



# Genesee Valley Central School

## Jag News



Sept / Oct 2021 • Vol. 26 • Issue 1

## Congratulations to the Class of 2021



**Classes Begin for Students on Wednesday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>**

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR 2021-2022 WILL BE PROVIDED! YOU DO NOT NEED TO PURCHASE!**

**MISSION:** GVCS shall champion education, a healthy lifestyle and community involvement by incorporating resources to inspire and empower all to be successful in life.

**VISION:** GVCS will achieve global recognition as a model for innovative learning and excellence.

# FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

GVCS  
will achieve  
global  
recognition  
as a model  
for innovative  
learning and  
excellence.



Dr. Brian Schmitt,  
Superintendent

[www.genvalley.org](http://www.genvalley.org)



Dear Jaguars,

It is hard to believe that summer is ending and school will open very soon. August always brings a rush of excitement and a sense of renewal as we prepare for the new school year. I am proud to say that the building is ready to go and the custodial and maintenance staff have the building looking fantastic! I am confident the community will continue to be proud of the amazing facilities we are privileged to use.

There is a great deal of work that occurs at GVCS over the summer; some noticeable changes for 2021-22 are:

- We renovated the High School Cafeteria serving lines
- We received new furniture for the library courtyard/outdoor STEAM learning space
- We are preparing to install new vinyl flooring in all Pre-Kindergarten classrooms

I would like to personally invite all parents, students, and community members to attend the annual Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday, August 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Students arrive before Labor Day this year; classes resume on Wednesday, September 1.

I am pleased and excited about the progress we continue to make. I am confident that we will have a great year at GVCS. Please enjoy the remainder of the summer and I look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Schmitt  
Superintendent  
Genesee Valley CSD

## MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Meet the Teacher night will be Wednesday, August 25th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Elementary teachers will be in classrooms from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for parents to visit their child's classroom. Middle and High School teachers will be in the cafeteria from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Dinners will be served during this time in the cafeteria. At 7:00 p.m. we are inviting all parents and teachers to make their way to the Innovation Center for a Grand Opening and dessert time. We look forward to seeing you all in the building!

## CLASSES BEGIN FOR STUDENTS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

The 2021-22 school year opens on Wednesday, September 1st for Grades PreK-12. Please visit the school website at [www.genvalley.org](http://www.genvalley.org) for pertinent school information such as the master calendar, cafeteria menu, employee directory, sports schedules, etc.

*The daily schedule will be as follows:*

7:45 a.m.	Buses arrive, Grab & Go Breakfast
7:50-8:00 a.m.	Breakfast & Homeroom
8:00 a.m.	First period begins
45 minutes periods – 9 periods each day, 30 minute lunches	
8:30-11:10 a.m	Morning BOCES sessions
11:45-2:05 p.m.	Afternoon BOCES sessions
2:54 p.m.	Students dismissed



## GVCS OFFICE & STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

Genesee Valley has clerical staff answering all incoming phone calls from 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS:

Main Operator/Welcome Desk.....	585-268-7900
Elementary Principal’s Office.....	585-268-7906
MS/HS Principal’s Office.....	585-268-7908
District Office.....	585-268-7909
Business Office.....	585-268-7911
CSE/CSPE Office.....	585-268-7913
Guidance Office.....	585-268-7937
Nurse’s Office.....	585-268-7915
Transportation/Bus Garage.....	585-268-7920
Student Attendance Reporting.....	585-268-7914
BOCES Office.....	585-268-7945

To leave a message for a teacher, please call the Principal’s Office and your call will be transferred to the teacher’s voice mailbox during the school day.

### STAFF PHONE NUMBERS:

After School Program.....	268-7940
Baker, Denise (Guidance).....	268-7937
Bradt, Brooke (Social Worker).....	268-7936
Brockway, Bryan (Athletics).....	268-7927
Chamberlain, Maureena (Elementary Office).....	268-7906
Edmund, Amber (Middle/High School Office).....	268-7908
George, Rita (Attendance/Nurse).....	268-7914
Graham, Chris (Maintenance).....	268-7917
Healy, Devan (Tax Collector).....	268-7909
Laraby, Charles (Maintenance).....	268-7919
Mighells, Paul (Dean of Students/Curriculum Coordinator).....	268-7942
Ostrander, Erin (Business Office).....	268-7902
Pratt, Katherine (Nurse-RN).....	268-7915
Preston, Josie (7-12 Guidance Counselor).....	268-7928
Preston, Rachele (CSE/CPSE Office).....	268-7913
Scholes, Brittany (Business Office).....	268-7911
Turybury, Jennifer (PK3-6 Guidance Counselor).....	268-7929
Warner, Linda (Welcome Desk).....	268-7907
Weaver, Willy (Transportation).....	268-7920
Winterhalter, Pam (District Office).....	268-7909
Zenoski, Kelli (Cafeteria).....	268-7916

## Attention Juniors and Seniors driving to school:

A parking permit is necessary for students driving to school. Please email Mrs. Edmund (aedmund@genvalley.org) in the high school office for the necessary paperwork. In addition to the completed form (with your parent’s signature), we will need a copy or picture of your driver’s license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance. This process must be completed each school year.



## Latin Honors

The Board of Education discussed and unanimously approved a move to the Latin Honors method of recognizing student academic achievement at graduation. The Latin Honors system will begin with the graduating class of 2025. Students will be recognized as graduating Summa Cum Laude for a cumulative high school average of 96% or above, Magna Cum Laude for an average of 92-95.99%, and Cum Laude for an average of 88-91.99%. The average levels assure a rigorous measure of academic achievement. Starting with the class of 2025, class rank will not be publicized unless requested by a college, university or scholarship. Students interested in speaking at graduation will submit speeches to a selection committee comprised of faculty members and students.

We will continue to recognize a valedictorian and salutatorian for the classes of 2022, 2023 and 2024 as well as recognize honor graduates at graduation according to the Latin Honors method outlined above.

