

# Pony Express

G.D. Jones Elementary School

[gdjones.wausauschools.org](http://gdjones.wausauschools.org)

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**Respect - Work - Belong**

September 24, 2021

Access our school calendar  
online [HERE](#)

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

SEPTEMBER 29—PICTURE DAY!  
SEPTEMBER 30—LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE (4H)  
OCTOBER 27—HALF DAY, DISMISSAL 11:30AM  
OCTOBER 28—NO CLASSES  
OCTOBER 29—NO CLASSES

- Drop Off: Students can be dropped off beginning at 8:15am
- Be on time! Classes begin at 8:35am. If you know your student is going to be tardy or absent, please contact the front office no later than 9am at 715 261-0950. Voicemail messages can be left 24/7
- **IMPORTANT**—we are required to submit the number of lunches to Nutrition Services by 9am. If your child comes in later than that, and we have not been notified, your child will likely have to take the sandwich alternative selection for lunch.



## E-Flyers

Remember to check out E-Flyers for the latest non-profit community and school-sponsored events. You can access E-Flyers [here](#)

Picture Day for G.D. Jones Elementary School is scheduled for: **Wednesday, September 29, 2021**. If you wish to pre-order, click this link: <https://inter-state.com/>

Picture Day Order Code is **60417XF**.

The Wausau School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes").

# INTRODUCING

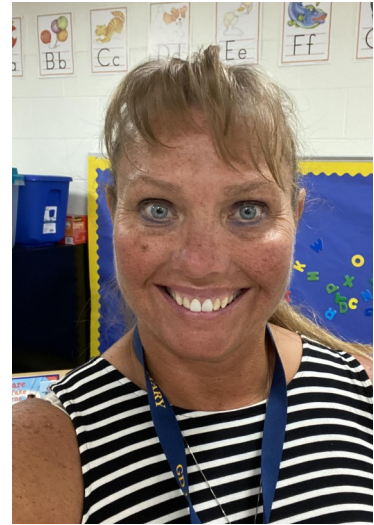
Please welcome the newest additions to our GD Jones family:

Jennifer Boho:

I grew up in the Wausau area. I was a 4k teacher for the last 3 years at a D.C Everest outreach site. I enjoy spending time with my husband and our 2 cats. We are huge sports fans and love cheering on our favorite football and basketball teams! I'm so excited to be a part of GD Jones and getting to know all the staff and students!



My name is Pam Warren and I am the Full time Float Substitute At GD Jones for this year. I've been substitute teaching for 8 years and am working on finishing my elementary education degree as a second career. I have been a Certified Athletic Trainer since 1992, taking care of the injuries of high school and college athletes. In my spare time I enjoy watching my son's sporting events.



Hi, I'm Taylor Harty and I am so excited to be joining G. D. Jones! I have spent the last four years working as a library aide in a high school while working on my masters degree. I am so happy to be able to have a library of my own and to help expand young minds! In my free time I enjoy reading, doing puzzles, and traveling!



Hi! Ms. Matsche here. I am excited to be a 5th grade teacher at G.D. Jones and am thrilled to be back in Wausau. Growing up here, this community has always held a special place in my heart. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire and taught my first four years in the Antigo school district. My personal passions include spending time with family and friends, running, hiking or walking, playing volleyball, going to coffee shops and spending time with my kitties Mochi and Noodle. I also enjoy traveling and trying new things. Thank you for welcoming me into this community and I look forward to working with staff, students and family members.



My name is Hannah Rasmussen and I am the Bridge Room Coordinator. Before coming to Jones, I was a Special Education Paraprofessional as well as a Youth Behavior Specialist. I am passionate about helping children through their mental and emotional health struggles as well as helping them find and build lifelong self care and self regulation skills. I am SO excited for this opportunity and for this school year!





# Meet some NEW faces!



**Megan Fox:**  
I recently moved to Wausau from Stevens Point with my husband and our dog, Rosie! I love hiking, boating, playing volleyball, & crafting in my spare time. I previously taught 1st and 2nd grade & am now teaching 2nd grade at GD Jones. I am proud to be working in the Wausau School District!



