal: Griswold Middle School will provide support and effective training to their staff with regards to research-based Tier 1 instruction and interventions within a middle school classroom. Teachers will regularly and thoughtfully identify and implement positive Tier 1 academic and behavior interventions within their classrooms.

Strengthening Tier 1 Instruction

- First year of full implementation of Aimsweb, a benchmark and progress monitoring system
 - 5th and 6th math and LA intervention based on Aimsweb data. (38 minutes x 3 times per week)
- First full year of implementing LEXIA reading in grade 5 and PowerUp in grades 6-8.
- MTSS
 - Grade level teams meet biweekly with grade level MTSS coordinator and an administrator.
 - 71 Students currently receiving Tier 2 interventions and being track/monitored through AIMSWEB and/or the CT SEDS MTSS Portal.
- Data Team meets regularly to disaggregate Aimsweb, SBAC, and other data points.



Griswold Forward



FORECAST and OTHER NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- Data-driven intervention during WEB in 7th grade starting second semester
- Reading intervention support will continue to fine-tune intervention support through LA, WEB, reading groups, and social studies/science.
- School-wide positive behavior reward system will continue with some small adjustments
- Math and reading after school support to start in late winter (clinic).
- GMS Wolverine Kindness Campaign



Griswold Forward

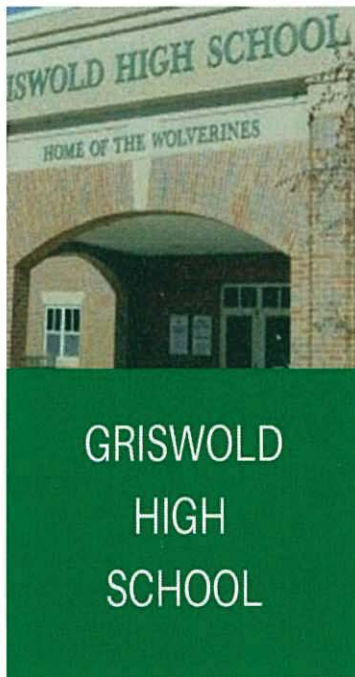


Questions or comments?



Griswold Forward





OVERVIEW



This presentation:

- Provides an update on the progress of our building goals.
- Forecasts next steps and direction for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
- Offers us an opportunity to answer questions, clarify understanding, and respond to feedback.

Griswold Forward



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will commit to the advancement of social and emotional competencies in inclusive and equitable learning environments so that all of our students can grow and thrive.

School Goal: Griswold High School is committed to the deliberate integration of the CASEL framework and its associated strategies across classrooms and curricula. This endeavor aims to cultivate an all-encompassing atmosphere while propelling the social and emotional proficiencies of our school community to new heights.

- Second year of full implementation of **SEL Connections & "School Connect,"** mapped out with our **Scope & Sequence**.
- **SEL activity being observed based upon 76 visitations.**
98.7% of classrooms implemented the SEL lesson consistent with the pacing guide.
Over 90% of the students observed were engaged in the lesson.
- FAFSA grant submitted & accepted, new College Advisor started in mid-November. FAFSA window opens "December 31st." In the past, it has always been October 1st.
- **Feed Griz** monthly celebrations for the months of September, October & November have yielded a total of **2,237** hours so far.
- **GHS Student Spotlight Awards** have highlighted 24 GHS students exemplifying skills highlighted in our Vision of the Graduate. **GHS Athletes of the Week** celebrated weekly through each sport season.
- **6%** increase in referrals resulting in discipline with a 14% increase in population.

Griswold Forward

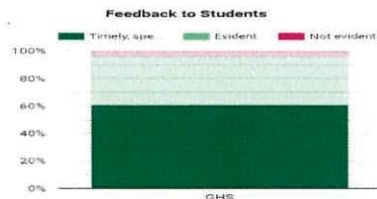


BLENDING & PERSONALIZED LEARNING GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will focus on promoting the implementation and expansion of Blended and Personalized Learning in all PreK-12 learning environments.

School Goal: Griswold High School is dedicated to fostering an environment that enables a profoundly personalized and uniquely tailored learning journey, incorporating inventive and daring approaches. This commitment includes offering specialized professional growth opportunities, individualized guidance, and collaborative classroom visits to observe and share effective practices.

- **100%** of our Class of 2023 successfully completed their GHS Senior Showcase for Capstone! Showcases for the Class of 2024 will run January 16th→January 19th (with guest panelists!)
- Walkthroughs showed **94%** active student engagement
- Additionally, **92%** of students were engaged for greater than 50% of the lesson.
- Educators were observed providing quality feedback to students in **96%** of classrooms. An average of **14:1** Praise to Correction was observed.