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- » Wednesday, September 1 – First Day of Student Attendance
- » Friday, September 3 – Labor Day Recess - School Closed
- » Monday, September 6 - Labor Day – School Closed
- » Friday, October 8 – Staff Development Day – No Student Attendance
- » Monday, October 11 – Columbus Day – School Closed



# NEW EMPLOYEES WELCOMED TO GVCS



**Megan Retchless** is starting a new position this year as Director of Special Education. She received her bachelor's degree in childhood with Special Education at SUNY Geneseo in 2011. Megan received her first master's degree in Childhood Literacy at St. Bonaventure University in 2012. She received her second master's degree in Educational Leadership at St. Bonaventure in 2020. During the 2020-2021 school year, she was an administrative intern at GVCS, completing her practicum and internship with members of the administrative team. In addition, Megan previously taught at GVCS as a Literacy Specialist for seven years. She also taught at CA BOCES as a Special Education Teacher for one year. Megan currently resides in Olean with her husband. Her hobbies/interests are reading, exercising, traveling and baking. Megan writes, "I have truly enjoyed working at GVCS. I am looking forward to working with families and members of the community in my new position. GVCS is truly such a special place where everyone is willing to work together."



**Alayna Grastorf** is a newly hired Literacy Interventionist focused on working with upper elementary students. Alayna completed her undergraduate studies at Roberts Wesleyan College in General/Special Education and achieved her graduate degree in Childhood Literacy from St. Bonaventure University. During her educational journey, she has gathered experiences working in many school districts and with students of all ages. She grew up in Wellsville, NY, and resides near her hometown and family.



**Michelle Crawford** is starting a new position this year as a Teacher Assistant. Since 2015 Michelle has served as a substitute at GV; last school year she was a Long-Term Teacher Aide. Before coming to Genesee Valley she worked as a Geriatric social worker for years, then worked in the Baldwinsville School District (near Syracuse) for 3 years. Michelle received her Bachelor's degree

in Human Services Management from Alfred State College; she also holds a Teaching Assistant Certification. She resides in Wellsville with her husband Jack and has 2 grown children. Michelle writes, "I have been in some sort of Human Services position my whole life, but I have never felt so rewarded as I have at GV. The strong sense of community and student-first mentality is second to none. I am proud of this culture and hope to be part of it for years to come." Her hobbies/interests are traveling, listening to music, karaoke and dancing like no one is watching.



**Erica Grantier** is starting a new position this year as a full-time Teacher Aide. Erica worked as a long-term teacher aide and in the cafeteria last school year, and has also worked as a teacher substitute in the past. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Alfred University, and before graduation was hired at Kinship Family and Youth Services in Belmont as a Child and Family Support Worker. At Kinship, she did preventive and foster care case management for five years before choosing to work part-time to stay home with her children. During this time, she worked for Family Service Society, Inc. as the Site Coordina-

tor for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program at Whitesville Central School for 14 years and at Genesee Valley for three years. She also worked for the US Census Bureau for 10 years. Erica has coached Girls on the Run at Genesee Valley for five years and has facilitated the sewing and bowling after school groups, as well as various summer recreation classes. She loves doing anything outdoors, but her favorites are running, camping, riding ATV's, sewing and spending time with her family and friends. Erica resides in Belmont with her husband Scott and their three children, Payton, Derick and Elizabeth.



**Sabrina Schmidt** is our newly hired Teacher Assistant. She received her Associate's degree in Early Childhood from Jamestown Community College. She is currently enrolled at Grand Canyon University to earn her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood - Special Education. For the last two years Sabrina has worked as a one-on-one aide. Outside of work she enjoys spending time with her family. Sabrina writes, "I look forward to being an active member of the GV community. I am excited to work and learn with all of the amazing faculty at Genesee Valley."



# GVCS 2021-2022 DISTRICT CALENDAR

JULY 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Total Student Days = 181  
Staff Develop./Rating Day = 5+1  
TOTAL DAYS = 187

4 Independence Day

ADOPTED BY BOE: 4/20/2021

JANUARY 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

1 New Year's Day  
17 M.L. King Day  
25-27 Regent Exams  
28 Regents Rating Day

Student Days - 20

AUGUST 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

24 New Staff Orientation  
25,26,31 Staff Development Days  
25 Meet the Teacher Night

FEBRUARY 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

21 President's Day  
22-25 Mid-Winter Break

Student Days - 15

SEPTEMBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

1 First Day of School  
3 No School  
6 Labor Day

Student Days - 20

MARCH 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

18 Staff Development Day

Student Days - 22

OCTOBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

8 Staff Development Day  
11 Columbus Day

Student Days - 19

APRIL 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

11-14 & 18 Easter / Spring Break  
15 Good Friday

Student Days - 15

NOVEMBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

11 Veteran's Day  
12 Parent Teacher Conferences:  
Grades 7-12 attend school all day. Scheduled conferences during the week of Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>.  
Grades PK-6 NO School scheduled conferences during the day Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>

23 11:00 Dismissal PK-12  
24-26 Thanksgiving Break

Student Days - 18

MAY 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

30 Memorial Day

Student Days - 21

DECEMBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

22-31 Christmas Break

Student Days - 15

JUNE 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

15-23 Regent Exams  
20 Juneteenth (New Holiday)  
24 Rating Day/Last Day for Staff  
25 Graduation

Student Days - 16

School Closed =  Staff Development =  Parent Conf. =  Regents Exams =



## From: Mrs. Donlon 7-12 Building Principal



We are excited to welcome students back to the Genesee Valley campus in a few short weeks! We have been working hard this summer to prepare a safe learning environment and are ready to begin the 2021-2022 school year on Wednesday September 1st. In an effort to meet the needs of every student, all necessary school supplies will be provided by the district. Your child's teachers will

distribute supplies for their class.

If your child has their license and would like to drive to school, they need to fill out a parking permit form. A copy of their driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance is required. Once the necessary paperwork is completed, they will be given a permit to hang from their rearview mirror. This process must be completed each year.

The middle and high school bell schedules are included in this newsletter. Our "Grab and Go" breakfast will start at 7:45 a.m. Homeroom will begin at 7:50 and first period will start at 8:00 a.m. Meet the Teacher Night will be held on Wednesday, August 25th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child's teachers and other families in our school community. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you have questions or concerns as the year progresses, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## 5TH ANNUAL ALUMNI SOCCER GAME

Saturday, October 2nd

9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

GVCS Varsity Soccer Field

Co-ed teams are invited to participate. Join the fun and reconnect with former teammates and classmates! For information or to sign up, please contact Bryan Brockway, Athletic Director, at [bbrockway@genvalley.org](mailto:bbrockway@genvalley.org) or call 268-7927.



