



NEWSLETTER OF GLENCOE-SILVER LAKE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #2859

# Panther News

February 2017

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF BISCAY, BROWNTON, GLENCOE, NEW AUBURN, PLATO, AND SILVER LAKE

Volume 21, No. 3

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**5** Technology Director Jeff Jensen talks about the critical 21st century skills that every student needs and why they need to have them.

**15** Kindergarten Round-up will be held on Thursday, March 16th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Helen Baker Elementary School in Glencoe. School Readiness Preschool will also be holding an open house and registration on March 16th, and the time will be from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Early Childhood Learning Center in Glencoe.

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**PANTHER NEWS**  
Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools  
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**GLENCOE-SILVER LAKE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT PATRON**



## Graduation is the pinnacle of 13 years of hard work and dedication to the learning process

**W**E ARE MOVING ALONG IN OUR SCHOOL year and, once again, our school year is going great. What an exciting time for GSL. As the year continues, it is important to reflect and remind our students (especially seniors) of the ultimate day – graduation, – which is coming in a few short months.



CHRIS SONJU

Graduation is the pinnacle of our 13 years of hard work and dedication to the learning process. We work hard and have perseverance because of these moments. When students walk across that stage for one last time in high school, it is at that moment where all the hard work, dedication, and extra effort pays off. It is at that moment when a new chapter begins. This moment will be short lived because we are usually off to our next task, goal, or commitment. However, being able to stop, reflect, and live in the moment makes things well worth it.

Graduation ceremonies will be held for the Class of 2017 on Friday, May 19th at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Speaking of moments, I cannot wait for the day our students walk into our new addition at GSL. Construction is moving along and things should be ready to go by the start of the 2017-2018 school year. Overall, the construction process has been a positive one. Our students and staff have done a great job of working with our construction crew in terms of schedules, planning certain events, or even working through power outages.

The world of construction is quite a process and one that is very complex. It has been a great learning process, yet one where I will be excited when it is completed.

If you are interested in seeing a little bit behind the scenes, go to our district's web page at [www.gsl.k12.mn.us](http://www.gsl.k12.mn.us) and click on the links on the right-hand side. Here you will be able to see a little of what is happening as our construction continues.

I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying winter, and in a



**CLASS  
OF  
2017**

*“When students walk across that stage for one last time in high school, it is at that moment where all the hard work, dedication, and extra effort pays off. It is at that moment when a new chapter begins.”*

few short weeks, spring will here. The school year is once again flying by and all of us at GSL are enjoying the learning process that happens each day. Thank you all for being a part of GSL. We appreciate your support!



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### GSL MISSION STATEMENT:

“Creating a culture where education is valued, excellence is expected, and lifelong learning thrives”



### GSL VISION STATEMENT:

“To Connect To Lead To Inspire”





# Veterans Day is observed throughout the school district on November 11th



Kindergarten students from Emily Foss' class recited the Pledge of Allegiance for Virginia Adams from the Glencoe VFW Ladies Auxiliary. Kindergarteners learned the Pledge of Allegiance this fall. Ms. Adams and Jean Schmidt from the Glencoe VFW Ladies Auxiliary, and Ron Knop and Jerry Scharpe from the Glencoe VFW, visited kindergarten classrooms at Helen Baker Elementary on Veterans Day to present American flags and certificates.



Students from Anne Uselman's kindergarten classroom posed with their flags and certificates after reciting the Pledge of Allegiance on Veterans Day. In the back row, left to right, are Jean Schmidt and Virginia Adams from the Glencoe VFW Ladies Auxiliary, and Jerry Scharpe and Ron Knop from the Glencoe VFW.



Members of the Silver Lake American Legion wait for the start of the Lakeside Elementary Veterans Day program outside of the gym. They presented colors at the program.



Sergeant First Class Cassandra Carrigan was the speaker at Lakeside's Veterans Day program. Members of the Silver Lake American Legion were seated behind Ms. Carrigan, as the 3rd through 6th grade students and staff listened to her speech.



Students from Lincoln Junior High School and Glencoe-Silver Lake High School, attended the Veterans Day program at the High School. Guest speaker was Sergeant Vihin Patel from the Army National Guard (right). Paul Lemke, High School Social Studies teacher (left), organizes the program each year.



At the High School, the Colors were posted by members of the Glencoe VFW Post 5102 and American Legion Post 95 Color Guard. After the Colors were posted, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the National Anthem was played by the High School Band. Principal Paul Sparby made opening remarks and honored guests were introduced. The High School Choir sang and an inspiring video was played. Students in grades 7-12 attended the program, along with members of the community.



# January thaw requires us to monitor and adjust!

**I** HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT our Minnesota weather is very similar to a Minnesota school construction project! Very unpredictable! Rain, wind, sleet, snow, and cold. We somehow learn to deal with it all and monitor and adjust along the way. Same goes for our project, monitor and adjust! It is either too wet, too windy, too cold, too muddy... until you come to a January thaw with no wind. We ran behind schedule during the summer and fall because of too much water; then we got the high winds in December that delayed some of the roof work; and then we get the cold weather that affects the running of the cement trucks. We finally feel like we have caught a little break in the weather and in our construction progress!



MICHELLE SANDER

As I am writing this article, we have 58 construction workers on site. That is a combination of block layers, electricians, roofers, plumbers, concrete workers, and HVAC workers. If you were able to see the inside of the construction site, you would notice that it gets a little crowded with that many workers and equipment. It is exciting to watch changes take place every day. The concrete has been poured in the gym and in the addition to the Lincoln building. Once concrete is poured and you can see the outlines of classrooms, it really starts to give you an idea of the space and how the rooms will look.

We have also started the process of furniture selections for the classrooms. Trying to update as much classroom furniture and technology as we can to give students a wonderful new learning space. There is a line item in the construction project budget that includes about \$315,000.00 that can be used towards equipment. That includes desks, chairs, smartboards, playground equipment and technology. Sounds like a large amount of money, but in reality, \$300k does not go too far.

To summarize, we are still a little behind schedule and still a little over budget. However, we continue

to monitor and adjust as best we can and we will keep moving forward.

In other facets of my job, we are starting the planning for the 2017-2018 school year. Part of that process includes reviewing and revising the current year budget. That includes adjustments for staffing changes and additions that have occurred since the original budget was adopted. Adjustments are also made for unexpected expenses for repairs, curriculum, technology, or transportation. Once we have the revisions made, we have a good base for the development of the budget for 2017-2018. By developing a strong budget, it helps us determine our staffing needs based on enrollment projects. We need to make sure we follow our fund balance policy and maintain fiscal responsibility.

The one budget area that will be a little bit of a challenge will be the operational costs of the new building. We know that we will have huge energy savings in the boiler replacements at Lincoln and at the high school, along with all of the new doors and windows at the high school and at Lakeside. Eliminating Helen Baker and not heating that building next year will be a cost savings. However, adding 90,000 new square feet will bring about some additional operating costs. When reviewing our energy benchmarking, I feel we should come pretty close to the same square footage cost that we have been spending because of the energy savings that we will see. I believe it will take a two- to three-year period to get a good idea of what those costs are going to be. The key here is making sure you are allowing for those “unexpected and unforeseen” costs in your line item budget when are opening a new educational space.

We will also be watching closely as to what changes might come as a result of the Legislative Session. New funding? Tax breaks? New mandates? Time will tell.



Work continues on the interior of the construction project. Walls are being put up in the new elementary area of the building.



Along with the construction project comes the process of picking out furniture for the new space. Ron Schiroy (center) and Brady Flaherty (right) discuss options for cafeteria tables.

The excitement and hard work continues. Feel free to call if you have questions about the project itself or general school finance questions.



