



Genesee Valley Central School

Jag News



May / June 2023 • Vol. 27 • Issue 5

Genesee Valley Central School Names Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Genesee Valley Central School (GVCS) is proud to announce this year's valedictorian and salutatorian of the Class of 2023.



Lealah Greene, daughter of David and Jackie Greene, has been named Valedictorian of the Class of 2023 with a cumulative grade point average of 98.32.

Lealah has served as Drama Club and Scholastic Challenge President, Secretary of the Robotics club for 3 years, along with High School Band. She has also been part of the Crochet club, LOTE, and Youth and Government.

Lealah has participated in the Concert and Jazz Bands since 9th grade. She has been selected to the All-County High School Jazz Band ensemble twice and Concert band ensemble once. Lealah has been involved in multiple Drama Club productions, including "Newsies," "Beauty and the Beast," and "Matilda."

After graduation, Lealah plans to attend SUNY Oswego to major in Public Relations.



Adison Grusendorf, daughter of Holly and Shawn Grusendorf, has been named Salutatorian of the Class of 2023 with a cumulative grade point average of 97.92.

Adison has served as President of her class, the High School Student Council, Band, and National Honor

Society. She has also been a part of the Yearbook Club, prom committee, the morning announcements, and Jag Design. Her high school sports career consisted of indoor and outdoor soccer, basketball, softball, volleyball, swimming, tennis, and track and field.

Adison's musical involvement includes Concert, Marching and Jazz Band, along with Drum ensemble. She was selected for the All-County High School Jazz Band, Concert Band, and Area All-State. She starred in lead roles in the productions of "Newsies," "Beauty and the Beast," and "Matilda."

After graduation, Adison plans to attend Elmira College to pursue a major in Fashion Merchandising, a minor in Theater, and to play soccer.

GRADUATION 2023

Genesee Valley Central School will hold its 27th Annual Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, June 24th at 11:00 in the school auditorium. The Class of 2023 Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be recognized, along with other Honor Graduates. Numerous scholarships and awards will be presented. The ceremony will be live-streamed on the GV Facebook page and YouTube Channel.

PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET & VOTE

Annual School Budget



Important Dates:

- **May 2, 2023** – Budget copies available
- **May 2-11, 2023** – Voter Registration at Genesee Valley Central School by appointment only, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **May 9, 2023** – Budget Hearing & Regular Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Media Lab room.
- **May 16, 2023** – *District Vote*, 12:00 (noon) to 8:00 p.m.

TWO ELECTION DISTRICTS:

- **Belmont residents must** vote at the Genesee Valley Central School Pool Vestibule (back entrance of the building), 1 Jaguar Drive, Belmont; and
- **Angelica residents must** vote at the Angelica Grange, Park Circle, Angelica

Qualifications of Voters:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must be at least 18 years of age by May 16, 2023
- Must be a resident of the Genesee Valley Central School district for at least 30 days prior to the vote
- Must be registered with the Allegany County Board of Elections or with the Genesee Valley School District

Eligibility for Absentee Ballot:

(Absentee ballots are due by **5:00 p.m. on May 16th**)

- A patient in a hospital or unable to vote due to illness or physical disability
- Out of town because of duties, occupation, business or studies
- On vacation outside of the county or city of residence
- Detained in jail
- Serving in the Military

Absentee ballot applications are available in the district office. Contact **Pamela Winterhalter, District Clerk** at pwinterhalter@genvalley.org or (585) 268-7909

Dear District Residents,

On Tuesday, May 16, 2023, you will be asked to vote on the proposed 2023-24 school budget. During these difficult economic times, the Board of Education continues to maintain a balance between encouraging academic and extra-curricular program growth with the need to minimize the financial burden to taxpayers. This budget proposes a tax levy increase of 0.9%.

The proposed 2023-2024 budget maintains academic programs and implements programs designed to improve student achievement. The budget will continue district initiatives, maintain learning opportunities for students, maintain current extracurricular activities, athletics, and co-curricular offerings, and provide the resources necessary to ensure that all students are successful. It also provides additional behavioral supports for students and fully maximizes resources.

Remember every vote counts! Please attend the upcoming Budget Hearing on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Media Center or view the live broadcast on the GVCS YouTube page. The vote will occur on the Genesee Valley CSD campus for Belmont residents and the Angelica Grange for residents of Angelica. If you require additional information, please visit our website at www.genvalley.org.

We remain committed to providing a rigorous and well-rounded curriculum to our students in the most cost-effective manner possible. Thank you for your continued support of the students at Genesee Valley CSD.