RESEARCH-BASED INSTRUCTION GOAL

District Goal: Griswold Public Schools will explore and implement research-based instruction to improve outcomes for all Griswold students.

School Goal: Griswold High School is dedicated to elevating tier-one instruction by emphasizing rigor. Griswold High School's commitment to higher cognitive engagement, cultural awareness, cultural learning and meeting high expectations signifies an investment in students' holistic development. By embracing these strategies, students not only acquire knowledge but also gain the critical skills and mindset necessary to thrive in an ever-evolving world.

- MTSS 23/24: meets 2x/week for 77 mins.
 - School psych, SW, school counselors, specialists, two teachers, intern & principal
 - **53** students currently referred and being monitored through our MTSS team.
- Data Team
 - Meets at least monthly - deep dive into PSAT data and action steps moving forward
- Reading Specialist & Math Specialist
 - Working with students - small group/individual & push in/pull out
 - SAT Intervention, skills & strategies
 - Collaboration with departments
- Opportunities to respond data
 - Teachers were giving students an average of **7.6** opportunities to respond in 5-10 minutes walkthrough observations.

Griswold Forward



Sending Town Recruitment Efforts

View Detailed Document [HERE](#).

Highlights:

- ◆ GHS Open House
- ◆ GHS In-School Welcome Presentation
- ◆ Homecoming 2023
- ◆ Field Trips to partner schools by our Music Department
- ◆ Shadow days from November → March
- ◆ Model UN partnership with Voluntown
- ◆ Sending town partner meetings with administration & GPS staff throughout the year - covering academics, athletics, arts, student services, etc.

182 (12/06/23) Sending Town Students @ GHS:

Canterbury – 6 students
Norwich - 57 students
Preston - 22 students
Sprague - 22 students
Voluntown - 35 students
Franklin - 1 student
Lisbon - 39 students

Griswold Forward



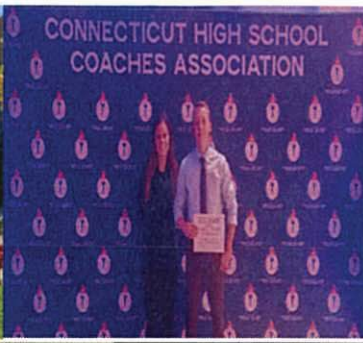
FORECAST and OTHER NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- Current enrollment for 23/24: **576 students; 589 with school on Soule Street**
 - 22/23: 540 students
 - 21/22: 505 students
- Intervention for 23/24 school year:
 - "FLEX" - Intervention blocks/office hours for teachers
 - Math & Reading Intervention with certified specialists
 - Intentional SAT Intervention Grade 11
 - APEX for online course options/credit recovery
 - Intern interventionist for executive skills
 - Freshmen Success for students identified with history of absenteeism
- Collaboration
- Application of PSAT/SAT/NGSS Incentives & SAT Scholar Celebration
- Data Teamwork, Goal Setting & Curricular Focus
- Increased opportunities for choice in pathways, ECE/CCP/AP offerings, Advanced Technology & English courses



Griswold Forward



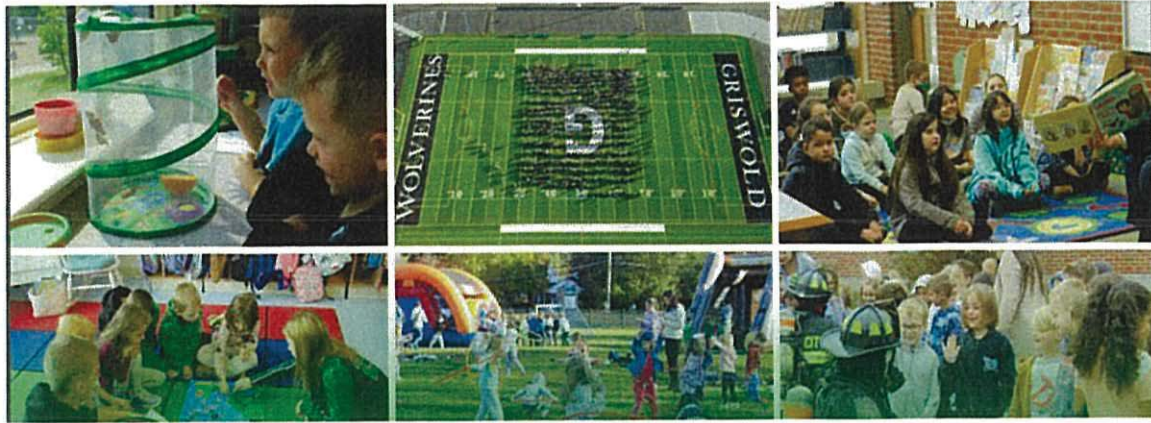


Questions or
comments?