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## Phone numbers for Glencoe-Silver Lake School District

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District Office, Lincoln . . . . .320-864-2498  
Business Manager . . . . .Michelle Sander  
District Office, Lincoln . . . . .320-864-2496  
Food Service Accounts . . . . .Becky Dahl  
District Office, Lincoln . . . . .320-864-2494  
ECFE Director . . . . .Alicia Beste  
ECLC, Lincoln . . . . .320-864-2681  
Facilities Manager. . . . .Brady Flaherty  
Custodian Room, Lincoln . . . .320-864-2692  
School Closing Line . . . . .320-864-2499, press 1  
**Bus Garage . . . . .320-864-3032**

Transportation Director . . . . .Terry Becker  
**Field House/Community Ed Office 320-864-2690**  
Field House/Com. Ed Director . . . .Tina Schauer  
Field House . . . . .320-864-2696  
Com Ed. Activities Line . . . . .320-864-2487  
**High School Office . . . . .320-864-2400**  
7-12 Principal . . . . .Paul Sparby  
GSL High School . . . . .320-864-2401  
Technology Director . . . . .Jeff Jenson  
High School . . . . .320-864-2407  
Activities Director . . . . .Dean Schwirtz  
High School . . . . .320-864-2402  
School Nurse . . . . .Beth Jerabek  
High School . . . . .320-864-2446  
High School Activities Line . . . . .320-864-2444

**Lincoln Junior High Office . . . . .320-864-2455**  
Junior High Activities Line . . . .320-864-2555  
Assistant 7-12 Principal . . . . .Dan Svoboda  
Lincoln Junior High School . . .320-864-2456  
**Lakeside Office . . . . .320-864-2500**  
Elementary Asst. Principal . . . . .Joy Freitag  
Lakeside Elementary . . . . .320-864-2500  
**Helen Baker Office . . . . .320-864-2666**  
Elementary Principal/ . . . . .Bill Butler  
Child Study Coordinator . . . . .320-864-2666  
**Health Office Attendance Lines**  
Helen Baker . . . . .320-864-2665  
Lakeside . . . . .320-864-2503  
Lincoln . . . . .320-864-2455  
High School . . . . .320-864-2421

# CIS courses and Articulation Agreements benefit students

**G**REETINGS! I HOPE THIS NEWSLETTER finds everyone doing well! I have shared this information in the past, but with registration for the 2017-2018 school year just around the corner, I wanted to take the time once again to make sure our parents knew about some of the options we have for our students at GSL High School.



PAUL SPARBY

The topic for this edition of the newsletter is CIS courses and Articulation Agreements. CIS stands for "College in Schools."

CIS courses are classes that are offered through a college or university, but are offered on our campus and are taught by our staff. An Articulation Agreement is a course we offer on our campus but is aligned with a technical and vocational school and states that the class is meeting all of the requirements for students to receive credit at certain technical and community colleges.

What are the benefits of taking a CIS course?

- Provides challenging, college-level work and the chance to earn college credit for students on the high school campus.
- Reduces educational costs for parents and saves time and money for students.
- Gives students the opportunity to gain time during college to explore additional subject areas, to participate in internships or to study

abroad.

- Fosters leadership qualities in outstanding students.
- Accelerates learning and rewards achievement.
- Motivates students to improve study habits.
- Indicates to the public that schools value intellectual achievement and academic excellence.
- Increases collaboration between colleges/universities and high schools.
- Improves the curriculum for all students when teachers participate in training and utilize prepared teachers' guides developed by national expertise for each discipline.

These courses are introductory college courses, so they are not easy, but they are not impossibly difficult, either. Compared to regular high school courses, these courses will probably be more demanding – and more rewarding. These courses often require more time and work, but they give you greater opportunity to master a subject and to explore it in greater depth. Meeting the demands of these courses is an investment of effort that will be amply repaid.

Here is a list of CIS courses and Articulation Agreement courses offered by GSL High School:

## GSL College Courses:

- Essentials of Speaking/Listening
- College Calculus
- College Biology
- College Pre-Calculus
- College Physics



- College Drawing
- College Animal Science
- College Intro to Engineer/Design
- College Intro to Auto Tech

## Advanced Placement Program

- AP Government

## GSL Courses with Articulation Agreements:

- Infants, Toddlers, and School Age
- Accounting
- Word Processing/Desktop Publishing
- Business Applications 2
- Business Applications 3
- Small Gas Engines
- Advanced Welding
- Construction Tech
- Wood Tech 1
- Wood Tech II

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# Changes implemented at Lincoln Junior High this fall

**W**INTER SURE HAS COME IN WITH a vengeance this year. After a warmer than usual fall, I don't think any of us were prepared for the extra cold temperatures we are experiencing this year. Along with the changes in weather, I would like to speak about some of the changes we have implemented this year at Lincoln Junior High. Specifically, I would like to explain how our RTI (Response to Intervention)/MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports) have grown and changed over the years here at Lincoln.



DAN SVOBODA

Many years ago Lakeside Elementary and Helen Baker Elementary Schools implemented the RTI program where students were benchmark tested in the areas of English and math. Using this benchmark data, students were identified as having strengths and struggles in

these areas. Classroom teachers would use this data to differentiate their lessons to challenge those students who exceed in math or English as well as intervene with students who struggle. Using the RTI/MTSS model, all students would get differentiated lessons within the classroom, and those students who need specific interventions would get extra help (research-based interventions) in those areas. These students would be monitored more frequently as they received the intervention (progress monitored) to determine the success/failure of the intervention.

All of the data collected would help administrators, teachers, students, and parents make decisions about the students' academic progress. The results of these interventions were seen in the increased MCA (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments) scores for our elementary schools.

A few years back, Lincoln Junior High started its own RTI/MTSS program and modeled it after the success of Lakeside Elementary. Even though the program works a little differently as Lincoln is based on the Junior High/High School day, and Lakeside is on the elementary model, the end result is essentially the same.

All students are baselined in the fall in both English and math and receive differentiated instruction based on the strengths and struggles in these academic areas. Some identified students are receiving research-based interventions and progress monitored to evaluate the level of the interventions success. This is the first year we have been able to intervene with these interventions on a larger scale. We look to evaluate the program's success by looking at the MCA data that the students will take this spring.

It is our hope that by using these research-based interventions students will gain the skills necessary to meet the standards set forth by the State of Minnesota.

Time and data will tell about the RTI/MTSS's success. I do already know that our students and staff who have been a part of implementing this program are excited that we are on this path and continue to work hard to make student success the ultimate goal.

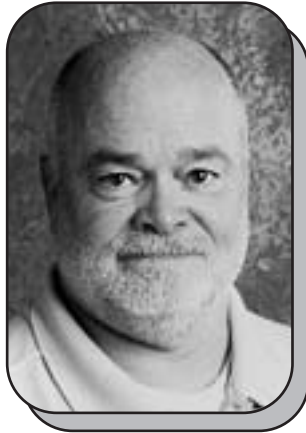
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# The critical 21st century skills every student needs and why

**THEY WANT TO BE CHALLENGED AND** inspired in their learning. They want to collaborate and work with their peers. They want to incorporate the technology they love into their classroom experiences as much as they can. In short, they have just as high a set of expectations of their educators as their educators have of them.



JEFF JENSEN

## ESSENTIAL 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

The consensus is that students need transparency-level skills in these areas:

- Problem solving
- Creativity
- Analytic thinking
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Ethics, action, and accountability

## PROBLEM SOLVING

Students need the ability to solve complex problems in real time.

**Why it's important:** In the future, complex problems that we can't even conceive right now will be everywhere. The more we focus on students' ability to devise effective solutions to real-world problems, the more successful those students will become. It means solving complex problems effectively in real time using unique and carefully designed solutions. In addition to this, problem-solvers can work independently from higher supervision. They are initiative takers and enjoy risk, and they are not afraid to get their hands dirty and make mistakes. They also learn from those mistakes, and habitually debrief their processes to create more efficient and economical solutions.

These are the kinds of people who will be successful in a global marketplace like ours. Such an individual is an asset to any workforce. It is worth mentioning that in the future we are talking about, workers who are unable to think proactively towards solving problems will have a hard time finding employment.

## CREATIVITY

Students need to be able to think and work creatively in both digital and nondigital environments to develop unique and useful solutions.

**Why it's important:** Our digital students are in a constant state of stimulation and neural development with technology use. They are natural producers and consumers of information. Problem solving is a skill that comes naturally to them and this can be advanced profoundly with the proper engagement in their learning. This comes from doing rewarding projects and meaningful tasks that give them challenges to overcome in imaginative ways.

Ask any student about what they like to create and you will get a myriad of different answers. They are constantly searching for ways to express themselves

and their uniqueness. Through social media, they display this creative edge and are given constant and instantaneous feedback from their peers. This same level of creative power is used as they face interesting challenges and figure out how to meet them with ingenuity and vision. Creativity is a vital outlet that inspires students to see who they are and what they can do, and to realize what they can accomplish. It is fundamental that this side of any student is allowed to shine forth in their learning.

## ANALYTIC THINKING

Students need the ability to think analytically, which includes proficiency with comparing, contrasting, evaluating, synthesizing, and applying without instruction or supervision.

