



Timothy J. Seeley  
Head of School

## George Stevens Academy March 2022 Report

### Covid19 Update

Like everyone we are awaiting the latest guidance from the MDOE, which I expect will come out on Friday.

### Independent Study and Internship Program (ISIP)

During this week and next we run one of GSA's signature programs, the ISIP program. Every single junior and senior do an independent project of their own choosing. They begin planning in the fall, and, with the help of a faculty coach, figure out a workable project that interest them, and secure a mentor in the field to work with. The projects cover an incredibly wide range of things, and many GSA grads found their life's work through this program. Here is a sampling of this year's:

- Designing and Building a Vacuum Tube Amplifier
- Photography in Costa Rica
- The Road of Evolution: A Study of Animal Life on Earth
- Microplastic in Maine Waters
- A day in the life of a Registered Nurse
- Interning at a Victims' Rights Law Firm
- Creating a Children's Book
- Arboriculture in Maine
- 207 TRAINING: Inspiring Youth Through Basketball
- Refurbishing a Harley Sportster
- Designing a Drama Stage for GSA
- Consensus App: Building Consensus and Incentivizing Collective Action
- European Influence on Maine's History
- Learning how to maple sugar
- Electronic music production and recording

Since during these two weeks we only have 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders on campus, we are able to do some special programming for them. Because of all the impacts of Covid the last two years, these students have yet to have a "normal" high school experience, or to really have a chance to bond with their peers and learn what it means to be a GSA community member. On Friday, March 4,

we will take the day to do group and community building activities, with a good measure of fun thrown in.

### **Welding Program**

There has been a great deal of interest in the expanded welding program we are offering next year, run by GSA alumnus Corey Esposito of Surry. We have offered welding for a long time, but now students will be able to take enough courses to qualify for their certificate, removing the need to travel to Bucksport to do so. They will do all the required coursework at GSA under the auspices of Miller Welding, which can certify they have completed it successfully. We will have on campus the equipment needed for them to take and pass the required hands on work to demonstrate they can do the welds. There has been a great deal of interest in this program, so many more students will go through it than ever did when it required going to Bucksport for their program.

This not only enables them to be prepared professionally, it makes for an overall better school experience for these students, by removing the need to travel to and from Bucksport each day, and missing out on things here on campus.

The funding for the added equipment we needed to be able to expand the program came through generous donations.

Thank you for all you do for the children of your town.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Seeley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'T'.

Timothy J. Seeley  
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