Griswold Forward





KINDERGARTEN AGE REQUIREMENT STEERING COMMITTEE PRESENTATION, BOE DECEMBER 14TH, 2023



OVERVIEW OF THE MAJOR CHANGE



- In 2023, the Connecticut Legislature changed how old a child must be to start kindergarten.
- [Public Act 23-208, Section 1\(a\)](#) changed the birth date cut-off from January 1st of any given year to September 1st of any given school year.
- This law applies to ALL COMMUNITIES IN CONNECTICUT AND TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS OFFERING KINDERGARTEN.

Griswold Forward



WHY THE CHANGE NOW?



- Once again, this change came by way of Connecticut State legislation and by way of sound recommendations from educators and specialists in early childhood education.
- Each state in the United States has its own kindergarten entry age requirement. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- This law applies to ALL COMMUNITIES IN CONNECTICUT AND TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS OFFERING KINDERGARTEN.
- Griswold is not alone, as all communities must adapt to this new legislation.

Griswold Forward



EXCEPTIONS TO THIS CHANGE

- This new legislation does allow for exceptions to this new age requirement.
- If a student does not meet the new entry kindergarten cutoff date, that child may still be admitted to kindergarten providing the following happens:
 - The parent/guardian submits a formal written request, also known as an application for a waiver. **At that time, GPS will provide a formal application.**
 - An assessment (**yet to be determined**) will be completed by the school that determines admitting the child to kindergarten would be developmentally appropriate.

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WHAT DO PARENTS/GUARDIANS DO IF THEIR CHILD WILL BE 5 BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1st and JANUARY 1st?

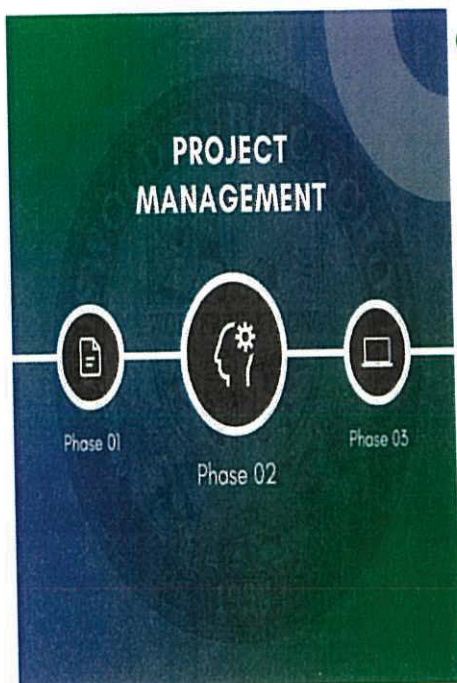
REGULAR EDUCATION STUDENTS

- Parents/guardians would enroll their student for another year of PK.
- GPS is **exploring** the option of a full-day, **"transitional kindergarten"** program for students who fall in this category; however, at this time, this program is **not offered**.
- Parents/guardians may submit a waiver for the student to enter kindergarten nonetheless.

SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

- Parents/guardians would meet with their child's planning and placement team (PPT) to review the child's individualized education program (IEP).
- Parents/guardians would enroll student for another year of PK.
- If a "transitional kindergarten" program is offered, the student may be eligible for this program.
- Parents/guardians may submit a waiver for the student to enter kindergarten.

Griswold Forward



GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

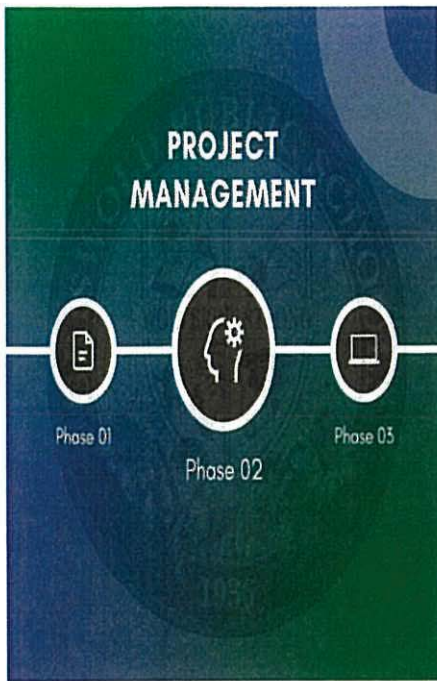
GPS aims for clear planning based on implementation discipline

• PHASE 1--Initial Steps

- Select GPS administrators attended regional workshops and conferences.
- A planning team consisting of all PK & K educators came together to review the legislation, implementation, and initial thoughts about next year.
- Members of the planning team will be meeting consistently over the course of the next several weeks to map out next steps.