# Genesee Valley Central School 2021 - 2022 Bell Schedule

- Students may enter their classrooms at 7:50 a.m.
- Periods are 45-minutes with 30-minute lunches.
- AM BOCES bus will leave GV at 8:30 a.m. and return to GV at 11:10 a.m. Students should go straight to lunch.
- PM BOCES bus will leave GV at 11:45 a.m. and return to GV at 2:05 p.m.

### HS Schedule...

Breakfast/Homeroom	7:50-8:00
Period 1	8:00-8:45
Period 2	8:48-9:33
Period 3	9:36-10:21
Period 4	10:24-11:09
<b>Period 5 (LUNCH)</b>	<b>11:12-11:42</b>
Period 6	11:45-12:30
Period 7	12:33-1:18
Period 8	1:21-2:06
Period 9	2:09-2:54

### MS schedule...

Breakfast/Homeroom	7:50-8:00
Period 1	8:00-8:45
Period 2	8:48-9:33
Period 3	9:36-10:21
Period 4	10:24-11:09
Period 5	11:12-11:57
<b>Period 6 (LUNCH)</b>	<b>12:00-12:30</b>
Period 7	12:33-1:18
Period 8	1:21-2:06
Period 9	2:09-2:54



# Genesee Valley Central School Raises over \$20,000 for Free Medical Clinic

Genesee Valley Central School (GVCS) has raised over \$20,000 from area businesses and organizations to provide a Remote Area Medical (RAM) pop-up clinic in the fall. The RAM clinic will deliver free quality services to underserved and uninsured individuals who do not have access to or cannot afford a doctor.

The Health Foundation for Western & Central NY provided the lead donation of \$10,000 toward the clinic. Other major gifts supporting the clinic include \$5,000 from Jones Memorial Hospital, \$2,500 from Mobile Primary Care, and \$1,500 from the Allegany County Area Foundation. Other organizations providing support include Alfred State College, Allegany Insurance Group, Angelica Lions Club, Angelica Spring Company, L.C. Whitford, Medical Transport Service, Otis Eastern, and the Hornell Wegmans.

Anne Campbell, GVCS Wellness Director and site coordinator for the clinic, took the lead on securing donations. "This past year has been exceedingly difficult for many of our local businesses, which weighed on our minds when we asked for their financial support," Campbell shared. "The community has graciously embraced the need for this clinic by sponsoring and giving what they can. In addition to monetary donations, community members are giving of their time by signing up as volunteers. We could not host this clinic without our community's support."

The funds raised will be used to feed 225 daily volunteers, provide housing for RAM staff, fund clinic security, lab processing, table and chair rentals, provider malpractice insurance, biohazard waste removal, and more.

At the RAM clinic, patients can receive dental cleanings, fillings, extractions, and X-rays. Patients can also receive vision services such as eye exams, glaucoma testing, and eyeglass prescriptions; they can also pick out frames to have their eyeglasses made on-site in a mobile vision lab. Patients will have access to a variety of medical services, including women's health and mental health counseling.

The clinic will be first-come first-served and is projected to deliver care to 400-500 patients over the course of the weekend on Saturday, October 9 and Sunday, October 10. No insurance or financial information is required. Licensed medical professionals will be providing care and services for area residents who attend the clinic. Volunteers are still needed, especially dentists, dental hygienists, ophthalmologists, optometrists, and general volunteers. Those interested in volunteering can visit <http://volunteer.ramusa.org> to register.

## School Tax Information

The 2021-22 school taxes will be collected by Devan Healy, Tax Collector.

Taxes can be paid in one of the following ways:

1. In person at Community Bank, N.A.
2. Mailed to:  
**Devan Healy**  
**Genesee Valley Central School**  
**1 Jaguar Drive**  
**Belmont NY 14813**
3. Via credit card or e-check

See [www.genvally.org](http://www.genvally.org) (Click on "School Taxes" under "District Office" menu)

If you have questions please contact Ms. Healy at 585-268-7900, ext. 2132 or by email at [dhealy@genvally.org](mailto:dhealy@genvally.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Payments can be made in the month of September with no penalty or in October with a 2% penalty. No school taxes will be collected after October 31, 2021. If you do not receive your bill you will need to contact Ms. Healy before the October deadline. If taxes are not paid in September or October of 2021 the amount will be added onto your County and Town bill.

## NOTICE OF CENSUS

In accordance with New York State regulations, the Genesee Valley Central School District will be conducting its Annual Census between August 1, 2021 and October 1, 2021. The purpose of this census is to identify and ensure accurate records with regards to students in the District who have handicapping conditions. If you have a child, or know of a child, eligible to attend preschool or public school and they have/are suspected of having a handicapping condition please contact the Genesee Valley Office of Special Education. Please be prepared to provide the name of the family, age of the child and contact information. After we contact you, census forms may then be mailed.

Megan Retchless

Director of Special Education  
(585) 268-7913





# Welcome Back from Mr. Ed! Elementary Principal



Coming out of the last year-and-a-half of Covid-19 hybrid schedules, closures, and constant change, you would think our kids would be far behind where they should be. While there is some truth to this, our data shows it is not nearly as far as expected. This speaks volumes for what you accomplished for your child over the mixed-up year. Relationships between teachers, students, and our community were stronger than ever. We do not want to lose that as we return to normal. Thank you for all you do to make GV great with kids who are Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to learn in new and exciting ways!

The summer this year found GV a busy place. The only consistent thing we've had is change as we return to a more normal school year. As you connect with your child's teacher, please be honest and open with what works and what does not work for you and your family. All of us here want to make the 21-22 school year the best it can possibly be. We will do everything in our power to work with you every day. The relationship between class and home is vital for success!

While some protocols may still need to be modified to meet the safety standards, we are looking forward to a much more normal year. At this point, breakfast will be in the classroom as this has really facilitated a quick start to the day. Lunches will be in the cafeteria. Unfortunately, masks may still need to be worn inside by students/staff. As our guidance is updated, I will be sure to communicate any changes! If you have any questions, please contact me.