**Why it's important:** Analytic thinking means being able to use the higher end of or higher-order thinking skills (HOTS). Tasks that require linear thinking and routine cognitive work are being outsourced more and more. Therefore, it is essential to guide students toward being able to perform analytic thinking. It is crucial to their ability to succeed in life after the classroom. The common piece of feedback that many first-year university students receive on early assignments is that they are "not analytical enough." Analytical thinkers see data and information in many different dimensions, and from multiple angles. They are adept at conceptualization, organization and classification, and knowledge synthesis. These types of skills are invaluable because they allow students to deal practically with problems of a social, mathematical, and scientific nature. It empowers them to make effective and levelheaded decisions in their lives and relationships. It is easy to see why critical and analytical thinking skills are important to success beyond school.

## COLLABORATION

Students must possess the ability to collaborate seamlessly in both physical and virtual spaces, with real and virtual partners globally.

**Why it's important:** Students of the digital age are social by nature. They text, post, update, share, chat, and constantly co-create in technological environments with each other. When they are unable to do this in school, they become disengaged and unattached to their learning. Connection and collaboration with others is essential to not only their learning but also their mental and emotional health. It is a skill that educators must exercise with them regularly.

The workforces of the future (and even our present day) are globalizing due to the Internet. It is now the norm to communicate and market for global demographics instantaneously and effectively. An organization's business partners are now halfway across the world, and yet they meet and work with each other every day. The ability to collaborate and communicate in these situations is essential. Simply put, better collaborators make better students – and better citizens.

## COMMUNICATION

Students must be able to communicate not just with text or speech, but also in multiple multimedia formats. They must be able to communicate visually through video and imagery as effectively as they do with text and speech.



## 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

**Why it's important:** Communication is a broad term that incorporates multi-faceted levels of interaction and sharing information. Students love to communicate using technology. However, it is more than just being able to effectively use digital media. It is about personal interactions as well. We must remind our students that responsible communication practice puts forth their best representation of who they are as individuals in every relationship and alliance they make in their lives. Whether talking face-to-face, blogging, texting, or creating a visual product, their values and beliefs are defined by how well they communicate with others. Encouraging them to develop and hone every aspect of their communication skills will serve them well in both their personal and professional lives.

## ETHICS, ACTION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

This includes adaptability, fiscal responsibility, personal accountability, environmental awareness, empathy, tolerance, and global awareness.

**Why it's important:** These are among the many characteristics of the "global digital citizen." A well-rounded and responsible global digital citizen practices personal, global, and online responsibilities geared towards creating a better world for everyone. This selfless, helpful, and caring individual is respectful of other cultures and belief systems, and diligent about being at their best with interactions of all sorts, both online and offline. Teaching our kids about global awareness and Internet safety have become mainstream practices in education.

## ANOTHER BURNING QUESTION

The 21st-century skills that we have just gone through are considered the essentials for our students' future success. When educators talk about these skills, another question they ask is what do these 21st-century skills look like in the classroom, and how do we measure them?

This is a fair question that every teacher and administrator should be asking.



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# Several GSL students receive awards for their art work

THREE STUDENTS FROM GSL WILL BE recognized for their winning flag designs at the Art Educators of Minnesota Youth Art Month Student Exhibition in March. There will be a closing reception and awards on March 25th at the Hopkins Center for the Arts.

## MIDDLE LEVEL

First place winner was 8th grader Katelyn Lemke. Her Youth Art Month flag design will be made into the postcard invitation that will go out to the participating schools around the state. It will be made into a full size flag and be on display at the upcoming exhibition. She will be invited to share her thoughts about “What Art Means to Me.”

Deja Dahlheimer, 8th grade, was the third place winner. Her flag design will be on display in a frame at the exhibition.



Katelyn Lemke, an 8th grader at Lincoln Junior High School, received first place honors at the Youth Art Month flag competition.



## ELEMENTARY LEVEL

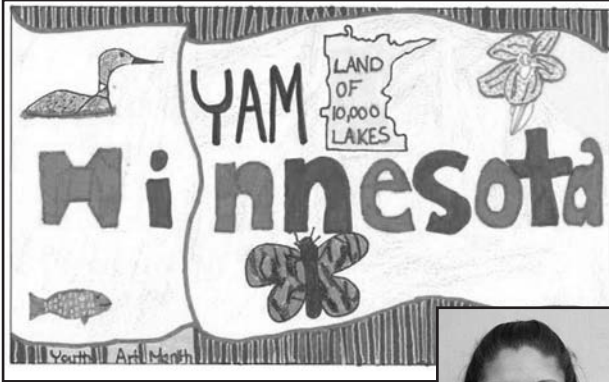
Savannah Bonderman, 4th grade, will have her elementary-level flag entry on display in a frame at the exhibition. Her Art Teacher is Andrea Wigern, Elementary Art Teacher at Lakeside and Helen Baker Elementary Schools.

## HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

MACCRAY students received the honor of the top three places at this level.

Two more students and their art will be selected to be included in the state-wide exhibition. Participating art teachers select two works to represent their schools. These will be announced at a later date.

Students' work was judged at the Minnesota Scholastic Art Awards at the University of Minnesota campus on January 14th. Tatum Engelke entered a



Deja Dalheimer, an 8th grader at Lincoln Junior High School, received third place honors at the Youth Art Month flag competition.



drawing; Marisa Luchsinger entered a mixed media-collage; Brittney Medina entered two photographs. One of Brittney's entries received an honorable mention. There were a total of 933 entries in photography and approximately one-third of them went on to receive recognition.

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Brittney Medina's photograph(right), "Secrets," is a picture of Abril Iracheta and received honorable mention at the Scholastic Art Awards competition.



Savannah Bonderman, a 4th grader at GSL Lakeside Elementary School, received second place honors at the Youth Art Month flag competition.



# National Honor Society has focused on the idea of giving

THE PAST FEW MONTHS HAVE PROVEN TO BE A BUSY TIME for Glencoe-Silver Lake National Honor Society members. There has been a wonderful new addition to the National Honor Society's presidential board. Rachel Reichow was added to the group due to her sense of responsibility and leadership.

During the last several months, NHS members have focused on the ideology of giving. Rachel Reichow developed a committee and organized a drive to collect donations for the Gift of Life Transplant House in Rochester. The drive managed to gather many donations from the community and student body. Cheryl Templin, High School Counselor's Secretary, was able to deliver all items to the Transplant House on one of her visits there. Thank you to all who helped support the Organization that is aiding in Cheryl's recovery.

Jordan Kazmarek organized a committee to work with staff and students from the high school and the junior high to create hundreds of cards that were delivered to the McLeod County Jail and the Glencoe Regional Health Services Long-Term Care facility. Other members took part in ringing bells for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Program.

In the upcoming months, NHS members will be assisting with the Backpack Program through Common Cup, assisting with planning a high school dance, and selling carnations to raise money for our Induction Ceremony which is scheduled for March 25th at 4:45 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Carnations will be sold during lunch periods as well as home basketball games on January 27th and February 3rd for delivery to junior high and high school staff and students on Valentine's Day

you are in need of volunteers for a community cause, please contact our advisor, Carol Silus.

Morgan Mathews  
National Honor Society Member  
NHS Presidential Committee Member  
Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools

Carol Silus, Paraprofessional  
National Honor Society Advisor  
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National Honor Society members are pictured above, left to right, front row: Kenzie Davis, Marisa Luchsinger, Rachel Reichow, and Lexi Hansch. Back row: Aubrey Giesen, Ellie Schmidt, Tarin Michaelis, Paige Litzau, and Hannah Kunkel. The NHS students are holding an autographed "Legally Blonde" poster. People from the public bought raffle tickets for a chance to win the signed poster of the musical's cast. The poster was donated by Creek View Images.



# Glencoe-Silver Lake FFA chapter picks up steam heading into spring!

**A**S USUAL, FFA IS PICKING UP STEAM HEADING into spring! The work that officers and members have put forward to pull off events is certainly commendable! Winter events have included Lock-In, Crops, Small Animals, Winter Officer Retreat, Region V Winter Leadership Conference, Ag Mechanics, Floriculture, Speaking Events, and National FFA Week.

Leadership is a strong component of the winter activities taking place for FFA. Five members (Blake Ortloff, Hattie Schultz, Hayley Bolland, Madi Mathews, and Abby Maunu) attended the Region V Winter Leadership Conference, Leading The Challenge. The officer team had their winter retreat and is hard at work preparing events for the rest of the year and filling out the National Chapter Award application. Additionally, Kirsten Barott will be making a run for Minnesota FFA State Office this spring.