Griswold Forward





GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 1--Initial Steps

- We have already accomplished the following:
 - ✓ Informed the Griswold Board of Education and presented already to different stakeholders.
 - ✓ Created informational handouts that were distributed to families during conferences.
 - ✓ Designed and made "live" a communication portal, on our homepage, for families to access.

Griswold Forward



GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 2--Discovery

- We launched a survey to collect feedback from our community members; that went live on 11/13. The survey has since closed.
- We published the survey on our website, on Facebook, and through other means.
- Let's review some of the results:
 - ✓ 110 responses.
 - ✓ Respondents are in broad categories:
 - 50% identified as staff, community members, others
 - 50% identified as parents

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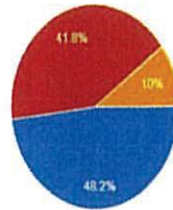
GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 2--Discovery/Survey Results

What are your initial thoughts to the Kindergarten age requirement beginning the 2024-2025 school year?

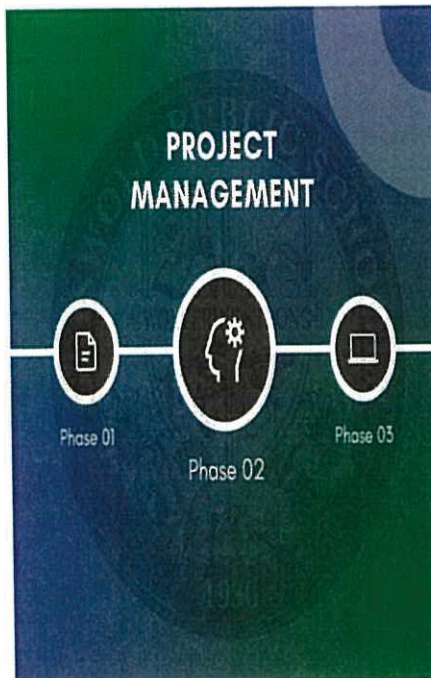
[Copy](#)

110 responses



- I am in agreement with the new legislation because students should be 5 in order to enroll in Kindergarten.
- I am not in agreement with the new legislation.
- Other Comments:

Griswold Forward



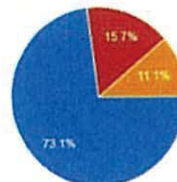
GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 2--Discovery/Survey Results

For the 2024-2025 school year, would you support the district offering waivers to families who believe their child is "eligible" for Kindergarten but who will not be 5 on or before 09/01/2024?

[Copy](#)

108 responses



- Yes
- No
- Unsure

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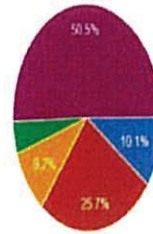


GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 2--Discovery/Survey Results

At this point in time, which potential option best fits what you would choose for your child for the 2024-2025 school year? [Copy](#)

109 responses



- I would most likely observe the state legislation and register my child who will be 5 on or before September 1st, 2022.
- I would most likely observe the state legislation, and apply for a waiver for...
- I would most likely observe the state legislation, and for my child who turns...
- I would most likely observe the state legislation, and for my child who turns...
- Not applicable to me

Griswold Forward



GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 3--Designing a Plan

- The steering committee continues to meet, to review results, and to think through next steps.
- We have a full workshop day on December 15th, 2023.
- We are preparing informational videos that will be saved to our communication portal.
- We have established a goal, where we are aiming to present to the Griswold Board of Education our finalized plan and recommendations at some point in January, so that families have plenty of time to plan.

Griswold Forward



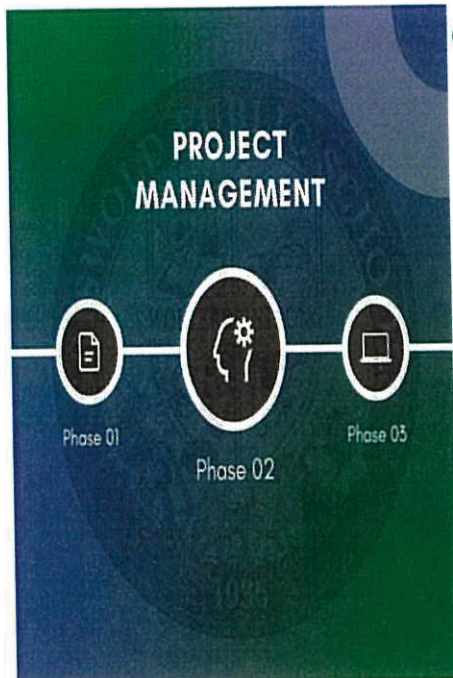


GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 3--Designing a Plan

- All decisions/recommendations and communications will be housed on our Kindergarten Age requirement website, which can be accessed at our home page.
- A timeline will also be presented to inform parents about screenings, registrations, and a waiver application process.
- Communications will include letters, videos, and other resources.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to reach out to us directly, if they have specific concerns or questions.