**Angela Lenslink—Music Teacher:** I love to travel and I've been to 5 of our 7 continents. My favorite travel experience was petting elephants in Africa. My next big trip will be to Israel when my daughter graduates from Medical School. I have 2 AMAZING children. My son, Caleb is 21. He serves in the US Army National Guard and works as a mechanic at Kraft. He also attends school at NTC. My daughter, Allison is 26. She currently is attending Medical School in Israel. 2 years ago I visited her in Washington D.C. (where she was living at the time) and we went to see "Hamilton". I am absolutely enjoying teaching at GD Jones - students, staff and parents are rockstars!



Hi there, my name is Miss Hack. I love having the chance to make a difference with my students each and every day. I hope to instill the mindset to strive for progress, not perfection.



Hello! My name is Brianna Salzman. I taught Kindergarten here at GD Jones last year and this is my first year teaching 3rd grade! I am excited to be here and to learn alongside my students! It is my hope to help my learners believe they are capable of learning and that they are loved.



**Heather Althoff**  
I was born and raised in Wausau. I have been in the Wausau School District for 10 years. I enjoy working in the district that I have grown up in during my school years. I have a 4 year old daughter and a 9 year old chocolate lab.





Jennifer Stout:

I recently moved back to Wisconsin after living in California for the past eighteen years. I am not sure how I will survive my "first" winter back! I am loving my new position in first grade, as well as coaching high school volleyball. I am hoping a basketball coaching position will open up soon, as I've coached boys basketball for the last eighteen years, and I miss it! I have two amazing boys (22 and 23 years old) that also live in Wausau. It's great to be back home with my family and friends :)

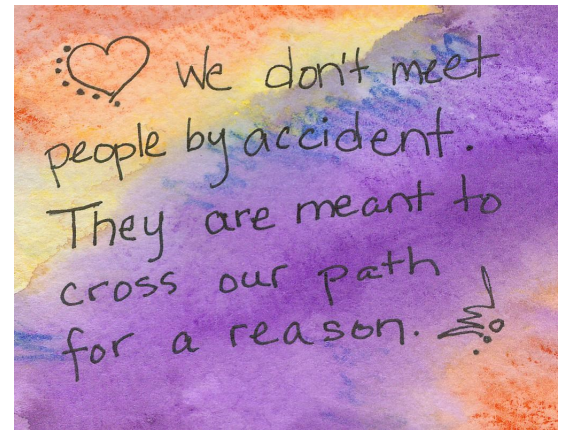


Hi everyone. My name is Kristin Ruleau and I am so excited to be a part of the GD Jones Team this year. I am a graduate of Upper Iowa University class of 2017. This is my 5th year teaching special education and I love it. I spent my first 4 years teaching at Birnamwood Elementary and learned so much. In my free time I enjoy reading and going camping with my family. As a former GD Jones parent I couldn't pass up the chance to join the school staff. I hope we have an amazing year together.



Hi! My name is Ms. Streveler. I am teaching Special education and it is my first year here at GD Jones. I am so excited to be here and so excited to meet all the children and parents. I have been teaching for over 12 years and have taught English learners on three different continents. I love being home with family and having the opportunity to teach in the area where I grew up.

I love to kayak, bike and spend time with family and friends playing cards or having game night. My talents are cooking, and painting. Most of all I love teaching and learning so much from the experiences I have from my students. They are what makes me smile every day!



I have always loved art! My specialty is photography - I love taking family and senior photos. I am new to teaching at the elementary level and previously taught middle and high school science. I have that rare science and art brain. When I'm not teaching, I enjoy spending time with my husband, four kids, and three dogs (it's kind of a zoo). I love snowboarding, wake boarding, relaxing at the lake, and camping. I have loved getting to know your children over the past few weeks. It has been so fun to see their creative mind work to make their masterpieces each week.