<b>3PK</b>	<b>Ms. Wesche and Ms. Sanasith</b>
<b>4PK</b>	<b>Ms. Schmidt and Ms. Hopkins</b>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>Ms. Hillman and Ms. Johnson</b>
<b>1st grade</b>	<b>Ms. White and Ms. McKeown</b>
<b>2nd grade</b>	<b>Ms. Kasperski and Ms. Shafer</b>
<b>3rd grade</b>	<b>Ms. Cole and Ms. Kelley</b>
<b>4th grade</b>	<b>Ms. Seitz and Ms. Majot</b>
<b>5th grade</b>	<b>Ms. Deichmann and Ms. Auman</b>
<b>6th grade</b>	<b>Ms. Burger, Ms. Finnemore</b>
<b>Other teachers</b>	<b>Ms. Voss, Ms. Faller, Ms. Graham, Ms. Rizzo</b>
<b>Elem. Music</b>	<b>Mr. Musingo and Mr. Robbins</b>
<b>Elem. Art</b>	<b>Ms. Deal</b>
<b>Elem. Counselor</b>	<b>Ms. Turybury</b>
<b>Teacher Assistants</b>	<b>Ms. S. Schmidt, Ms. Prentice</b>
<b>Elem. PE</b>	<b>Mr. Clancy, Mr. Bratt</b>
<b>Library</b>	<b>Ms. Norasethaporn</b>
<b>Nurses</b>	<b>Ms. George and Ms. Pratt</b>
<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Ms. Palmer, Ms. Bliven, Ms. Burton, Ms. Dunham, Ms. Musingo, Ms. Grastorf</b>

As we head into the final days of summer, prepare your kids for the best year ever! If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to call or email; we are here to serve you. I make a promise to each and every parent in our district: we will love your child and strive to make GV the best experience possible!



# 2021 GVCS Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame Inductees

The Board of Education of the Genesee Valley Central School District created the Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame. The Wall of Fame exists to recognize outstanding Genesee Valley alumni, as well as alumni from the founding schools in Angelica and Belmont. This year's inductees achieved distinction in their lives and chosen field after high school through significant contributions to their career, community or personal achievements. The goal for the Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame is to provide incentive for current and future students to aim high.



**Matthew Gehl**  
Genesee Valley Central School,  
Class of 2000

Matthew is a Lawyer and became a Partner at Covington & Burling, LLP in 2020 in D.C. This is a base firm with over 1,300 Lawyers across 13 offices in the U.S., Europe, Asia & the Middle East. Matt is a corporate, capital markets attorney representing life sciences companies. He helps his clients raise capital to conduct clinical trials for innovative therapeutics for indications ranging from cancer to neurological disorders, dermatology to infectious diseases.

Matt also represents JP Morgan, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, and many smaller investment banks. Matt's recent highlights include several first-of-their kind transactions for companies in Germany and Austria, developing novel transactions structures to enable successful transactions that navigated complex regulations in foreign jurisdiction while complying with requirements in the US.

Matt recently represented BioNTech, a German immune-therapeutics company to develop the world's first approved COVID-19 vaccine marketed in the U.S. with Pfizer. Matt lives in NJ and commutes daily to Manhattan in Times Square. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Shayna Sortore, and together they have 3 children.



**Barbara Kelley-Dello**  
Angelica Central School,  
Class of 1978

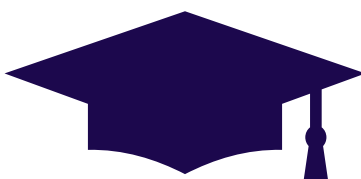
After graduating from Angelica Central School in 1978, Barbara attended SUNY Binghamton (B.S. in English, 1982) and SUNY Buffalo (J.D. Law, 1985). She has worked in law (private practice), as an Assistant Attorney, and currently serves as Chief Defender. Barbara has devoted her career to legal representation of the indigent, representing criminal defendants and advocating for criminal justice reform. Barbara commented that her career has been extremely rewarding and gratifying; she is proud to have played a small role in improving legal representation for the most marginalized. Barbara and her husband live in Wellsville.



**Christopher Weinman**  
Belmont Central School,  
Class of 1980

Chris started his career as an Apprentice Engineer in the Oil industry. When the price of oil plummeted in 1986, Chris changed vocational paths and started his career in education. He held a variety of positions in education, including Classroom Teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, Assistant Superintendent, and Executive Director for K-12. In 1991, Chris earned his M.S. Degree in Guidance and Counseling and later worked as a Guidance Counselor at BOCES. In 1997, he became an Assistant Principal at Wildwood BOCES in Hornell which served as a foundation for his role as Administrator/Educational leader for GST BOCES until his retirement in 2017.

Chris appreciates his wonderful and diverse career in education that spanned 32 years and is honored to share his experiences with others. He hopes that he has impacted students' lives the same way his own school experiences impacted his. Chris lives in Belmont on Amity Lake with his wife Cathy.



# ALUMNI



# Transportation Procedures:

## Help Keep Our Children Safe



### BUS PICK UP AND DROP OFF:

The transportation department at GVCS makes the transportation of our students as safe and efficient as possible. The school has encountered parents requesting that their child/children be dropped off or picked up in different locations on different days of the week. Please keep in mind that changing pick up and drop off locations is very confusing for students, teachers, office staff and bus drivers and it creates unnecessary problems with our bus routes. If changes are going to be requested, a bus change request form must be filled out and received by 12:00 noon at the welcome desk on the day of the change. **No requests will be accepted after 12:00 noon.** The change request form is available on our website. No changes will be accepted by phone unless there is an emergency. Mailers will be sent out with pick up and drop off times and also posted in Power School. Please allow for a 10-minute window the first week of school.

### BUS INFORMATION:

Transportation of students on the school bus is a privilege and an extension of the classroom. Rules for student behavior are as much in force on the bus as in the school facility. School authorities can deny this privilege to any child who is insubordinate or disorderly.

### BUS RULES:

1. Be on time at your stop. During inclement weather, driving conditions warrant extreme safety. Therefore, to maintain our time schedule, it is advisable to expect your bus to arrive early, especially if your stop is at the beginning of the trip. Please plan accordingly.
2. Parents should bring their children to school if they miss the bus.
3. Wait until the bus comes to a full stop before attempting to get on or off.
4. Go immediately to a seat (the bus driver may assign seats) and remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop or arrives at the school.
5. Help keep the bus clean.
6. Do not destroy property.
7. Violence is prohibited.
8. No objects shall be passed through an open window.