Griswold Forward



GPS PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

● PHASE 3--Designing a Plan

- Our goal is to finalize our decisions/recommendations in January and enlist the Griswold Board of Education for feedback and then inform the community at large. Decisions/recommendations include:
 - Will waiver applications be allowed?
 - Will GPS offer a Transitional Kindergarten program or not?
 - What are the full range of childcare offerings that parents/guardians have?

Griswold Forward





RESOURCES & RESEARCH

- [CT Office of Early Childhood & State Department of Education Primer](#)
- [EASTCONN slide deck from recent workshop](#)
- [CT Office of Early Childhood Website](#)
- [Education Commission of the States Data Primer](#)
- [US News & World Reports Article](#)

Griswold Forward



CONTACT US--Steering Committee Leads

- **Joseph Bordeau,**
Principal, Griswold Elementary School
- **Jacqueline Love,**
Assistant Principal, Griswold Elementary School
- **Kathryn Sawaryn,**
Student Services & Family Engagement Coordinator
- **Jenna Motta,**
Teacher, GES Kindergarten

Griswold Forward



VACANCIES

<u>Certified Positions</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Closing Date</u>
Director of Technology, Full-Time	GPS	Until Filled
Teacher, Math, Grade 8, 1.0 FTE	GMS	Until Filled
Teacher, Grade 4, 1.0 FTE	GES	Until Filled

<u>Non-Certified Positions</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Closing Date</u>
Physical Therapist, .6 FTE	GPS	Until Filled
Custodian, Full-Time	GPS	Until Filled
Paraeducators, Full-Time	GPS	Until Filled
Paraeducators, Part-Time	GES	Until filled

<u>Extra-Curricular Positions</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Closing Date</u>
Coach – Assistant Baseball – Spring	GHS	Until Filled

RESIGNATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Last Day</u>
Dickinson, Ashley	GPS	Physical Therapist, .6 FTE	January 4, 2024

APPOINTMENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary/Rate</u>
Klimas, Victoria	GMS	Teacher, Grade 8 Math – Long-Term Sub	December 11, 2023	Per Diem
Donovan, Mackenzie	GES	Teacher, Grade 4 – Long-Term Substitute	December 4, 2023	Per Diem
Miles, Ashlynn	GES	Wolverine Before/After School Asst. Instructor	December 4, 20233	Hourly
Farnsworth, Mark	GHS	Coach – Freshmen Boys Basketball	Winter 23/24 Season	Stipend
Tedeschi, Nate	GHS	Coach – JV Boys Basketball	Winter 23/24 Season	Stipend

Notes:

December 12, 2023

Robin Drobiak

Subject: FW: resignation Ashley Dickinson - Physical Therapist

From: Ashley Dickinson <ADickinson@griswoldpublicschools.org>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2023 7:41 AM
To: Christopher Champlin <CChamplin@griswoldpublicschools.org>
Subject: resignation

Mr Champlin,
Please accept this email as my letter of resignation as Physical Therapist at Griswold Public Schools. My last day with the GPS school system will be January 4th, 2024.

Thank you.
Ashley Dickinson, MSPT

Victoria Klimas
1445 North Rd
Groton, CT 06340
vklimas1112@gmail.com
860-576-3086
11/18/23

Objective:

Dedicated and passionate educator with Elementary 1-6 certification and a Middle School mathematics cross-endorsement, seeking an eighth-grade math teaching position where I can leverage my experience as a student teacher and intern to foster a positive learning environment and facilitate academic growth for middle school students.