Sincerely,

Genesee Valley Central School District
Board of Education Members

Mr. Timothy Hand, President

Mr. Heath Gordon, Vice-President

Ms. Beverly Evans

Mr. Joshua Shannon

Mr. Fred Grusendorf

Mr. Eric Knapp

Mr. Max Gilluly



PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET & VOTE

GENESEE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-24 School Year *										
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 18,483,359	\$18,882,018	\$18,753,148										
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$398,659	\$269,789										
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.16%	1.46%										
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%											
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$3,065,590	\$3,093,180											
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$107,000	\$110,500											
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0											
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0											
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$3,172,590	\$3,203,680	\$3,172,590										
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0											
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$3,151,455	\$3,190,207											
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$3,065,590	\$3,093,180											
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$85,865	\$97,027											
Administrative Component	\$1,421,989	\$1,439,958	\$1,431,034										
Program Component	\$12,477,007	\$12,787,915	\$12,773,382										
Capital Component	\$4,584,363	\$4,654,145	\$4,548,732										
<p>* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2023-24 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <p>Contingency Budget does not include equipment or Capital Outlay expenditures.</p>													
<p>** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Description</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Angelica & Belmont Public Libraries</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$110,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Description	Amount	Angelica & Belmont Public Libraries	\$110,500		\$		\$		\$
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Angelica & Belmont Public Libraries	\$110,500												
	\$												
	\$												
	\$												

*NOTE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS OFFICIALS: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$400.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Genesee Valley School District, Allegany County, New York, will be held at Genesee Valley School and the Angelica Grange in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 12:00pm prevailing time OR between the hours of 12:00pm and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the Genesee Valley School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.



PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET & VOTE

GENESEE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL BUDGET PROPOSAL (2023-2024)

	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2023-24</u>		
			<u>ADMIN.</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>CAPITAL</u>
<u>BOARD OF EDUCATION</u> Board of Education members receive no salary. Provides for travel, membership, supplies.	\$12,050	\$5,350	\$5,350		
<u>DISTRICT MEETING</u> Provides funds for the District Clerk, costs for school votes, legal notices, other expenses for the election process.	\$26,885	\$28,113	\$28,113		
<u>CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION</u> Compensation for the Superintendent, clerical staff, office supplies and travel are included here.	\$247,265	\$252,488	\$252,488		
<u>BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION/AUDIT/TREASURER</u> Coordination for financial matters of the district. Includes costs for treasurer, auditors & BOCES services.	\$150,983	\$164,496	\$164,496		
<u>TAX COLLECTION/PURCHASING</u> Provides for collection of taxes and purchasing for district.	\$42,851	\$44,937	\$44,937		
<u>LEGAL & PERSONNEL</u> Provides legal counsel services district-wide as well as labor dispute settlement, and employee benefit coordination.	\$324,538	\$324,312		\$324,312	
<u>PUBLIC INFORMATION</u> Provides for publication of district newsletter of all buildings as well as utilities.	\$97,891	\$102,849	\$2,349	\$100,500	
<u>OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE</u> Provides for maintenance & operation	\$1,232,373	\$1,334,874			\$1,334,874
<u>CENTRAL SERVICES</u> Provides for mailing, copy and data processing services district-wide.	\$370,150	\$373,400	\$4,000	\$369,400	
<u>SPECIAL ITEMS</u> Includes insurance, BOCES administration, tax refunds, etc.	\$242,770	\$247,332	\$227,082	\$20,250	
<u>INSTRUCTIONAL ADMINISTRATION & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT</u> Includes principals and their clerical staff. All includes curriculum development costs and supplies, test scoring, travel, etc.	\$421,585	\$427,394	\$358,191	\$69,203	
<u>INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF DEVELOP.</u> Provides funding for continued professional growth and improvement.	\$149,325	\$131,848		\$131,848	
<u>REGULAR TEACHING</u> Included in this area are salaries for teachers, aides, substitutes, equipment, supplies, textbooks and BOCES instructional costs.	\$4,054,000	\$3,896,592		\$3,896,592	
<u>SPECIAL EDUCATION</u> Provides for staff, supplies, textbooks, tuition and BOCES costs for special education programs.	\$1,968,077	\$2,198,392	\$75,690	\$2,122,702	
<u>OCCUPATIONAL/SPECIAL SCHOOLS</u> Includes occupational tuition at BOCES and summer school.	\$568,932	\$504,454		\$504,454	
<u>LIBRARY/AUDIO VISUAL</u> Includes salaries for librarian and assistant, books, AV supplies and equipment.	\$137,803	\$153,974		\$153,974	
<u>COMPUTER INSTRUCTION</u> Includes funds for technology coordinator and lab aides/assistants, hardware and software, and supplies.	\$469,716	\$481,536		\$481,536	
<u>GUIDANCE/ATTENDANCE</u> Provides school counselor services along with their clerical help, supplies and travel.	\$186,191	\$195,132		\$195,132	
<u>HEALTH SERVICES</u> Includes the salaries of the nurses and school doctor as well as costs of their offices.	\$126,647	\$126,566		\$126,566	
<u>PSYCHOLOGIST SERVICES</u> Includes the expenses for our school psychologist, supplies, travel, etc.	\$50,964	\$57,470		\$57,470	



PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET & VOTE

	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>ADMIN.</u>	<u>2023-24</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>CAPITAL</u>
<u>SOCIAL WORK SERVICES</u> Includes expenses for our school social workers, supplies, travel, etc.	\$69,094	\$69,111		\$69,111	
<u>CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES</u> Includes costs for non-athletic student activities such as yearbook, musicals, student council, advisors, etc.	\$124,544	\$131,325		\$131,325	
<u>ATHLETICS</u> Includes coaching salaries, equipment, official's fees, supplies, etc.	\$240,475	\$288,220		\$288,220	
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u> Includes costs of transportation such as salaries, vehicle parts, insurance, bus garage utilities, rental, etc.	\$652,657	\$737,825		\$737,825	
<u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u> Includes costs of retirement, social security and insurance for all employees.	\$3,401,724	\$3,531,997	277,262	3,007,495	247,240
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u> Principal and interest payments on all debt (building, buses, etc.) included here.	\$3,113,869	\$3,072,031			3,072,031
<u>INTERFUND TRANSFERS</u> Funding for Capital or Debt Reserve	\$0	\$0			
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	\$18,483,359	\$18,882,018	\$1,439,958	\$12,787,915	\$4,654,145
2022-23 TOTALS (for comparison)		\$398,659	\$1,421,989	\$12,477,007	\$4,584,363
INCREASE IN TOTAL BUDGET		2.16%	1.26%	2.49%	1.52%
<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>			
<u>REAL PROPERTY TAX ITEMS</u> Includes the estimated tax levy and interest/penalties on taxes.	\$3,070,590	\$3,098,180			
<u>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</u> Admissions, transportation for BOCES, preschool transportation and services.	\$262,000	\$378,000			
<u>USE OF MONEY & PROPERTY</u> Interest earnings, room rental to BOCES	\$110,700	\$80,000			
<u>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</u> Refund of prior year's expenses, sale of excess items, miscellaneous items	\$161,000	\$201,000			
<u>STATE SOURCES</u> NYS Aid	\$12,530,305	\$12,616,074			
BOCES Aid/Medicaid Reimbursement	\$1,335,000	\$1,470,000			
<u>INTERFUND TRANSFERS/FEDERAL SOURCES</u> Transfers from Debt Service, encumbrances, Federal sources, reserves, etc.	\$413,764	\$438,764			
<u>APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE</u> Portion of unreserved fund balance estimated to be available to reduce property taxes	\$600,000	\$600,000			
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	\$18,483,359	\$18,882,018			
INCREASE		2.16%			

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Budget Proposed for 2023-24

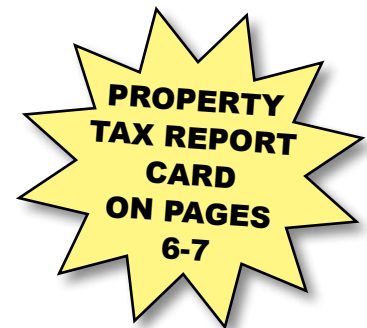
School Year

\$18,882,018

Basic STAR Tax Savings

using 100% Equalization Rate

\$400.00



PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET & VOTE

2023-2024 PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

020702 - Genesee Valley Central School

Contact Person: Erin Ostrander

Telephone Number: (585)268-7900

	Budgeted 2022-23 (A)	Proposed Budget 2023-24 (B)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	18,843,359	18,882,018
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount ¹	3,065,590	3,093,180
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	107,000	110,500
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable ²	0	0
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	0	0
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	3,172,590	3,203,680
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	0	0
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions ³	3,151,455	3,190,207
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	3,065,590	3,093,180
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) ²	85,865	97,027
Public School Enrollment	590	605
Consumer Price Index		8.00%

¹ Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

² Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements.

³ For 2023-24, include any carryover from 2022-23 and exclude any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2022-23 (D)	Estimated 2023-24 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	5,216,267	5,212,369
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	600,000	600,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,356,136	755,281
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	7.20%	4.00%

Schedule of Reserve Funds

Reserve Type	Reserve Name	Reserve Description *	3/31/23 Actual Balance
Capital	Transportation Equipment Reserve	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	\$437,064
Capital	Capital Improvements Reserve	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	\$1,415,000
Repair	Repair Reserve	To pay the cost of repairs to capital improvements or equipment.	\$745,655
Workers' Compensation		To pay for Workers Compensation and benefits.	
Unemployment Insurance	Unemployment Insurance Reserve	To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	\$86,278
Reserve for Tax Reduction		For the gradual use of the proceeds of the sale of school district real property.	
Mandatory Reserve for Debt Service	Reserve for Debt Services	To cover debt service payments on outstanding obligations (bonds, BANS) after the sale of district capital assets or improvements.	\$294,409
Insurance		To pay liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.	
Property Loss	Reserve for Property Loss	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover property loss.	\$441,712
Liability		To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.	
Tax Certiorari		To establish a reserve fund for tax certiorari settlements	
Reserve for Insurance Recoveries		To account for unexpended proceeds of insurance recoveries at the fiscal year end.	
EBALR - Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	Reserve for Compensated Absences	For the payment of accrued 'employee benefits' due to employees upon termination of service.	\$618,773
Retirement Contribution	Reserve for Retirement Contribution	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	\$779,234
Retirement Contribution	Reserve for Retirement Contribution	To fund employer retirement contributions to the Teachers' Retirement System	\$150,000



PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET & VOTE

PROPOSED 2023-24 BUDGET & VOTE

The annual vote of the qualified voters of the Genesee Valley Central School District, shall be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 to vote upon the following items:

1. To adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year 2023-24 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the School District.
2. To elect three (3) members of the Board of Education currently held by incumbents Timothy Hand, Beverly Evans and Joshua Shannon. Board seats are “at-large,” meaning the three candidates that receive the three highest votes will fill the terms. The term of office for the three seats are three years, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026.
3. To adopt the following propositions:

PROPOSITION NO. 1 – SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE / USE OF TRANSPORTATION RESERVE FUND

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Genesee Valley Central School District, Allegany

County, New York (the “District”) is hereby authorized to purchase one (1) sixty-four (64) passenger school bus at an estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$155,097.00 (one hundred fifty-five thousand ninety-seven dollars & 00/100) being the aforesaid maximum estimated cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary for use in the transportation program of the District, said funds shall be expended from the District’s Transportation Reserve Fund - 2014, as duly established on May 20, 2014, in accordance with applicable provisions of New York State Law.

PROPOSITION NO. 2 – ANGELICA AND BELMONT FREE LIBRARIES

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School District, Allegany County, New York (the “District”), is hereby authorized to, and will, levy and collect taxes in the District in the fiscal year 2023-2024 in the amounts, respectively, of \$55,500 for the Angelica Free Library and \$55,000 for the Belmont Free Library to provide public library services, and pay over such funds to the Board of Trustees of each library, respectively.

Voting locations per district are as follows:

Belmont residents vote at: Genesee Valley Central School, pool vestibule (back of school building), 1 Jaguar Drive, Belmont, NY 14813

Angelica residents vote at: Angelica Grange, Park Circle, Angelica, NY 14709

6/30/23 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2023-24 School Year
\$537,064	To purchase school bus.
\$1,515,000	To offset local share of a future capital project.
\$745,655	To pay for any unanticipated, emergency repairs to district facilities or equipment.
\$86,295	To help offset unemployment claims to NYS.
\$294,409	To pay down district debt.
\$441,712	To pay for any unanticipated, non-recurring property losses that were not included in the regular operating budget.
\$688,000	To pay employees for accrued unused sick, personal, and vacation time upon termination of employment.
\$754,234	To help offset district expenses to the NYS & Local Retirement System.
\$150,000	To help offset district expenses to the NYS Teachers' Retirement System.

NEW EMPLOYEE WELCOMED TO GVCS



Brandon Cline is our new bus driver. He currently resides in Belmont with his wife Cherish, son Archer, daughter Huntleigh, and 2 dogs. They are expecting baby #3 in September. Brandon stated, “I am a GVCS Class of 2015 Alumni, and I look forward to working in the district I grew up in.” Prior to coming back to

Genesee Valley, Brandon earned his Associate’s Degree in Building Trades/Masonry. He also runs a small masonry construction company. In his spare time he enjoys hunting, fishing and camping.



SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

The following qualified district residents are running for the Genesee Valley Central School District Board of Education. Their names will be listed on the ballot at our annual school election held on May 16, 2023:

- 1) *Nichole Gambino (new candidate)*
- 2) *Timothy Osterhout (new candidate)*
- 3) *Denise McNinch (new candidate)*
- 4) *Michelle Kelley (new candidate)*
- 5) *Timothy Hand (re-elect candidate)*
- 6) *Jamie Willson (new candidate)*

Nichole Gambino:



My name is Nichole Gambino, and I am running for a position on the Board of Education at GVCS. I am excited for the opportunity to share my ideas and help make meaningful decisions based upon my perspective and experience as both a teacher and parent of two children at our school. I currently teach Kindergarten at Scio Central School; therefore, I am familiar with the inner dynamics of a school system and feel this understanding

can be useful to the board. As a parent of a sophomore and senior at GVCS I have seen what is working wonderfully but what is still possible at our school. I have a personal stake in the educational atmosphere of our school.

I am committed to ensuring decisions are made in the best interests of the students' educational, physical, and mental well-being, whether it be in the classroom or out on the sports fields. I firmly believe an exemplary school is one that allows for open and honest communication between school staff, the community, and the board members. If I become a board member, I promise to make sure people's concerns are heard and the right questions are asked.