## **2021-2022 School Year Updates**

Updated 8/12/2021

**This letter is designed to inform you of the Wausau School District's COVID-19 protocols as we begin the 2021-22 school year. Please know that guidelines and protocols can change at any time and without notice. If that happens, we will be sure to notify you as soon as possible.**

### **Masks and Face Coverings**

- As of June 8, 2021, the policy in the Wausau School District states that masks and face coverings are optional in all district buildings.

### **Social Distancing**

- All students will be offered an in-person spot at their home school. Social distancing will not be followed in most situations.

### **Cohorting**

- Students will **not** be cohorted during the 2021-2022 school year.

### **Sick Students, Staff, and Visitors**

- Students, staff, and visitors who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza or COVID-19, should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.

### **Attendance**

- All students will attend their home school in-person. Those students who wish to remain virtual will need to enroll at WAVE.
- When quarantined, students are expected to continue learning by completing lessons and classroom work. Teachers will continue to make daily lessons and classroom work available through Itslearning or Seesaw and will be available for support.

### **Quarantining**

- Those who test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate. Marathon County Health Department will contact all positive cases.
- Marathon County Health Department will also implement all quarantines.

### **Contact Tracing**

- Marathon County Health Department will conduct all contact tracing.
- School nurses will make the Marathon County Health Department aware if they are notified of a positive COVID-19 case.

### **Cleaning and Disinfecting**

Per CDC guidelines, cleaning once a day is sufficient to remove potential viruses that may be on surfaces. Disinfecting kills any remaining germs on surfaces.

- Cleaning will be completed once a day by custodial staff.
- If there's a positive case of COVID, and the case is known within 24 hours, the space will be cleaned AND disinfected by custodial staff.

### **Filtration**

- MERV-13 filtration will be used throughout the district to balance energy use and air quality.

### **Hand Washing and Hand Sanitizer**

- Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom and at the main entrance of each building.
- Hand washing with soap and water for 20 seconds will be encouraged at all levels. Elementary students will have a hand washing schedule.

### **Classroom Materials**

- Classroom materials can be shared. Students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer after using shared materials.

## WSD COVID GUIDELINES 21-22

**Students must stay home from school if they have the following symptoms.**

<b>One</b> of these symptoms: <input type="checkbox"/> New or worsening cough <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing <input type="checkbox"/> New loss of smell or taste	<b>Two</b> or more of these symptoms: <input type="checkbox"/> Fever over 100.4/Chills <input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat <input type="checkbox"/> Headache <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea/vomiting <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea <input type="checkbox"/> Runny nose/congestion <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue <input type="checkbox"/> Muscle/body aches
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- If a student has symptoms, it is recommended that they immediately be tested for COVID, regardless of vaccine status.
- The student may return to school with proof of a negative **PCR** COVID test or an alternate diagnosis from a medical practitioner.
- If parents choose not to have their child tested, the student is presumed positive and must stay home for 10 days, be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, and have improvement of symptoms before returning to school.
- If a student or anyone else living in the home tests positive, all students in the home (unless vaccinated and not showing symptoms) must quarantine for the 10 days of the positive person's isolation PLUS an additional 10 days quarantine, a total of 20 days. If the positive person can isolate away from the students, the other students in the home must quarantine for 10 days from the last contact with the positive person.
- Parents are asked to notify the school if a student later develops symptoms or tests positive for COVID.
- If your child is identified as a close contact to someone outside the home, follow the directions from the health department.