Education:

Bachelor of Science in Psychology (May 2019)
Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, CT

Masters of Education Elementary 1-6 (Expected December 2023)
Sacred Heart University, Griswold, CT

Certification:

- State Certification in Elementary Education (Grades 1-6) (December, 2023)
- State Cross-Endorsement in Middle School Mathematics (July, 2023)

Experience:

Student Teacher

West Vine Street School, Stonington, CT
September 2023 - Present

- Design and implement engaging math lessons for third-grade students
- Differentiate instruction to meet the diverse learning needs of students
- Collaborate with mentor teachers to create a supportive classroom environment

Intern

Griswold Middle School, Griswold, CT
September 2022 - June 2023

- Development and delivery of math lessons for eighth-grade students
- Supported classroom management and student engagement strategies

Skills:

- Strong understanding of elementary and middle school mathematics curriculum and pedagogy
- Ability to integrate technology and blended learning to enhance math instruction
- Excellent communication and collaboration skills
- Commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students

References:

Available upon request

Mackenzie Donovan

Educator

Education

Sacred Heart University / Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary

AUGUST 2022 - PRESENT, EXPECTED

GRADUATION: DECEMBER 2023 GRISWOLD, CT

Central Connecticut State University / B.S. in Marketing and Business Management

AUGUST 2015 - MAY 2019, NEW BRITAIN, CT

Alpha Mu Alpha - National Honors Society of
American Marketing Association

Professional Development

EASTCONN Webinar- Fostering Trauma Sensitive
Practices in Schools

Aimweb Initial Reading and Math Assessment
Training

SEL Team Meetings

EASTCONN Trauma Informed Teaching Seminar

Mackenzie Donovan

(860)-639-7286

mackenzie.donovan97@gmail.com

Experience

Griswold Elementary School / Student Teacher

AUGUST 2023 - JUNE 2023, GRISWOLD, CT

Responsibilities Include: Independently develop lessons and assessments in a first grade classroom; collected and sorted student data for independently created assessments; fostering a positive environment for students to learn and develop; co-teaching and planning with classroom teacher; helped create and teach grade level WIN groups; help manage student behavior and aiding in maintaining behavior plans; attended IEP and related meetings; collaborated with classroom teacher to create function small groups for differentiated instruction in math and reading

Griswold Elementary School / Intern

AUGUST 2022 - JUNE 2023, GRISWOLD, CT

Responsibilities Include: Regularly act as substitute teacher in grades Pre-K through 4th, including various special education classrooms; assisting the reading intervention team with pull out lessons for Tier 2 and Tier 3 students; push-in to various classrooms to act as an aid, works closely with general education students who need additional assistance in these classrooms, including: providing one-on-one guidance to an English-Language learner. Familiar with Wilson's Foundations and Illustrative Math

Alyson's School of Dance / Dance Teacher

SEPTEMBER 2015 - PRESENT, COLCHESTER, CT

Responsibilities Include: Teaching new and young students the fundamentals of dance and beginner skills; creating a performance piece age and skill level appropriate while continuing to challenge the athletes; prepare athletes to perform for an audience including aiding in helping their routine and building confidence; communicate effectively with parents; assists with the business's public communication on social media platforms

J. Crew Factory / Assistant Manager, Sales Associate

FEBRUARY 2020 - PRESENT, WESTBROOK, CT

Responsibilities Include: Teaching and providing guidance to new associates; provide updated trainings to existing associates including the role out of new technology; communicated daily, weekly, and monthly goals and helped associates perform their best to reach these company goals; working quickly and efficiently to keep store up-to-date and organized within standards; helped create and/or maintain goal and data tracking, including: charts and monthly visual bulletin boards

Ashlynn Morgan Miles

36 Charles St, Jewett City
Griswold, CT 06351
860-710-0182
23ash4m@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE

Strawberry Park, Preston, CT - Recreation Staff

May 2021 - July 2021 (Summer Job)

- Worked with people of all ages and demographics
- Organized and supervised activities for kids
- Learned how to follow a schedule and work with others
- Worked outside in different weather conditions
- Problem solved with coworkers
- Working with large crowds
- Multitasking

Castle Church, Norwich Ct - Volunteer

March 2017 - February 2020

- Responsible for setting up
- Kept kids quiet while another person taught lessons/activities
- Sanitizing and Cleaning

Wicked Tulips, Preston Ct - Floating Staff

April-May 2022 (Tulip Season)

- Cash Register and Apple Pay
- Scanned tickets
- Cleaned up Fields/Removed dead tulips
- Loaded compost
- One on one customer service
- Working with crowds

EDUCATION

Griswold High School, 273 Slater Ave, Jewett City, CT 06351

Sept 2019- Graduation date June 2023

GPA 4.0,

High Honors and Advanced Placement Classes

UConn Dual Enrollment English at Griswold High School 2021-2022

CT State Three Rivers Campus, 547 New London Turnpike, Norwich, CT 06360

August 2023- Expected Graduation December 2024

Early Childhood Education

Credits 33

Griswold Public Schools Online Application

Farnsworth, Mark - AppNo: 10444

Date Submitted: 11/15/2023

Personal Data

Name: Mr Mark Farnsworth
(Title) (First) (Middle Initial) (Last)
Other name(s) under which transcripts, certificates, and former applications may be listed:
Other: Mark Farnsworth
(Title) (First) (Middle Initial) (Last)
Email Address: ctcoach78@gmail.com