REBEKAH HADDAD

Winter contests include Crops, Farm Bureau Discussion Meet, and Speaking Events. The Crops team placed 5th in the contest and consisted of Adam Thalmann, Blake Ortloff, Josh Kuehn, and Eli Kuehn. Blake Ortloff was a Top 10 Individual. Haley Kirchoff, Abigail Schmieg, Madi Mathews, Abby Maunu, and Morgan Verdeck competed in the Small Animal contest. Abby Maunu was a Top 10 Individual. The Parliamentary Procedure team will compete on February 9th. The team consists of Emily Thalmann, Hattie Dreier-Schultz, Zoe Ruschmeier, Morgan Verdeck, Eli Kuehn, Nathan Werner, and Haley Kirchoff.

FFA week will bring community events such as Ag Olympics and the GAP Ag Career Fair, as well as a trip to the Minnesota State capitol for FFA Day. This year's National FFA Theme is "Transform."

Upcoming contests include Floriculture, Ag Mechanics, and Livestock events in April. FFA Region V Banquet will take place in April, and the GSL FFA Banquet will be on May 30th.

The Glencoe-Silver Lake Ag Program has been undergoing

## Student teacher in agricultural education will intern this spring

**K**ATIE KLAR, A STUDENT TEACHER FROM the University of Minnesota: Agricultural Education Program, will be doing her teaching internship at GSL this spring. Becky Haddad will be her cooperating teacher.



KATIE KLAR

Katie grew up on a beef cattle operation at Hinckley. Her love of animals brought her to the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, where she started out as a pre-vet major. She changed her major to Animal Science and transferred to the University of Minnesota - Crookston. Katie graduated from Crookston with her Bachelor of Science degree and is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Agricultural Education at the University of Minnesota.



Supervised Agriculture Experience opportunities allow members to take on individual experiences based on their interest levels. Proficiency parties allow members time to catch up on their records and apply for awards. The December Proficiency Party included a trip to Sky Zone. Pictured above, left to right: Abigail Schmieg, Ashley Teubert, Rebecca Forcier, Abby Maunu, Logan Clouse, Hayley Bolland, and Madi Mathews.

some exciting changes over the last year. Grants have been received from the McLeod County Corn and Soybean Growers and GSL Ag Promoters for additional curriculum training and classroom updates.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February:

2/26 GAP Meeting  
2/19-2/25: FFA Week

### March:

3/8: 7-12 FFA Meeting  
3/8: FFA Barnyard  
3/10: Ag Mech/Floriculture  
3/16: Ag Comm/Ag Science Fair

### April:

4/4: GAP Pork Chop Dinner  
4/7: Livestock Contests  
4/11: Region V FFA Banquet  
4/12: 7-12 FFA Meeting  
4/23-4/25: Minnesota State FFA Convention  
4/30: GSL FFA Banquet

### May:

5/17: 7-12 FFA Meeting

What is FFA? FFA is a national youth organization that looks to grow leaders, build communities, and strengthen agriculture. Get involved today! We are FFA!



Rebekah Haddad,  
Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor  
320-864-2429  
RHaddad@gsl.k12.mn.us



Community support is integral to the success of our FFA chapter. Patty Dahlke is one of many volunteer coaches. Shown here, she is helping the Small Animal team prepare for the region contest. Pictured above, left to right: Haley Kirchoff, Morgan Verdeck, Abigail Schmieg, Abby Maunu, Madi Mathews, and Patty Dahlke.

## Blue jacket awarded to local FFA member

**T**HE MINNESOTA FFA Foundation presented an official FFA jacket to a member of the Glencoe-Silver Lake FFA Chapter. Lily Kirchoff has been selected to receive her own jacket.



LILY KIRCHOFF

As Minnesota FFA welcomes thousands of young people into membership, the Minnesota FFA Foundation announced the recipients of the Blue Jacket Bright Futures program. The program provides sponsored FFA jackets to Minnesota youth who are starting their FFA career.

This is the seventh year the Minnesota FFA Foundation has offered the program. "The Blue Jackets Bright Future program is a valuable program providing students with an FFA jacket to support their FFA involvement.

A personalized FFA jacket provides recipients with a sense of pride while giving them ownership of their FFA experiences, said Lavyne Rada, Minnesota FFA Association Leadership Development Coordinator. "FFA plays an important role in developing agricultural and leadership skills in students while preparing them for their future careers."

"The jacket is a symbol of tradition and pride for those who have worn the official FFA jacket. Many past members have sponsored jackets, but it's not uncommon for individuals and companies to sponsor jackets because they appreciate what the organization does to develop young leaders," says Val Aarsvold, Minnesota FFA Foundation Executive Director.

For more information about the Minnesota FFA Foundation's Blue Jacket Bright Futures program, contact Executive Director Val Aarsvold at 507-534-0188 or visit their website at [www.mnffa-foundation.org](http://www.mnffa-foundation.org).

The Minnesota FFA Foundation partners with individuals and businesses to provide resources that promote and enhance premier leadership, personal growth and career success for Minnesota youth in Agricultural Education.



# Band and choir students selected for honor bands and choirs

**T**HE SIXTH ANNUAL Wright County Conference Band and Choir festival was held at Dassel-Cokato Performing Arts Center on January 7th.

GSL High School Band members participating included: Maggie Petersen (flute), Laura Popelka (clarinet), Rachel Reichow (clarinet), Leah Bettcher (bassoon), Jack Gepson (trumpet), Michaela Neyers (french horn), Jessica Alsleben (trombone), and Kyle Wanous (tuba).

The WCC Honor Band was conducted by Dr. Timothy Diem, formerly of the University of Minnesota.

GSL High School Choir members participating included: Sopranos; Emmi Jerabek and Faith Rakow; Altos; Marissa Kirchoff and Robin Swift; Tenors; Isaac Swift and Jacob Reichow; and Bases; Josh Kuehn and Jake Vasek.

The WCC Honor Band was conducted by Dr. Mary Kay Geston.

Wright County Conference Schools that were represented at the event were: Mound-Westonka, Glencoe-Silver Lake, Delano, Waconia, Hutchinson, Annandale, Orono, Litchfield, Dassel-Cokato, Holy Family, New Prague and Watertown-Mayer.

\*\*\*\*\*



Wright County Conference Honor Choir, left to right: Jake Vasek, Faith Rakow, Josh Kuehn, Emmi Jerabek, Jacob Reichow, Robin Swift, Isaac Swift, and Marissa Kirchoff



Wright County Conference Honor Band, left to right: Jessica Alsleben, Leah Bettcher, Rachel Reichow, Laura Popelka, Michaela Neyers, Maggie Petersen, Jack Gepson, and Kyle Wanous



CMBDA Honor Band, left to right: Anthony LaPlante, Dan Cross, Emma Malz, Emma Petersen, and Reagan Spears.



CMBDA Honor Band, left to right: Logan Christensen and Jackie Lemke.

**O**N JANUARY 14TH, two students from the GSL-Lakeside Elementary School Intermediate Band, three students from the Lincoln Junior High Bands, and two students from the GSL High School Bands attended the Central Region Honor Band of the Minnesota Band Directors Association.

GSL High School Band students Dan Cross and Anthony

LaPlante (both are percussionists) were members of the 9-10 Honor Band. Lincoln Junior High School Band Students were Emma Petersen (clarinet), Reagan Spears (clarinet), and Emma Malz (trombone) were members of the 6-8 Honor Band.

Jackie Lemke (trumpet) and Logan Christensen (alto saxophone) of the Lakeside Intermediate Band were also

members of the 6-8 Honor Band.

Held at Elk River High School, the bands featured 162 students from 47 schools throughout central Minnesota. The day included significant rehearsal time and a short amount of time with volunteer section coaches. The event culminated with a concert held in the Elk River High School Auditorium.

The CMBDA 6-8 Honor Band was conducted by Chip Williams, retired Director of Bands at Wayzata High School, while the 9-10 Honor Band was conducted by Juan Tony Guzman of Luther College.

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Director of Bands  
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PGepson@gsl.k12.mn.us*

## February is National Children's Dental Health Month

**A**SK YOUR CHILD'S DENTIST, DOCTOR, NURSE PRACTITIONER, or public health nurse to tell you about:

1. Early signs of tooth decay (the white spots).
2. Fluoride – what it is and how it prevents cavities.
3. The importance of fluoridated tap water and how to learn if your tap water has fluoride in it.
4. The value of fluoride varnish.
5. The importance of brushing twice daily with fluoridated toothpaste, starting with the eruption of the first baby tooth.
6. Why baby teeth are important even though they fall out.