Timothy Osterhout:

My name is Tim Osterhout and I'd like to be considered for one of the BOE openings in the upcoming May election. My wife Carrie and our four boys currently reside in Belmont and our boys attend Genesee Valley School. I'm an alumni from the district and have remained within the



community throughout my personal life and professional career since graduation.

Prior years make my voluntary commitment to this community evident.

I've served five years with the Amity Rescue Squad, three of them as a qualified EMT. For a decade I've coached little league baseball for the town of Amity and still do so today. If help is needed whether it's to support a friend, or an extra volunteer is needed in an organization to enable it to thrive, my track record shows that I'm willing to help when I'm able to.

I would bring a measure of common sense and sound decision making to the table and wouldn't shy away from asking the tough questions that taxpayers deserve. I'd support the propositions that made sense and were in the best interest of our students and taxpayers but oppose those that weren't. I would be a voice for the common man that shares the ideals of the many and does not support any far-left movements. I'd appreciate your consideration and support on May 16th when you cast your vote and would do my best to live up to that support during my term as a board member.

Denise McNinch:

Hello, my name is Denise McNinch and I am running for a position on the GVCS school board. I graduated from Belmont Central School, and also Belmont center BOCES, with a degree in Cosmetology. I have owned and operated salons in Belmont for the last 25 years; I currently run Salon 54 in the village of Belmont. Working with the GVCS community gives me the perspective from all sides and I feel I can represent the common taxpayer. I also have children and grandchildren in the school system, some who have graduated and some current students, which gives me a vested interest in keeping our school great. I look forward to serving the community with honesty and openness. Thank you!



Michelle Kelley:

My name is Michelle Kelley and I am excited to announce my candidacy for the Genesee Valley Central School District's Board of Education. I am a Genesee Valley graduate and lifelong resident of Angelica where I live with my husband, Nick, and our two children.

After graduating from Genesee Valley in 2006, I obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Clinical and Counseling Psychology at Alfred University. I then worked as an advocate for the Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center and served for 12 years in Child Welfare Services at the Allegany County Department of Social Services. During my time in Child Welfare, I was able to work with teachers, staff, and administrators from every school district in the county. I have also served my community as a



SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES (cont'd.)

member of the Allegany County Mental Health Association Board and as a Youth Compeer volunteer.

As a parent, I believe there is nothing more important than making our school a safe and healthy environment for our children to learn and grow. I firmly believe that the future of success within our community comes from investing in our youth. If elected, I will be an active member of the Board that welcomes communication and considers the views of community members, parents, teachers, and administrators.

Timothy J. Hand

It has been my pleasure to serve the students, faculty, staff, and most importantly you, the taxpayers of the Genesee Valley Central School District for the past 11 years, and it is my hope that you will continue to let me serve. For those that do not know me or my background, I am a lifelong resident of this district, growing up in Belmont before moving to Angelica with my wife Deanna (Graham) and two children, Gavin (20) and Cassidy (16). Since 2012, I have served on the



Board of Education in the capacity of member, Vice-President and for the past 6 years and President of the Board, working with many other fine, dedicated members. I am encouraged by the increased interest and dedication to our district that the community is showing.

It has been my foremost goal to do what I believe is in the best interest of ALL residents of the district and I believe we have done a great job of balancing the many voices that contribute to the difficult decisions that come before the Board. It has not always been easy or popular, but please know that the health, safety, and welfare of those served by our district has always been my top priority. We have faced many challenges in my

time on the Board, from the selection of a new Superintendent my first year, to the Covid years, and most recently the decision to merge athletics programs with Belfast. Each of these events has caused me to really take notice of what the community wants and balance that with what is truly in the best interest of our most cherished asset, our students. I do believe we can do more. I believe we can continue to take steps to make our school safer, enhance the programming that we already have in place, and work with families on removing all barriers so that children can learn freely while having fun.

As I stated at the beginning, I hope that I have served you well and that you will once again elect me to serve the residents of the Genesee Valley School District. With the possibility of having 5 new members elected to our Board of 7 members in the last 3 years, I believe that my knowledge, leadership, and willingness to listen has been and will continue to be an asset moving forward.

Jamie Willson:

I have been a resident of the Genesee Valley Central School District since October of 2011. I am currently the Chief Financial Officer of Otis Minnesota Services, LLC located in Wellsville NY. I am also currently the Board President of Allegany County Alcohol and Substance Abuse, in Wellsville.

I have come to know and love this community. This is a great community for my family to live in and grow. I have two children who attend Genesee Valley Central School. I have 5 years of previous experience auditing governmental entities such as schools. I feel strongly that my skills and experience will be an asset to the Board of Education.

Thank you for your time and consideration for this position.