9. Keep arms, hands, and head inside the bus.
10. Be sure to take all belongings with you when you leave the bus.
11. Do not distract the driver while the bus is in motion.
12. Be a courteous and responsible passenger at all times.
13. Face covering over mouth and nose is mandatory for all passengers.

Please contact the school when there is a change in your address or telephone number. If we need to contact you, it is very important that we have a current phone number. Please feel free to contact me at 268-7920 with questions or concerns. Thank you.

- William Weaver, Transportation Supervisor

**Connect Life**  
Blood & Organ Donor Network

**2021-22 Blood Drives**

Fri. 10 AM - 3 PM:  
9/17/21, 11/12/21  
1/14/22, 3/11/22, 5/6/22

Sat. 9 AM - 1 PM:  
10/9/21\*

\*ConnectLife Bus

Free giveaway or raffle entry for all donors!

**Genesee Valley Central School**  
Auditorium • 1 Jaguar Dr., Belmont

Contact Anne Campbell at 585.268.7933  
or acampbell@genvalley.org or visit  
ConnectLifeGiveBlood.org or call 716.529.4270  
to make an appointment.

Use sponsor code 000602 to find this drive online.

All BLOOD stays local.



# HOMECOMING 2021 WEEKEND

Join Us for Homecoming and Wall of Fame Inductions

## Spirit Week

September 27 – October 1

## Pep Rally and Homecoming Dance

Friday, October 1

## Wall of Fame Induction

Saturday, October 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in GVCS cafeteria.  
Continental breakfast will be provided.

## Wall of Fame Inductees – Class of 2021

Angelica Central School	Roger Graham
Belmont Central School	Jeff Danaher
Genesee Valley Central School	Carter Schneider, Cooper Weinman, Tyler Zlomek
Team	2003 Genesee Valley Baseball Team

## 2021 GVCS Homecoming Sports Schedule

Saturday October 2nd

- 10:00 a.m. Modified Girls Soccer vs. Friendship (Mod Soccer Fields)
- 10:00 a.m. Modified Boys Soccer vs. Friendship (Mod Soccer Fields)
- 10:00 a.m. Modified Girls Volleyball vs. Arkport/Canaseraga (HS Gym)
- 11:00 a.m. JV Girls Volleyball vs. Arkport/Canaseraga (HS Gym)
- 12:00 p.m. JV Boys Soccer vs. Arkport/Canaseraga (Varsity Soccer Field)
- 12:30 p.m. Varsity Girls Volleyball vs. Arkport/Canaseraga (HS Gym)
- 2:00 p.m. JV Girls Soccer vs. Fillmore (Varsity Soccer Field)
- 4:30 p.m. Varsity Boys Soccer vs. Friendship (Varsity Soccer Field)
- 6:30 p.m. Varsity Girls Soccer vs. Friendship (Varsity Soccer Field)

## Coming to Genesee Valley Central: 2021-22 School Year



**School-Based  
Telehealth**

**SIGN UP  
TODAY**

**School-based Telehealth** allows faculty, staff members and students to receive access to urgent care from a health care provider who can evaluate, diagnose and treat through telecommunication technology without leaving school.

A school-based Telehealth program functions as an urgent care center within the school nurse's office, utilizing the existing nursing staff to address acute student illness or injury. Medical tests available include flu, strep and urinalysis

You need to consent to participate in this program. To do so, scan this code with your smartphone camera:



Visit: [www.genvalley.org](http://www.genvalley.org) for additional information



## FITNESS ACTIVITIES OFFERED AT GVCS

Cardio, Core, Strength & More  
Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.,  
Saturdays at 9 a.m.  
Instructor Pat Presutti,  
Call 716-860-8287 for information.

Open Indoor Walking Track – Weekdays 7-8 a.m., 5-8 p.m.  
(except during athletic contests & holidays)

## CHARACTER WORDS OF THE MONTH

**SEPTEMBER – RESPECT:** children may close their ears to advice, but they open their eyes to example

**OCTOBER – RESPONSIBILITY:** accept responsibility for your life, know that it is you who will get you where you want to go, no one else



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL NOTICES & REMINDERS

## DROP OFF OF STUDENTS

Parents who drive their children to school are asked to please use the Parent Drop Off parking lot. Please remember that students should not be in the school building before 7:45 a.m. due to coverage.

## DISMISSAL OF WALKERS

In order to keep our students safe, our teachers in grades PK-4 will be dismissing all students who are walkers to the welcome desk area. There is a daily sign out sheet for parents/guardians.

## SIGN-OUT PROCEDURE FOR GRADES PK-12

1. Parents and guardians needing a student to be dismissed from school must sign out at the welcome desk area with a written note in advance.
2. Students will not be released to any individual without prior authorization from the Principal.
3. Parents and guardians may sign their children out from school with a legal excuse as defined by NYS Education Department.
4. Parents must personally sign their children out at the welcome desk.
5. When signing out, students should provide their name, reason for dismissal, and the time they leave.
6. When returning to school the same day, students should sign in, document arrival time, provide verification of absence, obtain a pass from the welcome desk personnel and immediately report to class.
7. Students will not be excused on a regular basis for purposes not listed on the legal absence list.

## FIRE INSPECTION NOTICE

The Annual Fire Inspection Reports can be reviewed and copies obtained by contacting the district office.

## POLICY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Genesee Valley Central School District has a policy concerning sexual harassment. The school and community are alerted to the fact that acts of sexual harassment are contrary to school district policy and will not be tolerated in the school environment. In accordance with applicable laws and regulations, this policy applies to all staff members and students. Sexual harassment creates an unhealthy atmosphere destructive of the School District's educational purpose. Such conduct violates Education Laws 3214, 3020A and Civil Service Law 75. All alleged harassment claims will be investigated and appropriate action taken.

## DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT (DASA)

Public school districts are required to provide all public school students with an environment free from discrimination and harassment, as well as to foster civility in public schools. The Dignity Act also focuses on prevention of harassment and discriminatory behaviors through promotion of educational measures meant to positively impact school culture and climate. A part of the mandate requires all districts to name a Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC). The DAC for Genesee Valley is Mrs. Paula Mighells. Students and/or parents may report concerns to Mrs. Mighells. An important component of the Dignity Act focuses on educating students to treat each other with greater respect.



## FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS & PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students".

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR 99.31):
  - School officials with legitimate educational interest;
  - Other schools to which a student is transferring;
  - Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
  - Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
  - Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
  - Accrediting organizations;
  - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
  - Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
  - State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL NOTICES & REMINDERS

Schools may disclose, without consent, “directory” information such as a student’s name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

For additional information, you may call 1-800-USA-LEARN (1-800-872-5327) (voice). Individuals who use TDD may use the Federal Relay Service.

Or you may contact us at the following address:

Family Policy Compliance Office,  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-8520

## EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was passed by the US Congress and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The ESSA replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and is the latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Under the ESSA, all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child’s teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request. At any time you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and major(s) or areas of concentration.

If your child is working with one of our paraprofessionals, we can provide you with information regarding their qualifications as well.

The ESSA includes additional right-to-know requests. Parents and guardians may also inquire about the following:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, and
- Information on required assessments that include subject matter tested, purpose of the test, source of the requirement (if applicable), amount of time it takes to complete the test and time and format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking skills he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure all of our teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable New York State requirements.

## ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATIONS

\* Section 9528 (a) (1) of the legislation requires that each school district receiving Title I funds under No Child Left Behind shall provide, on a request made by military recruiters or an institution of higher education, access to secondary school students’ names,

addresses, and telephone listings. A student or a parent may request that such information not be released without prior written parental consent. In order to make such a request, please contact the guidance office at 268-7937 for further information. If you do not wish to have your student’s information released to the military or to colleges without your permission, you must send a signed, written statement to that effect to the guidance office.

\* Under Sex Offender Registration Act (Megan’s Law) information that is disseminated to the School District regarding the presence in the community of a convicted sex offender will be maintained in the District office. Any information which the School District receives regarding a sex offender from a source other than the Sex Offender Registry, and which is maintained independent of the requirements of Megan’s Law, will be available from the District, upon written request to the District Office, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Law. Any inquiries regarding this requirement may be made to the Superintendent’s Office.

## OPT OUT CLARIFICATION

This right is under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. If you agree to allow Genesee Valley Central School to use your child’s picture in our yearbook, publications, website, social media, and newsletters, **there is no need to do anything further.** We are hoping to be able to highlight your child in our publications. They are doing awesome things!

**IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD’S INFORMATION PUBLISHED PLEASE SEND A LETTER TO THE PRINCIPAL’S OFFICE STATING THIS.**

## OPT IN CLARIFICATION

Due to an additional regulation governing “Global Alerts” (School Messenger), you have an option to Opt-In. By agreeing to opt-in, GVCS will be able to use School Messenger to contact you with important events and emergencies. This system can do text messages, emails, and/or phone calls with your information. We hope you OPT-IN to this system. If you agree to the Opt In, **there is no need to do anything further.**

**IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO RECEIVE EMERGENCY CALLS, TEXTS, OR EMAILS ON SCHOOL MESSENGER, ON-LINE SERVICES, PLEASE SEND A LETTER STATING THIS TO THE PRINCIPAL’S OFFICE.**



## FOURTH QUARTER HONOR ROLLS LISTED FOR 2020-21

The administration of Genesee Valley Central School announces the following students, grades 9-12, have been named to the Honor Rolls for the 4th quarter of the 2020-21 school year. A student named to the Principal's Honor Roll recognizes students who have an average of 93 and above. The High Honor Roll recognizes students whose average is 90-92 and the Honor Roll recognizes students whose average is 85-89.

### PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL

**Grade 12:** Emera Aquila, Victoria Babbitt, Dalton Baker, Justin Barnes, Katie Bartlett, Elizabeth Bentley, Kayci Bigelow, Tristan Burnell, Sierra Burrows, Moriah Clendenin, Carson Cockle, Avery Grusendorf, Kohl Kozlowski, Zachary Lehman, Cody Platt, Callin Shipman, Rylee Shott, Christian Tuttle, Savannah Werner

**Grade 11:** Kimberly Butler, Gerald Gage, Trenton Scott, Nathan Slawson, Gavin Szalay

**Grade 10:** Aria Barnes, Rhea Bentley, Kiri Bogle, Sophia Gambino, Lealah Greene, Adison Grusendorf, Sophia Gugino, Lauren Haggstrom, Raygen Haggstrom, Brooke Hutchison, Kylee Lorow, Saige Thomas

**Grade 9:** Kendra Bigelow, Kaylyn Goodwill, Molly Hannon, Madison MacKenzie, Hunter Nickens, Alexander Osborn, Jacob Rizzo, Jamie Szalay

### HIGH HONOR ROLL

**Grade 12:** Jacob Christensen, Riley Gordon, Keegan McKnight, Kaitlyn Robbins, Brooke

**Grade 11:** Addison Herring, Sofia Marra, Thomas Shultz, Kyler White

**Grade 10:** Ethan Bigelow, Zachary Bourne, Shelby Bulkley, Kaylee Kozlowski, Dominic Marra, Tiffeny Smith

**Grade 9:** Kimimela Ball, Morgan Bentley, Cassidy Hand, Karlee Jones

### HONOR ROLL

**Grade 12:** Trevor Abbey, Kaylei Butler, Holly Coppini, Mercadies Hemphill, Kaleigh Stephens

**Grade 11:** Jesse Babbitt, Neil Branning, Emily Mess, Morgan Torrey

**Grade 10:** Payton Grantier, Thai Norasethaporn, JasLynn Shipman

**Grade 9:** Malakhi Coish, Wyatt Gleason, Dakota Hemphill, Alivia Marra, Erin McIntyre, Emilyya Mejia, Jade Rounds

### National Testing Dates for SAT and ACT Exams for 2021-22

SAT Test Date	Registration deadline	Late Registration deadline
October 2, 2021	September 3, 2021	September 21, 2021
November 6, 2021	October 8, 2021	October 26, 2021
December 4, 2021	November 4, 2021	November 23, 2021
March 12, 2022	February 11, 2022	March 1, 2022
May 7, 2022	April 8, 2022	April 26, 2022
June 4, 2022	May 5, 2022	May 25, 2022
ACT Test Date	Registration deadline	Late Registration deadline
September 11, 2021	August 6, 2021	August 20, 2021
October 23, 2021	September 17, 2021	October 1, 2021
December 11, 2021	November 5, 2021	November 19, 2021
April 2, 2022	February 25, 2022	March 11, 2022
June 11, 2022	May 6, 2022	May 20, 2022

Any Seniors or Juniors considering going to college should take one or both of these tests. These exams are seen equally by colleges! The dates listed are at neighboring districts on Saturday mornings. I will be giving at least one SAT during the school day...more details to come!