BETH JERABEK

How you can prevent childhood cavities:

1. Limit sugary foods and drinks.
2. Make sure your child brushes twice daily with fluoride toothpaste starting with the appearance of the first tooth. Be sure to rinse your mouth after brushing to get rid of any remaining tooth paste.
3. Take your child to the dentist every six months for an exam and fluoride treatment.

For more information on how you can prevent cavities visit the Minnesota Oral Health Project website: [minnesotaoralhealthproject.com](http://minnesotaoralhealthproject.com)

As a reminder ,if your child is sick or absent please call our attendance lines:

Helen Baker: 320-864-2665  
Lakeside: 320-864-2503

High School: 320-864-2452  
Lincoln: 320-864-2455



Childhood cavities can be prevented. They are caused by germs in the mouth interacting with sugars in food and drinks. You can't avoid germs or sugars but you can limit exposure!



# Brick donor wall is a history of our GSL activities, fans, coaches, athletes, musicians, volunteers, and more!

**T**AKE TIME TO CHECK OUT THE BRICK DONOR WALL WHEN you are entering or leaving the north athletic complex at GSL High School. It's really a history of our GSL activities and their wonderful fans, coaches, athletes, students, musicians, volunteers, and community members.

We still have the back side of the wall facing the stadium to complete and we note that there are a number of graduating classes not represented. There are numerous teams, coaches, fans and individuals who should be acknowledged. We have new businesses in our communities who could add a brick and existing ones to consider advertising on both sides. The businesses in our communities have played a huge role in our having these great facilities.

The wall is a physical representation of how the north complex fields, stadium, buildings, etc have been built over the past 20 years, brick by brick. Individual and team section and state participants can be represented. Coaches and teams can be recognized. Groups of friends, families, etc., can also be noted.

The bricks make great graduation gifts. At this time, we are offering reduced prices for anyone who is purchasing a second brick. If you already purchased a brick, the second one would cost \$75 for an individual and \$125 for a larger business size. If you buy two new ones, the first one will cost \$150/\$250 and the second one for \$75/\$125. Call Michele Mackenthun at 864-6232 or email her for a form and more information at [dmtmack@gmail.com](mailto:dmtmack@gmail.com).



The Brick Donor Wall is located at the north athletic complex at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School. The back side of the wall facing the stadium is not complete yet. For more information, contact Michele Mackenthun at 320-864-6232 or at [dmtmack@gmail.com](mailto:dmtmack@gmail.com).



## Scholarships offered to former GSL graduates by Stevens Seminary Foundation

**D**ID YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW GRADUATE FROM Glencoe-Silver Lake High School? Have you delayed starting college, changed your major, and now been accepted into the field of education at an approved college?

If so, consider applying for one of the Stevens Seminary Foundation scholarships for GSL alumni who want to pursue a career in teaching.


Currently, Kaitlyn Boesche, Derek Bratsch, and Lilianna Mallak are receiving these alumni scholarships. Information is available on the GSL school's website under the Counselor's Corner.

Applications are to be sent directly to Stevens Seminary Director Michele Mackenthun at 12966 -125th Street, Glencoe, MN 55336. Call Michele at 320-864-6232 if there are questions.



## All school food drive collected 1,000 pounds for the Food Shelf

**S**TUDENTS AND STAFF FROM THE GLENCOE-SILVER LAKE School District collected just under 1,000 pounds of donations at Thanksgiving. Items were donated to the McLeod County Food Shelf in Glencoe. GSL High School students collected the donated items on November 22nd and delivered them to the Food Shelf. Superintendent Chris Sonju said, "By all of us giving a little, we can accomplish a lot." Special thanks to the families who supported their children's efforts to participate in the school district's food drive.





GSL High School students collected the items donated during the all school food drive in November. Pictured above, left to right, are: Deanna Bondus; Superintendent Chris Sonju; Jessica Alsleben; Aubrey Giesen; Paul Lemke; and Mackenzie Davis.

## GSL's website is an important source for information

[www.gsl.k12.mn.us](http://www.gsl.k12.mn.us)

- School calendar
- Activities calendar
- Employment opportunities
- Online employment applications
- Online payment system

- Staff directory
- Access student grades/attendance
- Check school lunch balance
- Lunch menus
- School district policies

- Community Education catalog
- ECCE/SR activities
- School Board meeting agendas
- School Board meeting minutes

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# Fueling student appetites for efficient vehicles at GSL

**TWENTY-ONE STUDENTS AND THEIR COACHES FROM** Glencoe-Silver Lake and Hutchinson High Schools' Youth Energy Summit (YES!) teams participated in a YES! Winter Workshop at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School on December 15, 2016. This workshop educated students about renewable and efficient automotive and design practices, allowing them to connect with experts and gain information to position them for success as they excel in team-based projects this year. The topics presented to them will be applicable to both Hutchinson and GSL teams as they design their own vehicles for the 29th Annual MTEEA Supermileage Challenge in Brainerd this year.



MIKE SUNDBLAD

Students heard from multiple speakers throughout the workshop. Jim Wallace, Joe Wambeke, and Theron Busse from the Ridgewater College Auto Body Collision Technology Program talked to students about industry standards and encouraged them to apply practices from the real world into their designs for the MTEEA Supermileage Challenge in Brainerd. They also demonstrated a glass engine, which showed how different fuel sources can impact an engine.

Following the Ridgewater College presenters, students heard from Alexander Vanden Bussche and Akshay Patil from the University of Minnesota Soar Vehicle Project who spoke about their experiences racing solar vehicles around the world. The two biggest pieces of advice they gave to the students were to “design, finalize and then build the car,” and “constant constructive communication.”

More information about the GSL and Hutchinson teams can be found on the YES! website, [www.youthenergysummit.org](http://www.youthenergysummit.org). Mike Sundblad, GSL Engineering and Industrial Tech Teacher, and Shawn Fettig, GSL Math Teacher, coach GSL's Supermileage Team. Mike Morris and Terry Shogren, who both work in GSL's IT Department, are coaching a GSL team for the MRES Solar Boat Regatta competition. This is a new competition for GSL students.

YES! empowers youth to partner with their community to create economic and environmental vitality through hands-on learning and team-based projects related to energy efficiency, renewal energy, waste reduction, recycling, composting, local foods, and more. For more information, visit [www.youthenergysummit.org](http://www.youthenergysummit.org).



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## GSL's Robotics team has a great start to the new year

**THIS YEAR'S GSL ROBOTICS TEAM** 4665 is off to another great start. Students have been repairing and operating last year's robot to prepare for a new season. Two robotics students, Eric Villnow and Isaac Swift, presented to the Winsted Tiger Cubs Scout Troop 399 on Tuesday Dec. 6th about robots and the GSL Robotics team. They brought along the 2016 competition robot and several VEX robots for the students to operate.

The game was released January 7th, and since then, we have been working hard designing, prototyping and building our robot for this year. Here is the link to this year's challenge: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMiNmJW7enI>. The game involves picking up 5-inch wiffle balls and placing them into high or low goals. A second challenge involves delivering gears to a center drop area. Finally, the robot has 15 seconds at the end of the game to climb a rope.

This year's game is both easy and difficult, as there are size limitations this year. The team's challenge is to build a lot of space for holding the wiffle balls (fuel) into a small volume.

GSL Robotics Team 4665, “The Predators,” has six weeks to design and build a robot to compete. On February 21st the robot is locked up until our competitions. We are competing at two events this year: Duluth March 2 to 4 and the University of Minnesota April 6 to 8.

Students on this year's team include: Daniel Cross, Tony Fischer, Mason Husted, Earl Janke, Jacob Jochum, Haley Kirchoff, Paul Lemke, Bjorn Lucas, Cullen Lukes, Cole Mathwig, Luke Mattson, Tyler Mueller, Luke Ness, Jon Norling, Tanner Novack, Blake Ortloff, Kole Polzin, Jon Ramige, Anna Salgado, Roxanna Sanchez, Ben Siers, Isaac Swift, Eric Villnow, and Eric Wheeler.



Robotics team member Isaac Swift teaches a young cub scout how to operate a VEX robot during a meeting of Winsted Tiger Cubs Scout Troop 399.



# Riverland Automotive Technology program visits GSL

**O**LLIE GLADSO AND DAVE BALISTRIERE, instructors from Riverland Community and Technical College, paid a visit to the Glencoe-Silver Lake Automotive students on November 4th. GSL offers the Intro to Automotive course as a concurrent class with Riverland. This means the students here at GSL are enrolled in the course at Riverland in Albert Lea. Students who successfully complete the class will earn two credits in the Automotive program at Riverland. For those students who choose to enroll in the Automotive Technician program, they already have one course completed and save themselves tuition.