#BCSBulldogPride

GENESEE VALLEY/BELFAST
SPRING SPORTS BANQUET
Thursday, June 8th 2023 @ Belfast

CHARACTER WORDS OF THE MONTH

MAY – Citizenship: a legal status and relation between an individual and a state that entails specific legal rights and duties.

JUNE – Patience: the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, or suffering without getting angry or upset.





Seniors with Post Plans

Elden Aquila	Enter the workforce	Sophia Gugino	West Virginia University - Biochemistry (pre-med)
Aria Barnes	SUNY Potsdam College - Creative Writing	Lauren Haggstrom	St. John Fisher University -Nursing
Ethan Bigelow	Finger Lakes Community College -Environmental Science	Raygen Haggstrom	Penn State - Criminology (Pre-Law)
Jacob Bliss	Enter the workforce - Heavy Equipment	Brooke Hutchison	Enter the workforce
Kiri Bogle	Alfred University - Art Education	Kaylee Kozlowski	Enter the workforce - Construction
Zachary Bourne	Finger Lakes Community College - Physical Therapy	Bryce Lewandowski	Enter the workforce - Construction
Matthew Branning	Enter the workforce - Work-based learning program at Genesee Valley Central School	Ethan Lombardo	Enter the workforce
Martin Branning	Enter the workforce - Work-based learning program at Kessler	Kylee Lorow	Alfred State College - Architecture
Coltin Brown	Enter the workforce - Construction	Dominic Marra	Clarkson University - Aerospace Engineering
Shelby Bulkley	New York Film Academy - Film Directing	Alessandro Marotta	Complete Highschool then enter a University - Economics *exchange student
Landon Burdick	Alfred State College - Culinary Arts	Killian McKnight	Paramedic School
Hayden Burnell	Finger Lakes Community College - Media Communications	Thai Norasethaporn	Alfred State College-Health Science
Ashley Burrows	Alfred State College - Criminal Justice	Clelia Parla	University of Liege - Political Science *exchange student
Colton Cowburn	Enter the workforce	Tyler Ralyea	Enter the workforce
Jonathan Ford	Enter the workforce - Lineman	JasLynn Shipman	United States Navy
James Frawley	Rochester Institute of Technology or Corning Community -Mechanical Engineering/ Aerospace	Luke Snyder	Finger Lakes Community College - Kinesiology and Human Performance
Sophia Gambino	SUNY Plattsburgh- Biology	Jessie Sweet	Alfred State College - Heavy Truck and Diesel Technician
Harland Geffers	Enter the workforce	Faith Szymkowiak	Enter the workforce - Medical
Payton Grantier	Enter the workforce - Operating Engineers Apprenticeship	Elizabeth Tronetti	Enter the workforce
Lealah Greene	SUNY Oswego - Public Relations	Max Wedge	Alfred State College - Sports Management
Adison Grusendorf	Elmira College - Major in Fashion Merchandising with a minor in Theater		



THIRD QUARTER HONOR ROLLS LISTED FOR 2022-23

The administration of Genesee Valley Central School announces the following students, grades 9-12, have been named to the Honor Rolls for the 3rd quarter of the 2022-23 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: Aria Barnes, Kiri Bogle, Zachary Bourne, Coltin Brown, Shelby Bulkley, Ashley Burrows, Sophia Gambino, Lealah Greene, Adison Grusendorf, Sophia Gugino, Lauren Haggstrom, Brooke Hutchison, Alessandro Marotta, Clelia Parla, Max Wedge

Grade 11: Emilyya Mejia

Grade 10: Emily Brown, Kallie Burdick, Brayden Cooper, Ryan Daciw, Keanna Sands

Grade 9: Graham Bradt, Jacey Davis, Nolan Hunter, Rylee Ordway, Kenton Shultz, Lannden Tilton, Whitney Young

HIGH HONOR ROLL

Grade 12: Elden Aquila, Payton Grantier, Raygen Haggstrom, Kylee Lorow, Killian McKnight

Grade 11: Clayton Babbitt, Kimimela Ball, Morgan Bentley, Kendra Bigelow, Molly Hannon, Dakota Hemphill, Alivia Marra, Hunter Nickens, Jacob Rizzo, Jade Rounds, Ellaina Scholes

Grade 10: Liberty Clarke, Daphne Gugino, Mackenzie Marciano, Madison Tarar, Gavin Weaver

Grade 9: Logan Callahan, Bryce Davis, Meara Kelley, Ian MacKenzie, Christina McAuley, Tristan Metatos, Cody Webster

HONOR ROLL

Grade 12: Ethan Bigelow, Landon Burdick, Hayden Burnell, Colton Cowburn, Jonathan Ford, Kaylee Kozlowski, Dominic Marra, Thai Noraethaporn, JasLynn Shipman, Tiffeny Smith, Saige Thomas