Test fees are \$55 for the ACT and \$52 for the SAT. Late fees are applied if registering after the deadline. Registration sheets and access to the internet to register can be obtained in the Guidance Office. There are fee waivers available.

### Seniors/Guardians of Seniors

Applications for colleges should be completed by the end of November. **Please remember that all scholarships will be on Mrs. Preston's website (the mailboxes are not being used anymore).**

PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) will be offered October 13, 2021 for Sophomores and Juniors this year.

### Students interested in the military

The ASVAB will be offered to any interested students in January 2022.

Please contact Josie Preston (585-268-7928 or [jpreston@genvally.org](mailto:jpreston@genvally.org)) in the Guidance Office with questions/concerns.





Fun in the Jungle Summer Camp served 80 kids this summer! The camp ran for six weeks and was open to kids in Pre-K through 6th grade. Activities included swimming, crafts, STEAM projects, field trips and more!



## Special Education Department at Genesee Valley



Hello! My name is Megan Retchless, and I am the Director of Special Education at Genesee Valley CSD. I am looking forward to working with all of you within my new role!

At GVCS, the mission of the Special Education Department is to provide individualized instruction in a student's least restrictive learning environment. Students will be prepared to become productive citizens and lifelong learners through collaboratively working with parents/guardians, educators, and the community. We support their growth by ensuring that students with disabilities are challenged to meet realistic

expectations that prepare them for sustainable employment, further education, and training.

The Special Education Department is committed to supporting parents and guardians and working together to achieve strong outcomes for students. Thanks for being a partner in your child's education! Please let us know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns!

Megan Retchless  
[mretchless@genvalley.org](mailto:mretchless@genvalley.org)  
 (585) 268-7904

## SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT PORTAL

Our new Special Education Parent Portal will allow parents to access IEP's, 504 Plans, meeting notices, progress notes, and other documents ONLINE via a secure website. If you would like to sign up for the portal please contact the Special Education Department at 585-268-7913 or [mretchless@genvalley.org](mailto:mretchless@genvalley.org).



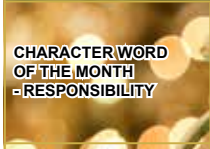



# September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 CHARACTER WORD OF THE MONTH =RESPECT			1 WELCOME BACK! First day of student attendance.	2	3 School Closed - Last day to register for 10/2 SAT	4
5 PLEASE NOTE - SPORTS SCHEDULES WILL BE ON GV WEB-SITE	6 School Closed - Labor Day	7	8	9	10	11 -ACT Test Register by 8/6
12	13 -5:30pm - Board of Education Meeting, Room 1121	14	15	16	17 -Last day to register for 10/23 ACT Test	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 -4-6:00pm - JAM Fish Fry	25
26 	27 Spirit Week	28 Spirit Week	29 Spirit Week	30 Spirit Week		

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 CHARACTER WORD OF THE MONTH =RESPONSIBILITY					1 Spirit Week -Pep Rally -Homecoming Dance	2 -SAT Test (register by 9/3) -Homecoming Weekend: Wall Of Fame Induction, Athletic Events
3 PLEASE NOTE - SPORTS SCHEDULES WILL BE ON GV WEB-SITE	4	5	6	7	8 -Staff Development Day No Student Attendance -Progress Reports available online/ mailed, Gr. 5-12 -Last day to reg. for 11/6 SAT Test	9
10	11 School Closed - Columbus Day	12	13	14	15	16
17 	18 -5:30pm Board of Education, Rm. 1121	19	20	21	22	23 -- ACT Test (register by 9/17)
24 31	25	26	27	28	29 -End of 1st marking period, Gr. K-12	30



# GENESEE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN 2021-2022

## Goals of the Plan

- Students will return to school five days per week
- All layers of mitigation will be utilized
  - Masks, cleaning, HVAC, social distancing, handwashing, drinking fountains, testing, etc.
- We will partner with parents and the community to ensure transmission remains low
  - Students, faculty, staff, and parents with signs of infectious illness should remain home

## Duration of the Plan

- Every five weeks, the District will reevaluate procedures and processes

## The District is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment

- Parent volunteers will be welcomed when possible.
- Field trips and other activities will run when possible and safe
- In-person extracurricular clubs and activities will be offered
- Athletics, music, and assemblies will occur

## Masking and Social Distancing Guidelines

Bus	Masked
Bus Social Distancing	2 per seat/family cohorts
Bus Assigned Seats	Yes
Hallways, all common spaces	Masked when within 6 feet of students
Classrooms	Masked
Cohort(ed)	Most Elementary remain cohorted.
Social Distancing in class	Seats set at 3 feet as practicable
Assigned Seats	Yes
Quarantine	When needed exposed 3 feet around (partner with DOH)
Lunch	6 Feet unmasked/encouraged to spread out/go outside
Sports/Extracurriculars	No masks if outdoors



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **If a student or staff member is vaccinated, do they still need to wear a mask indoors?**

Yes, proper mask wearing is expected for all staff and students when physical distancing cannot be maintained. There are no masking requirements outdoors. The above measures do not discern between those who are and are not vaccinated and will apply to all. Since we are not privy to COVID vaccination records—and even if we were—managing a different set of rules for each would prove to be unattainable. The health and safety measures we are putting in place will apply to everyone regardless of their vaccination status.

### **Will there be a temperature screening or daily health screening?**

No. Unless directed by the NYSDOH or required by the CDC.

### **Will there be a 100% remote or hybrid program offered?**

No. Our commitment is to get students back to school five days a week. Universal masking and physical distancing will help us remain open, even if there is a community increase in COVID cases. Students who arrive without a mask will be provided with one.