The visit was part of a yearly curriculum update to answer questions by the students, ensure the curriculum utilized at GSL matches the curriculum at Riverland, and to have dialogue between the instructors to allow the program to work for the students.

The vehicle in the photograph is from the Riverland Renewable Energy Program. It is a 2011 Chevrolet Volt, a hybrid-electric vehicle. Students were able to inspect the vehicle and compare it to the standard automobiles that have been worked on in class.



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Engineering Instructor  
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Instructors from Riverland Community and Technical College, Albert Lea, visited the GSL Intro to Automotive class on November 4th. Students in the photo, left to right: Cole Novak, Armondo Estrada, Jacob Jochum, Greg Boyum, Nate Welch, Connor Kantack, Nic Lange, Jacob Mohr; Riverland instructors: Ollie Gladso and Dave Balistriere; students: Roxanna Sanchez, Justin Dose, Will Micholicek, Christian Higgins, Mike Forar, Jake Simons, Ryan Schuch, Blake Beneke, Jayden Lachemeier, Austin Field and Kole Polzin.

Riverland Community and Technical College's visit was part of a yearly curriculum update to answer questions by the students, ensure the curriculum utilized at GSL matches the curriculum at Riverland, and to have dialogue between the instructors to allow the program to work for the students.

## Minnesota National Guard brings military equipment to GSL Automotive class in November



Mike Sundblad, GSL Engineering and Technology Instructor, invited members of the Minnesota National Guard to bring military equipment to show his Automotive class on November 21. Sergeant Vihin Patel, a recruiter from Hutchinson, arranged to bring a Load Handling System (LHS) hauling a Humvee. As an added bonus, a rock climbing wall was also transported to GSL. Students attempted to climb to the top of the rock wall throughout the day. Sgt. Patel thanked the staff for inviting him and said he hopes for future endeavors to inform students about the military.

Above: Automotive students explore the Humvee from the interior to the engine.

## YES! Solar Boat team receives a \$1,000 grant from the McKnight Foundation

**G**LENCOE-SILVER LAKE'S YES! TEAM HAS BEEN AWARDED funding in the amount of \$1,000 for its Solar Boat team (Sustainable Water Transportation). The grant is being administrated by the Youth Energy Summit (YES!) program, a program of Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center in collaboration with Ney Nature Center, Laurentian Environmental Center, Sauk River Watershed District, and Lakes Country Service Cooperative.

This is the first year Glencoe-Silver Lake students have participated in the Solar Boat competition. The team is coached by Terry Shogren and Mike Morris, who both work in the school district's Technology Department.

YES! is a team-oriented youth program that uses hands-on, experiential learning and energy action projects to address energy opportunities and issues in rural Minnesota communities. Students are the energy of the YES! program. YES! teams are student groups representing schools or communities in grades 8 through 12, guided by local, adult coaches. Since its inception in 2007, the program has engaged 2,618 youth. These youth have worked with over 4,307 local businesses, organizations and community members to accomplish their goals. These projects have impacted an additional 125,784 community members and 87,408 students.

### GOALS OF YES!

- Engage youth and empower them to take positive action in their communities
- Develop leadership, community-building, and problem-solving skills
- Increase awareness of career, economic, and entrepreneurial opportunities
- Increase knowledge about energy issues and opportunities
- Create sustainable communities



# Food Service information for Glencoe-Silver Lake families



The Food Service staff at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School serves students in grades 7-12. Pictured above, left to right, front row: Linda Stark, Marlys Schimmelpfennig, Mary Mathews, and Sue Terlinden. Back row: Jean Schmidt, Sandi Senske, Vicki Schlenner, and Joyce Jerabek.



The Food Service staff at Lakeside Elementary School provides meals for students in grades 3-6. Pictured above, left to right: Sandra Tupa, Wendy Puckett, Janelle Weber, and Rose Meehl.

## Online payment is the easy way to pay for school lunches and other fees!

**M**ANY GSL PARENTS HAVE DISCOVERED AN EFFICIENT WAY to pay their children's school district fees. Here are items you can use the online Payment Center for:

- Make a real time payment to your child's lunch account.
- Pay online payments for junior high and high school activity fees.
- Pay online for Helen Baker and Lakeside snack and milk break fees.
- There are also options to pay for additional one-time fees such as field trips.

If you haven't set up your GSL Payment Center account, please contact Becky Dahl in the District Office for a key number at 320-864-2494 or at [BDahl@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:BDahl@gsl.k12.mn.us). The Payment Center is located on GSL's website, [www.gsl.k12.mn.us](http://www.gsl.k12.mn.us), on the right side of the page under "links" and then go to "online payments." If you have questions about the status of your lunch account or other fees, you can also give Becky a call.

## U.S. Department of Agriculture civil rights non-discrimination statement

**I**N ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS LAW AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the agency (state or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Revised October 2015



The Food Service staff at Helen Baker Elementary School works with K-2 students. School lunch is a new experience for Helen Baker students. Sometimes, food service staff need to put on their "Mom hats" and pay extra attention to help students get through the serving line. Pictured above, left to right: JoAnn Chrast, Kim Nemitz, and Lynell Busse.

## 2017 Glencoe-Silver Lake area school Scripps Regional Spelling Bee held

**O**N JANUARY 12TH, THE ANNUAL GSL AREA SCHOOLS Scripps Regional Spelling Bee was held in the GSL High School Auditorium. Participants were first named the winner of their classroom spelling bee. Students in grades 5 through 8 from First Lutheran and GSL were participants. Lakeside Elementary Principal Joy Freitag served as judge, and Wanda Collins, High School English Teacher was the pronouncer. Teagan Aldrich, a GSL 5th grader, won the Spelling Bee, and 7th grader Elijah Liestman from GSL received second place honors. Lori Copler, Editor of *The McLeod County Chronicle*, presented the top two finalists with a dictionary for 1st place, and a thesaurus for 2nd place.



Spelling Bee participants, left to right, front row: Lucia Beste Zehnder (grade 5), Mikayla Silva (grade 6), Ben Gildea (grade 6), Calvin Streufert (grade 5), and 2nd place finalist Elijah Liestman (grade 7). Back row: Elida Roskamp (grade 7), Finley Sturges (grade 6), Allie Gronlund (grade 8), Meara Busse (grade 6 - First Lutheran), Kobe Boozikee (grade 8), 1st place winner Teagan Aldrich (grade 5), Rylan Hedin (grade 8), Maggie Schuft (grade 7 - First Lutheran), Elise Betcher (grade 7 - First Lutheran), Kaitlyn Hanson (grade 5 - First Lutheran), and Abigaile Boetel (grade 7).



# 2016 7th grade Community Service Project award winners named

**C**ONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 7TH GRADE COMMUNITY Service award winners for health class! Community service is a part of the Lions Quest Skills For Adolescence curriculum. Support for our program comes from local Lions Club organizations. All of the 7th grade students volunteered their time at local businesses, community agencies, and/or in their neighborhood.

The following students did an outstanding job with their Community Service:

Zachery Meyer	Amanda Rosenlund	Karlee Karg
Riley Butcher	Andrew Kettner	Alexandria Menning
Kianna Dolezal	Zoe Ruschmeier	Connor Hallaway
Malayna Graf	Tatjanna Pedersen	Caroline Schmidt
Alisia Goettl	Angel DeLos Santos	Kendall Guerrero
Paris Stradtman	Mitchel Jaskowiak	Miranda Litzau
Zachary Reichow	Porter Mikolich	Mariah Wendolek
Emma Gepson	Reid Schrempp	Spencer Lemke
Trisha Nussbaum	Malayh Metcalf	Gabi Schwirtz
Jasmine Chavarria		Alyssa Zellmann



Honorees from Period 1 Health Class, left to right, front row: Spencer Lemke, Gabi Schwirtz, and Alyssa Zellmann. Back row: Connor Hallaway, Caroline Schmidt, Kendall Guerrero, Miranda Litzau, and Mariah Wendolek.

*Kim Bender*  
Junior High Phy Ed and  
Health Teacher  
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Right: Honorees from Period 6 Health: Zoe Ruschmeier and Tatjanna Pederson.



Honorees from Period 5 Health Class: Trisha Nussbaum, Jasmine Chavarria, Amanda Rosenlund, and Andrew Kettner.



Honorees from Period 4 Health Class, left to right, front row: Paris Stradtman, Zachary Reichow, and Emma Gepson. Back row: Zachery Meyer, Riley Butcher, Kianna Dolezal, Malayna Graf, and Alisia Goettl.