Contact the [Marathon County Health Department](#) with questions. **715-261-1900**

# 2021-2022 Wausau School District Calendar

Board approved: 2-22-2021

July 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	
	5	6	7	8	9	
	12	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	30	

August 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	
	9	10	11	12	13	
	16	17	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	
	30	31				

September 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30		

Aug 26, 30-31: Professional Learning  
 Aug 27: No Classes - Non-Contract Days

Sept 1: First Day of School  
 Sept 6: No Classes - Labor Day

October 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
	4	5	6	7	8	
	11	12	13	14	15	
	18	19	20	21	22	
	25	26	27	28	29	

November 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	
	8	9	10	11	12	
	15	16	17	18	19	
	22	23	24	25	26	
	29	30				

December 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30	31	

Oct 27: No Elementary Classes  
 No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
 No PM Secondary Classes  
 Oct 27: 1st Quarter Ends (40)  
 Oct 28-29: No Classes - PL

Nov 24: No Classes - Non-Contract Day  
 Nov 25-26: No Classes-Thanksgiving Break

Dec 23-31: No Classes - Winter Break

January 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	3	4	5	6	7	
	10	11	12	13	14	
	17	18	19	20	21	
	24	25	26	27	28	
	31					

February 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
	7	8	9	10	11	
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25	
	28					

March 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
	7	8	9	10	11	
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25	
	28	29	30	31		

Jan 14: No PM Elementary Classes - Recordkeeping  
 No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
 Jan 14: 2nd Quarter Ends (46)  
 Jan 17: No Classes - PL

Feb 18: No Classes - PL

March 18: No PM Elementary Classes - Recordkeeping  
 No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
 March 18: 3rd Quarter Ends (43)  
 March 21- 25: No Classes - Spring Break

April 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
	4	5	6	7	8	
	11	12	13	14	15	
	18	19	20	21	22	
	25	26	27	28	29	

May 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	
	9	10	11	12	13	
	16	17	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	
	30	31				

June 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30		

April 15: No Classes

May 27: No Classes - PL  
 May 30: No Classes - Memorial Day

June 3: No PM Classes - All Elementary Recordkeeping  
 No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
 June 3: Students' Last Day  
 June 3: 4th Quarter Ends (46)  
 June 6: Teachers' Last Day

- No Classes
- Students' first and last days of school
- No Classes - Professional Learning (PL)
- No Pre-K or Elementary Classes / No PM Secondary Classes / Recordkeeping AM (Elem) and Parent/Teacher Conferences PM
- 2022 High School Graduation: May 23 - West; May 24 - WAVE; May 25 - East; May 26 - EEA
- Quarter Ends (1st - 40) (2nd - 46) (3rd - 43) (4th - 46) = 175
- Teachers' last day of school
- No PM Elem Classes-Recordkeeping. No AM/PM Pre-K Classes





# BIRTHDAYS!



## Birthday Celebrations At GD Jones:

We work hard to ensure that students' minds and bodies are ready for learning each day. In addition to the hard work our teachers and staff do every day to prepare students for success in the classroom, we can also work to encourage healthy eating and physical activity, leading them to lifelong success. By helping them start healthy habits early in life, we can help reduce our children's health risks and increase their chances for longer, more productive lives. Parents/guardians may honor their child's birthday by sending non-food treats such as stickers or pencils.

If you choose to send a food item to school for birthday celebrations, please ensure that it promotes healthy food choices (see the list of healthy snack ideas below). Birthday and special occasion treats must be brought to the front office, be store bought, individually wrapped, with an intact ingredient label. All snacks sent to school to be eaten in the classroom should be peanut and tree nut free. These items are consistent with the intent of the district's Local School Wellness Policy and will promote healthful eating among our students. Also note that students are asked to not bring in junk food items such as chips, candy, drinks, etc. to school. As educators, caregivers and loved ones we all want the best for our students. Thank you for joining us in giving students healthy opportunities to celebrate important events and achievements. If you have any questions, please contact the school. We are looking forward to making our school the healthiest it can be so our students can do their best work. Have a healthy day!