Postal Address

Permanent Address	Present Address
Number & Street: 123 KRUG RD	Number & Street:
Apt. Number:	Apt. Number:
City: PRESTON	City:
State/Province: CT	State/Province:
Zip/Postal Code: 06365	Zip/Postal Code:
Country: United States of America	Country:
Daytime Phone: (860) 5015179	Phone Number:
Home/Cell Phone: (860) 5015179	

Employment Desired

Open Vacancy Desired:	Date Last Submitted	Experience in Similar Positions
JobID: 848 Substitute Positions: Substitute Teachers at Central Office/District Wide	11/15/2023	30 years

Position Desired:	Experience in Similar Positions
Coaches 1. Basketball	years
Substitute Positions 1. Substitute Teacher	-

Experience

Please list ALL relevant work experience beginning with the most recent.

Current or Most Recent Position		Employer Contact Information			
Town of Ledyard Bd of Ed Teacher		4 Blonders Blvd. Ledyard, CT 06339 8605369477			
Date From - Date To:	07/2007 - 06/2023	Full or Part Time:	Full		
Reason for Leaving:	Retirement				

Griswold Public Schools Online Application

Farnsworth, Mark - AppNo: 10444

Date Submitted: 11/15/2023

Experience Continued

Previous Position Held		Employer Contact Information			
LEARN Assistant Director		44 Hatchetts Hill Rd Old Lyme, CT 06371 8604644800			
Date From - Date To:	09/2005 - 07/2007	Full or Part Time:	Full		
Reason for Leaving:	New Position				

Previous Position Held		Employer Contact Information			
Town of Groton Bd of Ed Teacher		1300 Flanders Rd Groton, CT 06340 8605722100			
Date From - Date To:	09/2001 - 09/2005	Full or Part Time:	Full		
Reason for Leaving:	New Position				

Student Teaching

Student Teaching/Internship

School District	NFA
Location	Norwich
School Phone #	8608872505
School Year	1992
Date Completed (mm/yyyy)	5/1992
Length of Experience	8 weeks
Grade Level(s)/Subject Area(s) Taught	High School PE
Name and Phone of Cooperating Teacher or Field Supervisor	Sarah Jane Shearer
Name and Phone of Add'l Cooperating Teacher or Field Supervisor	
Name and Phone of University Supervisor	
Academic Grade Received	A

Additional Student Teaching/Internship

School District	
Location	
School Phone #	
School Year	
Date Completed (mm/yyyy)	
Length of Experience	
Grade Level(s)/Subject Area(s) Taught	
Name and Phone of Cooperating Teacher or Field Supervisor	
Name and Phone of Add'l Cooperating Teacher or Field Supervisor	
Name and Phone of University Supervisor	
Academic Grade Received	

Griswold Public Schools Online Application

Farnsworth, Mark - AppNo: 10444

Date Submitted: 11/15/2023

Education

Please tell us about your educational background beginning with the most recent.

High School Attended: Fitch Senior High
Graduation Status: H.S. Diploma

Colleges, Universities and Technical Schools Attended:

Name and location	Dates Attended: From - To	Major area of study and number of semester hours	Minor area of study and number of semester hours	Degree	Date Conferred or Expected
CT - Central Connecticut State University	07/1987 05/1992	Education Hrs:	Physical Education Hrs:		

Overall GPA	Undergraduate /4	Graduate /4
Major GPA	/4	/4
Highest Degree Attained MA/MS/etc.	Number of graduate hours beyond your highest degree:	Grad Program Of Study

List honors, awards or distinctions you have earned:

Certification

Do you hold or anticipate a Connecticut certificate?

Certificate is held

Type	Expiration Date	Status
Teaching Endorsements (Professional Educator Certificate/044 Physical Education, PK - 12)	08/2032	Current

Please list any other endorsements and/or verifications documented on your Certificate(s):

Highly Qualified Teacher

* Have you previously obtained Highly Qualified status from a school district?
If Yes, what type of school district considered you Highly Qualified?

Yes
K-12

No information entered on Highly Qualified Teacher Subject(s)/Method(s).