## 8th graders learn CPR with practice AEDs in Health class



Students in Kim Bender's 8th grade Health Class learned American Red Cross CPR by practicing with AEDs.



Honorees from Period 7 Health Class, left to right, front row: Malayh Metcalf, Karlee Karg, and Alexandria Menning. Back row: Angel De Los Santos, Mitchel Jaskowiak, Porter Mikolich, and Reid Schrempp.



# A day in the life of a Lakeside student

**O**NE OF MY FAVORITE PARTS OF THE work day is greeting our Lakeside students as they enter our building each morning. Every day they come to us having a variety of experiences to start their days. Some will greet me with a wide grin and a cheerful hello and others with very sleepy eyes and a nod. Whichever way doesn't matter to me; it's the fact that I get to see them right away and they get to see me. This is a routine that I have established just as our teachers have. Students are greeted at the bus each morning by a teacher and then again by their classroom teacher as they enter their room. This routine helps get our students prepared for a successful day.



JOY FREITAG

Routine is something that we depend on in an elementary school. Students and staff thrive on routine in their daily schedules. Our student's day is built with Morning Meeting, Reader's and Math Workshops, science, STEM, social studies, art, phy ed, health, band, library, technology and, of course, recess and lunch. Our routine, or daily schedule, is like a well-oiled machine that gets tweaked every year to encourage success.

Routine in our daily schedule might sound a bit mundane, however it isn't. Our teachers encourage the creative and spontaneous learning through their lessons and units. The routine takes the question out of what a day might bring for our students and instead lets them focus on the learning they get to do while at Lakeside.

As a mother of two I know how important a routine is to have at home as well, but I also know that sometimes our home routine gets thrown out the window



Spending quality time by your locker with your buddies is part of a Lakeside Elementary student's day. Left to right: Pedro Sanchez, Miguel Arandia, Ashton LaPlante, Joaquin Orozco Anderson, and Sawyer Guerrero.



These students are part of the before school group at Lakeside. Left to right, sitting in the front row: Grace Schultz, Sydney Ardolf, Sam Hecksel, Makenna Eiden, and Jalyssa Ramige. Standing in the back row: Samantha Sherman, Hayden Zaske, and Stevieona Pigue.

because life becomes busy. No matter what your routine might be at home, please know that at school your son or daughter knows what the day will bring and what is expected of them. We do our best to remain dependable and constant in their lives, starting each day with a greeting of hello.

Joy Freitag  
Elementary Assistant Principal  
320-864-2500  
JFreitag@gs1.k12.mn.us

## GSL PTO supports entire elementary community

**W**INTER GREETINGS FROM THE GSL Elementary PTO! Our first trimester activities were wildly successful, as we kicked off the school year with back-to-school care packages for our elementary faculty and a huge donation (667 pounds) of non-perishable items for our local food shelf!

At conference time, families generously donated



items to their classroom's themed basket, and the PTO was able to generate some funds to put into our brand new bank account by holding a raffle.

In the second trimester, our focus will be STEM. The PTO is as excited as the rest of the elementary community about our new STEM curriculum! At both STEM nights (February 7 for Helen Baker and February 21 for Lakeside), we will be getting volunteers to help sell food/beverages as families descend upon the school for an evening of discovery and hands-on learning!

In the third trimester, the PTO will reprise two popular events: the Spring Conference meals for faculty, and the Panther Pride Picnic! We are also researching the costs of school supplies and working with staff to simplify the supply lists.

As always, if you have ideas that you would like to share with the PTO, or other feedback, please visit our Facebook page (GSL Elementary PTO), e-mail us (gslelementarypto@gmail.com), or leave a note for us with your child's teacher.

## Silver Lake GFWC donated \$200 to Lakeside Library during American Education Week

**T**HE SILVER LAKE WOMEN'S CLUB GFWC donated \$200 to Lakeside Elementary School to be used to purchase books for the library on November 16 during their annual staff tea at Lakeside. The staff tea is held in observance of American Education Week.

Hosts of the staff tea were Jan Wanous, Ashlyn Imdieke, Asha Imdieke, Kay Nowak, and Rose Meehl.

Lakeside employees enjoyed the hot drinks and homemade treats. Students will appreciate new books to check out and read at home. Thank you to the Silver Lake Women's Club GFWC for hosting the staff tea and for their donation to Lakeside.



Kay Nowak from the Silver Lake Womens' Club GFWC presented a \$200 check to Michelle Sander, GSL Business Manager, during the annual staff tea on Nov. 16th.

## Dictionaries donated to 3rd graders by Lions



Glencoe Lions' Club member Jeanne Dahlke shows Katelyn Bonde how to use her new dictionary to find the word "service" because this is something the Lions promote. All 3rd graders received their own dictionary from the Brownton, Silver Lake, Glencoe, Plato, and New Auburn Lions' Clubs on November 2nd. Madisen Barthel Waletzko and Noah Say are on Katelyn's left. Betsimay Frahm is on Katelyn's right. Amanda Washburn is in the front on the left.



# Join us for Kindergarten Round-up and registration on March 16

**K**INDERGARTEN IS AN ADVENTURE FOR children and their families. It's a new beginning for learning and developing friendships, confidence, and independence. It is also typical for children and parents to feel a bit anxious about starting kindergarten. Children wonder what it will be like to go to the "big kids" school and ask questions like, "Who are the teachers?" and "Will I make friends?"



BILL BUTLER

Our staff's goal is to help all kindergarten students feel excited and proud on their first day of school. We want them to walk through the classroom door ready to take their place in the "big kids" school. Kindergarteners are growing and developing. Some are focused on running and climbing on the playground. Others like to draw,

play with blocks, or sing songs. Every child is unique, with her or his own interests and strengths. Helen Baker's Kindergarten Team will capitalize on this uniqueness as they help children develop a balance of skills within the four building blocks of kindergarten. These building blocks are:

- Social and emotional development
- Self-care and motor skills
- Language development
- Early academics

We're eager to meet you at Kindergarten Round-up, which will be held on Thursday, March 16 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Helen Baker Elementary in Glencoe. Minnesota statute requires students entering Kindergarten to be five years of age on or before September 1, 2017. We will follow an open house format this year, so you can come and go at your convenience. Please allow approximately 30 minutes to make your way through the Passport tour of Helen Baker.

I encourage you and your family to attend and begin planning for this exciting time in your child's life.

Kindergarten students and their families will visit classrooms, meet our team of five kindergarten teachers, tour a school bus, and receive a book and cookie. We'll also provide families with learning tools to use throughout spring and summer to support your child's development of early academic skills.

It is our pleasure to support you and your family as this new adventure begins and we hope to see you on Thursday, March 16! Please email, call, or stop in with any questions.



*Bill Butler, Elementary Principal*  
320-864-2666, [BButler@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:BButler@gsl.k12.mn.us)

## Dates remaining for Preschool Screening this spring:

- February 17, 2017
- March 24, 2017
- April 28, 2017

**Call 320-864-2681, 320-864-2494, or 320-864-2666 with questions or to schedule a time.**

Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools

## OPEN HOUSES

CLASS OF 2030

### Kindergarten Round-up

"COME AND GO" OPEN HOUSE

**Thursday, March 16**

Helen Baker Elementary School

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
405 16th St. E., Glencoe



**Register your child for the 2017-2018 kindergarten school year if your child will be 5 years old on or before September 1st, 2017.**

We invite you and your child to tour Helen Baker Elementary School, meet school staff, and enjoy a treat from us. If unable to attend, please **call 320-864-2666 after March 16** for assistance with registration.

**We look forward to meeting you!**



## School Readiness Preschool

OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION

**Thursday, March 16**

Early Childhood Learning Center

1621 E. 16th St., Glencoe ~ 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.



We welcome you to meet the teachers, visit the classrooms, pick up the pre-school information packet, register, and ask questions.

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year is open Thursday, March 16 for children who will be 3 to 5 years old and toilet trained before September 1, 2017, and is ongoing until classes are full.

Visit us online at: [www.gsl.k12.mn.us](http://www.gsl.k12.mn.us) —> COMMED/ECFE  
or [www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR](http://www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR).

**Contact us at 320-864-2681 or [GSLECFE@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:GSLECFE@gsl.k12.mn.us) for more information.**

## Glencoe Elementary STEM is on a roll!

**H**ELEN BAKER AND LAKESIDE HAVE been buzzing with excitement over STEM!

Other schools have also noticed what we are doing at GSL. We have presented to the staff at Sibley East Public Schools about our STEM initiative and all the exciting opportunities our students at GSL have with our new STEM program. We also had seven teachers from Sleepy Eye Public Schools visit our district to learn about what we are doing. We were so proud and honored to have our program for our students and know other districts are noticing our commitment to our students' future success.