### **What happens to learning if a student has COVID-19, is isolated, or quarantined during school time?**

GVCS teachers have discretion on how best to support students through an extended illness. Parents are encouraged to work with the school nurse to communicate how your child is faring during this time.

### **Will students be socially distanced at 6 feet in the classroom?**

No. Students can be safe at 3 feet apart in class if they are masked.

### **Will students be required to eat in classrooms this year?**

Possibly. Each lunch table would become a cohort—which would be subject to quarantine if there is an exposure. As such, in some instances eating in the classroom may be required. At this point, we intend to use the cafeteria, take attendance daily to assist with contact tracing, and encourage students to go outside whenever possible.

### **What are the plans for busing?**

GVCS will operate the fleet as we have done in the past. Masks will be required, windows will be open to increase air flow (weather permitting), and frequent sanitizing will be continued.

### **Will the District be mandating vaccination for employees or students?**

Masks will be required for all staff while indoors and within six feet of students. Vaccination is not required at this time.

### **Will school assemblies happen?**

Yes, we are planning to have school assemblies and open houses, etc. this school year. All visitors will need to follow our masking and distancing policy.

### **Will students have access to lockers this school year?**

Yes.

### **Are students required to bring devices to their classes and home on a daily basis?**

Yes, students in grades 6-12 should bring their charged device to and from school each day. Students in K-5 will be issued a one-to-one

device, but that device may remain in the classroom.

### **What is the plan if schools have to close again?**

If we are required to close by New York State, we will work with our teachers to collaboratively provide an instructional program for our students.

### **Who determines quarantine and isolation status?**

Similar to last year, the school district cooperates with county department of health school contact tracers who investigate and make such determinations. The school district is required by health law to follow these determinations.

### **Will the District continue to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students this year?**

Yes. All students are eligible for free meals this school year regardless of economic status. To remain current with federal guidelines we do ask families to complete the free and reduced lunch form so that reimbursements may continue into the future.

### **Will the District provide school supplies to all students this year?**

Yes. All students will receive all supplies needed. Students only need a backpack; we have a limited supply of backpacks available on a first come, first serve basis available in the Main Office.

### **What are the protocols for returning to school for vaccinated individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19?**

If individuals are considered fully vaccinated (at least two weeks after second dose or one dose of the J&J vaccine), and they test positive for COVID-19 and they are symptomatic, they would be



required to quarantine for a minimum of 10 days. Symptoms must improve and they need to be fever free for at least 24 hours before they are eligible to return to school.

**Will students who have cold-like symptoms be required to be evaluated by a doctor and show proof of a negative COVID test to return to school?**

The return to school protocols are no longer in effect at this time. However, symptomatic individuals should be evaluated by nursing staff or their primary care provider to assess need for a test or care. If a student,

teacher, faculty/staff member does have a COVID-19 test, they must remain at home until they receive their test results, symptoms improve, and they are fever free for at least 24 hours. If we send an individual home due to being symptomatic, they must talk with their primary care provider and/or seek COVID-19 testing. We are able to test students on-site and are able to provide rapid test results to keep students, teachers, faculty, and staff in school. Test results are simply a snapshot in time and a negative person today may be positive tomorrow depending on exposure windows.

**FREE CLINIC**  
Remote Area Medical - RAM®

**Belmont, NY**  
October 9 - 10, 2021  
*Genesee Valley Central School  
1 Jaguar Dr, Belmont, NY 14813*

**Free Dental**  
Fillings  
Cleanings  
Extractions



**Free Vision**  
Eye Exams  
Glaucoma Testings  
Eye Glasses Made on Site



**Free Medical**  
General Medical  
Women's Health  
And More!



**NO ID REQUIRED - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED**



We are following CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting for COVID-19  
Please be sure to check [RAMUSA.ORG](http://RAMUSA.ORG) for additional important information.



**Genesee Valley Central School**

1 Jaguar Drive  
Belmont, NY 14813



Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 1825  
Olean, NY  
14760

**Central Administration:**

Dr. Brian Schmitt, Superintendent  
Brian Edmister, PreK-6 Principal  
Sara Donlon, 7-12 Principal  
Megan Retchless, Director of Special Education and  
CSE/ CPSE Chairperson  
Paula Mighells, Dean of Students and  
Curriculum Coordinator  
Erin Ostrander, School Business Official

**Board of Education:**

Timothy Hand, President  
Heath Gordon, Vice-President  
Joshua Shannon  
Fred Grusendorf  
Donald Baker  
Beverly Evans  
Eric Knapp

**Postal Patron**

**Or Current Resident**

VISIT THE SEX OFFENDERS WEBSITE – <http://www.watchsystems.com/ny/allegany> or <http://www.familywatchdog.us>  
for information on sex offenders living in the GVCS District

## Grant Continues to Provide Meals for GV Students

Genesee Valley Central School again offers healthy meals every school day. GV received grant funds to continue providing all students free breakfast and lunch daily for the 2021-22 school year. The district does request that if you qualify for free or reduced price meals according to the income guidelines below, please complete and return a free/reduced meal application. They are available on our website or call any school office. Thank you for your cooperation.

### 2021-2022 Income Eligibility Guidelines for Free and Reduced Price Meals or Milk

Total Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 23,828	\$ 1,986	\$ 993	\$ 917	\$ 459
2	\$ 32,227	\$ 2,686	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,240	\$ 620
3	\$ 40,626	\$ 3,386	\$ 1,693	\$ 1,563	\$ 782
4	\$ 49,025	\$ 4,086	\$ 2,043	\$ 1,886	\$ 943
5	\$ 57,424	\$ 4,786	\$ 2,393	\$ 2,209	\$ 1,105
6	\$ 65,823	\$ 5,486	\$ 2,743	\$ 2,532	\$ 1,266
7	\$ 74,222	\$ 6,186	\$ 3,093	\$ 2,855	\$ 1,428
8	\$ 82,621	\$ 6,886	\$ 3,443	\$ 3,178	\$ 1,589
*Each add'l person add	\$ 8,399	\$ 700	\$ 350	\$ 324	\$ 162

[www.genvalley.org](http://www.genvalley.org)

For a GVCS staff listing, events calendar, details regarding community use of district facilities and other helpful information, please visit us online.