Grade 11: Riley Edwards, Kaylyn Goodwill, Cassidy Hand, Fisher Herdman, Karlee Jones, Chrystal Larson, Erin McIntyre, Alexander Osborn, Liliana Porter Long, Jamie Szalay, Evan Yeaples

Grade 10: Mackenzie Button, Haelyn Clark, Hope Ford, Salvatore Gambino, Ty Hutchison, Marah Mellinger, Hunter Newman, Ryan Snyder, Seanna Stocking, Evan Turybury, Tyler Wedge

Grade 9: Cree Bulkley, Cole Cochran, Mason Fanton, Ryker Holmes, Kaden Huffer, Izak Hutchison, Logan Rice, Cayleigh Shipman

Honor Roll list for students attending BOCES:

HIGH HONOR ROLL:

Grade 12: Zachary Bourne, Coltin Brown, Ashley Burrows, Colton Cowburn, Payton Grantier, Sophia Gugino, Lauren Haggstrom, Killian McKnight, Jessie Sweet

Grade 11: Clayton Babbitt, Dakota Hemphill, Erin McIntyre, Jamie Szalay

HONOR ROLL:

Grade 12: Elden Aquila, Hayden Burnell, Landon Burdick, Jonathan Ford, Harland Geffers, Kaylee Kozlowski

Grade 11: Johnathon Baker, Kimimela Ball, Morgan Bentley, Kaylyn Goodwill, Fisher Herdman, Karlee Jones, Kolton Moore, Alexander Osborn, Lance Vohs

PARENTS OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENTS

As per School Board policy, parents of out-of-district students must request permission in writing for their child to attend Genesee Valley Central School every year. Letters of request to Genesee Valley Central School for the 2023-24 school year must be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools no later than August 10, 2023. These requests will be reviewed from July 1st to September 15th each year.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Friday, May 26th – **SCHOOL CLOSED** **Please note this is a calendar change
- Monday, May 29th – **Memorial Day / SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Monday, June 12th – **Last day of Attendance for Grades 7th-12th**
- Monday, June 19th – **Juneteenth Holiday / SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Tuesday, June 20th – **Last Full day of Attendance for Grades PK-6th**
- Wednesday, June 21st – **Students in Grades PK-6th dismissed at 1:00 p.m.**
- Thursday, June 22nd – **Students in Grades PK-6th dismissed at 1:00 p.m.**
- Saturday, June 24th – **Graduation at 11:00 a.m.**



UPCOMING CONCERTS & CEREMONIES

Tuesday, May 16th at 6:30 p.m.	Spring Concert for Grades 9-12, Auditorium
Thursday, May 18th at 4:00 p.m.	Spring Concert for Grades 5-8, Auditorium
Monday, May 29th at 9:00 a.m.	Angelica Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 29th at 11:00 a.m.	Belmont Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 29th at 1:00 p.m.	The Julia Deichmann Memorial Flag Day March, GVCS
Saturday, June 24th at 11:00 a.m.	Class of 2023 Graduation Ceremony

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
 Office of State Assessment
 Albany, New York 12234

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: JUNE 2023

Students must verify with their schools the exact times that they are to report for their State examinations.

June 1 THURSDAY	June 14 WEDNESDAY	June 15 THURSDAY	June 16 FRIDAY	June 19 MONDAY	June 20 TUESDAY	June 21 WEDNESDAY	June 22 THURSDAY	June 23 FRIDAY
9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	Juneteenth Holiday Observed	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	RATING DAY
U.S. History & Government (Framework)*	English Language Arts	Global History & Geography II	Physical Setting/ Earth Science		Geometry	Algebra II	Physical Setting/ Physics	
					<small>* World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint A Exam</small>			
	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.		1:15 p.m.	Uniform Admission Deadlines		
	Living Environment	Algebra I	Physical Setting/ Chemistry		<small>* World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint B Exam</small>	Morning Examinations: 10:00 a.m. Afternoon Examinations: 2:00 p.m.		

PROM 2023

HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS

The Class of 2024 Junior Prom will be held at the Alfred Lake Lodge on Saturday, June 3rd from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.



JASON ARGONAUT EXPEDITIONS

Three Genesee Valley students and two teachers will be embarking upon a STEM adventure as part of the Argonaut Expedition Program sponsored by JASON Learning. Argonaut Expeditions provide authentic, real-world STEM experiences for students from across the United States, pairing them with leaders in the STEM field.



Mrs. Vossler, along with students Dominic Carlton and Jamie Szalay, will be attending the Design Thinking, Innovation, & Entrepreneurship expedition in Houston, TX in late June.

Ms. Wright and Rowan Vossler will be traveling to Costa Rica in July for Wild Science: Adventures in the Jungle with The Bug Chicks.

Students went through an intense application process to be considered for the program and were selected based on their leadership and teamwork skills, along with a strong interest and ability in science.

"I'm proud of these students and excited for the experience they will have," shared Ashley Auman, Genesee Valley's JASON Argonaut Coordinator. "I'm also grateful for the teachers who are willing to accompany these students and invest in such a rewarding educational experience."