At Helen Baker, we just had our first annual STEM Family night for first grade students and their families. It was a come-and-go event with guided independent exploration stations covering all areas of STEM and the arts. Thank you, families, for making this event a success and PTO for having food available. Lakeside will have their STEM Family night next week on Tuesday, Feb. 21st at Lakeside for 4th and 5th grade students and their families. The event will be from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. with PTO selling food and many STEM activities for students and families to explore! We hope you can join us next Tuesday!

We have been busy at Helen Baker and have learned two of the four modules so far! We are in the middle of our third module. Currently, kindergarten is learning about the human body, first grade is learning about animal adaptations, and second grade is learning about how the Earth changes. We have seen so much growth in our students! They have worked through the design process and discovered solutions to the problems they faced in each of the modules.

At Lakeside, the students have also been busy with STEM modules. Students in 3rd grade have been learning about simple machines. The students use simple machines to design and build a device to rescue a tiger that has fallen into a moat. Fourth grade has been learning about energy conversion. The problem 4th graders are solving involves moving food boxes from a truck into a food shelf. They will need to take one type of energy and convert it into another form of energy to actually move the boxes. The 5th grade is continuing with robotics. This module involves working on autonomous robots and programming. The 5th graders



Elementary students love the new STEM program and working as a team to solve the problems in the modules.

are learning drag and drop programming. The problem they need to solve is to program a robot to autonomously drop off certain supplies in certain areas in a hospital.

Our monthly STEM projects have been a wonderful way for our students to showcase their designs and models they have built, explain to their peers how and why they made it, and for families to work together doing STEM at home. Students are learning so much from each other and have been inspired to make their own creations. In March, Helen Baker students will create an object from materials that can be recycled. In March, Lakeside students will create something that incorporates movement. Thank you so much, families, for participating with our projects!

If you have any questions or would like to become involved in our STEM initiative, please contact:



*Heather Peirce*  
PLTW Lead STEM  
Teacher, Helen Baker  
[HPeirce@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:HPeirce@gsl.k12.mn.us)  
320-864-2668

*Scott K. Picha*  
PLTW Lead STEM  
Teacher, Lakeside  
[SPicha@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:SPicha@gsl.k12.mn.us)  
320-864-2556

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter:  
Helen Baker:  
<https://www.facebook.com/mrs.peirce4/>

Lakeside:  
Facebook: Search - GSL Lakeside STEM  
Twitter: @LakesideSTEM



# New to ECFE? Try a class for FREE!

**E**ARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION (ECFE) is a program of Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools. ECFE is for all families with children age zero to five years (kindergarten entry). We have a variety of ongoing classes and single session special events. ECFE programs supply resources and teach skills that support your child's growth and development from birth to kindergarten and beyond. We are here to support new parents, veteran parents, and everyone in between!



ALICIA BESTE

**GSL School Readiness** Preschool offers half-day classes for three- to five-year-old children. The goals of this program are to provide learning experiences that recognize each child's unique abilities and assist families in laying a foundation for school success. GSL ECFE/Preschool benefits families through support, information, friendship, and fun.

## NEW TO ECFE? TRY A CLASS FOR FREE!

We invite you to check out a class to see if it is right for you and your child. Join us and experience what an ECFE class offers! For more information about ECFE or GSL SR Preschool: Visit us online at: [www.gsl.k12.mn.us](http://www.gsl.k12.mn.us) (choose COMM ED/ECFE tab) or at [www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR](https://www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR). Call ECFE at 320-864-2681 or email at [gslecfe@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:gslecfe@gsl.k12.mn.us) to enroll in a class or schedule a visit!

If you are interested in checking out our program and facilities, we offer Run & Read (R & R) Fridays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Early Childhood Learning Center. Exercise your body and brain in our large motor room/ECFE library! You may come and go from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., and you do NOT need to preregister. Parents/grandparents can visit and hang out while kids have unstructured play time for \$1/child/time. Punch cards for multiple sessions are available for purchase in the ECFE office. This spring, we also offer evening R & R from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on February 10, March 24 and April 28.

## ECFE SPRING 2017 SCHEDULE

All events are held at the Early Childhood learning Center unless noted otherwise.

February 17 Early Childhood Screening – Call Becky at 320-864-2494 to schedule your child's appointment.

For more information about ECFE or GSL preschool, please visit our website at: [www.gsl.k12.mn.us](http://www.gsl.k12.mn.us) > COMM ED/ECFE > Early Childhood Family Education & Preschool.

Parents who would like more information may also call 320-864-2681 or email [GSLECFE@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:GSLECFE@gsl.k12.mn.us) at any time to arrange a visit. You may also check us out on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR](https://www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR) to see photos, upcoming events, and the latest happenings at the Early Childhood Learning Center.



- March 8 ECFE Special Event: Barnyard Fun 10:30-11:30 am
- March 16 GSL SR Preschool Open House/Registration – We welcome you to meet the teachers, visit the classrooms, pick up a preschool information packet, register, and ask questions – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Parents who would like more information or to register after this date may contact GSL ECFE.
- March 24 Early Childhood Screening – Call Becky at 320-864-2494 to schedule your child's appointment.
- March 27, Apr 3, 10 ECFE Class: "No Drama Discipline" 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
- April 11, 18, 25 ECFE Class: "Adventure Club – Tuesday AM" 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
- April 11, 18, 25 ECFE Class: "Construction Crew" 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
- April 12, 19, 26 ECFE Class: "Adventure Club – Wednesday AM" 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
- April 12, 19, 26 ECFE Class: "Love Languages of Children" 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

The GSL Early Childhood Learning Center was completed in 2014 and has classrooms designed especially for children ages zero to five years. We offer access to a preschool-friendly playground, indoor large motor room (little gym) and the Lincoln gym. In our classrooms, we use SMART boards, iPads, and computers to enrich learning opportunities for your child.

We also offer:

- \* Transportation within the GSL District.
- \* Scholarships and sliding scale tuition for income-eligible families.
- \* Integrated classes with Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE).
- \* Free Parent-Child classes, Parent Seminars, and Family Events with Preschool enrollment.

Preschool Class Schedule		
Class	Days	Time
Cubs (3 years old by Sept. 1)	T/F	8:30-11:00 a.m.
Pre-K Panthers (4 years old by Sept. 1)	M/W/Th	8:30-11:00 a.m.
Pre-K Panthers (4 years old by Sept. 1)	M/W/Th	12:00-2:30 p.m.

## PARENT AWARE FOUR STAR RATING

Parent Aware is a state rating system that helps families find the quality care and education their chil-



Left: Students in ECFE celebrated the holiday season with a family event. Right: Preschool students also invited their families to a holiday program.



dren need to succeed in school and life. A Parent Aware-rated program means a preschool program uses kindergarten readiness best practices to prepare your child for school. **GSL School Readiness preschool has received the highest possible rating of Four Stars.** Four Star programs go above and beyond health and safety requirements and have:

- Devoted themselves to strong, caring relationships with each child.
- Committed to daily activities and routines that help children learn.
- Volunteered for extra, in-depth training.
- Adopted the latest approaches to keep children's learning on track.

Parents who would like more information may also contact GSL ECFE/School Readiness at any time to arrange a visit. Please feel free to check the GSL ECFE/Preschool Facebook page for updates, links, and photos of what's going on here at the ECLC (Early Childhood Learning Center). You can also visit our website, where you will have access to the current catalog, links to online registration, calendars, parent handbooks, ECFE/Preschool current events and much more!

Alicia Beste, GSL ECFE and SR Director/Parent Educator  
320-864-2681  
[ABeste@gsl.k12.mn.us](mailto:ABeste@gsl.k12.mn.us)

### GSL EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

# BARNYARD FUN

**Ages 1 thru Kindergarten entry and parent. Older siblings are welcome!**

Join us at ECFE from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. for stories, crafts songs, and other fun learning activities about farm animals. From 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. we will visit the GSL FFA Barnyard at the High School for even more fun as we interact with farm animals.

## Wednesday, March 8

10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Tuition is FREE

"Like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR](https://www.facebook.com/GSLECFESR) to stay informed on the latest happenings at GSL ECFE!

**Early Childhood Learning Center**  
1621 16th St E, Glencoe

Register online: <http://tinyurl.com/ECFERegister> OR register by calling the ECFE office at (320) 864-2681.