### Healthier Options:

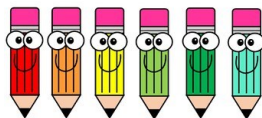
- Dried fruits
- Low-fat yogurt products
- Fruit leather
- String cheese
- Pretzel products
- Individually packaged veggies



We encourage parents to use the list above as a guide in providing healthy snacks. You may also choose to bring in non-food items to give to each child on your child's birthday. Here is a list of nonfood items:

### Glow-in-the-dark items

- Chalk
- Stickers
- Stamps
- Erasers
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Pens



# Supporting *Leader in Me* at Home

We are often asked how parents can support our school's leadership initiative. Each time we are asked we give the same answer: "Use the 7 Habits language at home."

As the school year unfolds, the students are learning the language and meaning of the 7 Habits. By hearing the same language at home and at school, you send your child a message of what is important and that we are all on the same team—the team that wants to help your student succeed. When parents and schools support one another, the sky is the limit!

**Below is a summary of each of the habits:**

- Habit 1: Be Proactive (I'm Responsible for Me)
- Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind (Have a Plan)
- Habit 3: Put First Things First (Work First, Then Play)
- Habit 4: Think Win-Win (Everyone Can Win)
- Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood (Listen Before You Talk)
- Habit 6: Synergize (Together Is Better)
- Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw (Balance Feels Best)

**In order to encourage the 7 Habits language at home, here are some questions you can ask your child:**

- How were you proactive today?
- What is your end in mind with this project/work/task?
- How do you plan to put first things first in this situation?
- What would be a win-win for us?
- I want to hear what you think first and then I will share. How do you know when you are being listened to?
- How can we work together on this?
- How would you like to sharpen your saw today?

### Monday

### Tuesday

### Wednesday

### Thursday

### Friday

Hot Dog on a Bun **4**  
French Fries  
Vegetable Juice  
Sliced Pears  
Milk

Macho Nacho **5**  
Beef Taco Filling  
Tortilla Chips  
Shredded Lettuce/Cheddar  
Salsa  
Refried Beans  
Corn  
Applesauce

Mini Corn Dogs **6**  
Mac & Cheese  
Cooked Broccoli  
Baby Carrots  
Strawberry Cup  
Milk

Popcorn Chicken **7**  
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy  
Cucumber Slices  
Apple Slices  
Blueberry Lemon Bite Cookie  
Milk

Pizza **1**  
Shredded Romaine  
Cooked Carrots  
Peaches  
Milk

Cheesy Max Sticks **8**  
Marinara Sauce  
Fresh Cauliflower  
Peas  
Peaches  
Milk

Cheeseburger **11**  
French Fry  
Baked Beans  
Applesauce  
Milk

French Toast **12**  
Sausage Links  
Vegetable Juice  
Cauliflower Florets  
Orange Slices  
Milk

Meatballs **13**  
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy  
Corn  
Grapes  
Roll  
Milk

Apple Crunch Day **14**  
Chicken Nuggets  
Emoji Potatoes  
Cherry Tomatoes  
Apple Slices  
Animal Cookie  
Milk

Wild Mikes Cheesy Bites **15**  
Marinara Sauce  
Cooked Broccoli  
Baby Carrots  
Strawberry Cup  
Milk

Cheese Omelet **18**  
Waffles  
Vegetable Juice  
Tater Tots  
Peaches  
Milk

Orange Chicken **19**  
Brown Rice  
Stir Fry Vegetables  
Celery Sticks  
Strawberry Cup  
D & J Cookie  
Milk

Chicken Patty on a Bun **20**  
Baked Beans  
Potato Smiles  
Banana  
Milk

Turkey & Gravy **21**  
Mashed Potatoes  
Cooked Broccoli  
Apple Slices  
Roll  
Milk

Pizza **22**  
Corn  
Baby Carrots  
Pears  
Milk

Hot Dog on a Bun **25**  
French Fries  
Vegetable Juice  
Applesauce  
Milk

Macho Nacho **26**  
Beef Taco Filling  
Tortilla Chips  
Shredded Lettuce/Cheddar  
Salsa  
Refried Beans  
Corn  
EEK Sidekick

**27**  
NO LUNCH TODAY

**28**  
NO SCHOOL

**29**  
NO SCHOOL