Griswold Public Schools Online Application

Tedeschi, Nathan - AppNo: 4543

Date Submitted: 11/15/2023

Personal Data

Name: Nathan T Tedeschi
(First) (Middle Initial) (Last)

Other name(s) under which transcripts, certificates, and former applications may be listed:

Other:
(First) (Middle Initial) (Last)

Email Address: natetedeschi@gmail.com

Postal Address

Permanent Address

Number & Street: 32 Chestnut Hill Road
Apt. Number:
City: Griswold
State/Province: CT
Zip/Postal Code: 06351
Country: United States of America
Daytime Phone: (860) 861-5224
Home/Cell Phone: (860) 376-9235

Present Address

Number & Street: 32 Chestnut Hill Road
Apt. Number:
City: Griswold
State/Province: CT
Zip/Postal Code: 06351
Country: United States of America
Phone Number: (860) 376-9235

Employment Desired

Position Desired:

	Experience in Similar Positions
Coaches 1. Basketball	2 years
Substitute Positions 1. Substitute Paraeducator	-

Experience

Please list ALL relevant work experience beginning with the most recent.

Current or Most Recent Position		Employer Contact Information			
Plainfield Public Schools Physical Education Teacher		75 Canterbury Road Plainfield, CT 06374 860-564-6437			
Date From - Date To:	08/2023 - 11/2023	Full or Part Time:	Full		
Reason for Leaving:					

Education

Please tell us about your educational background beginning with the most recent.

Griswold Public Schools Online Application

Tedeschi, Nathan - AppNo: 4543

Date Submitted: 11/15/2023

High School Attended: Griswold High School
Graduation Status: H.S. Diploma

Colleges, Universities and Technical Schools Attended:

Name and location	Dates Attended: From - To	Major area of study and number of semester hours	Minor area of study and number of semester hours	Degree	Date Conferred or Expected
CT - Eastern Connecticut State University	08/2017 01/2018	Hrs:	Hrs:		01/9999

	Undergraduate	Graduate
Overall GPA	3.2/4	/4
Major GPA	3.2/4	/4
Highest Degree Attained	Number of graduate hours beyond your highest degree:	Grad Program Of Study
None		

List honors, awards or distinctions you have earned:

Certification

Do you hold or anticipate a Connecticut certificate?


Certificate is held

Type	Expiration Date	Status
Teaching Endorsements (Initial Educator Certificate/043 Health, PK - 12, /044 Physical Education, PK - 12)	07/31/2025	Current

Please list any other endorsements and/or verifications documented on your Certificate(s):

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES:

Regular Meeting, December 7th, 2023

PROJECT/AREA	UPDATE
<p data-bbox="130 326 758 363">READING WAIVER & NEXT STEPS</p> 	<p data-bbox="993 326 1976 415">Our curriculum fully meets standards in the following areas: phonics and phonemic awareness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1041 423 2007 1276">● The GPS ELA curriculum was lauded for providing:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1136 472 1997 561">○ Frequent opportunities for students to practice or gain skills<li data-bbox="1136 570 1934 699">○ Allow for high-quality, daily differentiation of foundational skills so that all students achieve mastery of foundational skills<li data-bbox="1136 708 1934 797">○ Provide for structured discussions that address grade level speaking and listening standards<li data-bbox="1136 805 1997 894">○ Include a wide range of authentic writing and explicit instruction in writing skills and strategies<li data-bbox="1136 902 2007 1040">○ Provide for varied means of accessing content and demonstrating learning to meet the diverse needs of all students working above or below grade level<li data-bbox="1136 1049 1955 1187">○ Represent various cultures and perspectives, promote cultural affirmation, and value diverse identities, backgrounds, and perspectives<li data-bbox="1136 1195 1976 1276">○ Include explicit alignment to state standards and grade level expectations<li data-bbox="1041 1284 2007 1520">● The state recommended we supplement with additional programs by 2025. We are exploring resources and planning a follow-up conversation with representatives from the state Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success to discuss next steps.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEES



Here are the updates from the following committees:

- Teaching, Learning & Innovation Committee (Glenn LaBossiere)
 - The committee met recently to plan and/or work on the following on-going projects:
 - The new evaluation plan for educators
 - CSDE pd provided on the science of reading.
 - Science curriculum
- Ensuring Equity Committee (Chris Champlin)
 - The committee met recently to plan and/or work on the following on-going projects
 - Mental Health Awareness Day in May
 - Reviewed DEI holidays and celebrations
 - Identified opportunities to help those in need for the holidays
 - Reflective conversations on related DEI topics
- District Safety, Healthy & Wellness Committee (Jeff Parkinson)
 - Reviewed new bullying legislation--administrators received training in this legislation
 - Discussed partnership with UCFS
 - Discussed “risk management” topics with insurance representative--mostly related to alternative school

SEARCH AND SELECTION PROCESS FOR NEW DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY

- 12/5--Call for applications
- 12/18--Full Committee Interview



DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY

- 12/21--Interviews with the Board of Education (tentative)
- Start date--TBD in January