2023 National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

by Adison Grusendorf, current GV NHS President



On a beautiful Friday morning, March 24th 2023, Genesee Valley Central School held an induction ceremony for the new student members of the National Honor Society, an organization which empowers and recognizes well-rounded students who will go on to be future leaders and outstanding individuals in society. Four individuals demonstrated that they are outstanding in the four pillars of the National Honor Society: Scholarship, Character, Leadership and Service. These "four pillars" are among the basis for a purposeful and driven life. Lieutenant Rebekah Fleming, alumna of the GV class 2009, spoke on behalf of the Service pillar. She serves in the United States Military and has filled a very honorable role in her years of service. Lieutenant Fleming made many valuable points in her speech on Service.

Most importantly, she encouraged members to perform acts of service, such as playing guitar at a local arts center, helping an elder cross the street, and many other simple acts of giving back to others and your community. The pillar of Service was well represented by Lieutenant Rebekah Fleming and most admirable for members to emulate.

The following students of the class of 2024 were newly inducted: **Kimimela Ball, Morgan Bentley, Kendra Bigelow, and Molly Hannon.** These students pledged membership and enjoyed a reception with their families hosted by our Cafeteria Staff. *Congratulations!*



2023 NYS GRADES 3-8 ASSESSMENTS

Genesee Valley Central School will be administering the 2023 NYS 3-8 ELA, Math and Science assessments according to the schedule below. Please notify us if your child will be absent on testing days so we can schedule a make-up session. The New York State Education Department will again be limiting the NYS ELA and Math testing to two days per test as they have in previous years.

2023 MATH ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE	
Assessment Start Time	Tuesday/Wednesday, May 2-3
8:00 AM	Grades 3 & 8
8:45 AM	Grades 5 & 6
Assessment Start Time	Monday/Tuesday, May 8-9
8:00 AM	Grades 4 & 7

To promote your child's ability to perform at their very best, here are a few test-taking tips to review with your child:

- Keep a positive attitude and simply focus on doing your best. Try to relax and take a few deep breaths.
- Go to bed early so you can get a good night's sleep before testing day.
- Eat a healthy breakfast each morning of the test.
- Read each question carefully so you know what the directions are asking you to do.
- Write neatly so everyone can read your work.
- Make sure you answer all questions. If you don't know the answer, make your best guess.
- Avoid medical and dental appointments on testing days. If your child feels ill, keep them home for the day.

2023 SCIENCE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE	
Assessment Start Time	Tuesday/Wednesday, May 30-31
8:00 AM	Grade 8

2023 SCIENCE WRITTEN ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE	
Assessment Start Time	Monday, June 5
8:00 AM	Grade 8

As always, we appreciate the support we get from parents. If you have a child who could use some reassurance, please contact their classroom teacher. Our teachers can support your child while at school.

If you have any questions, please call testing coordinator Paula Mighells or your child's principal at (585) 268-7900.

REGION 12 LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT



Congratulations to Meg Retchless, our Director of Special Education, on being chosen to receive the Region 12 Leadership Award by the School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS).

Mrs. Retchless has worked at Genesee Valley since 2014. She served as Literacy Specialist from 2014 until 2021 when she transitioned into the Director of Special Education role.

The award recognizes a certified administrator who has contributed outstanding support or service to their district, and who has developed innovative programs resulting in improved operations or student achievement.

Brian Edmister, Elementary Principal at Genesee Valley, recommended Mrs. Retchless for this honor. "Mrs. Retchless made the jump from teacher to leader seamlessly! She has an incredible heart for kids, families, and those she supervises."

"Meg Retchless is most deserving of this leadership award," commented Emily Ring, Special Education Teacher at Genesee Valley. "It is clear that she cares for the students of Genesee Valley and the adults who care for them. We are so incredibly lucky to be led by someone who is a role model for teamwork, care, and respect."

The SAANYS represents 14,000 public school principals, assistant principals, directors, coordinators, and essential service leaders in many of New York's public schools and BOCES. Mrs. Retchless will receive her award at the SAANYS Region 12 Awards Dinner on May 11.



FROM THE CSE OFFICE:



Throughout the week of March 20-24, we celebrated and provided awareness towards World Down Syndrome Day. On March 21, faculty, staff members, and students were encouraged to “dress down” by wearing blue and yellow as well as crazy socks! Throughout the week, Grades Pre-K through 6th donated coins towards “Coins for Campers.” All of the money collected was donated to the Genesee Valley Rotary Camp (GVRC). This local summer camp, located in Pike, NY, is held for young people (ages 8-21) with various disabilities. The camp is free for kids to attend through the efforts and financial support of area rotary clubs and through private donations. It serves approximately 100 campers and employs 60 staff members each summer. The classroom that donated the most money was Ms. Schmidt’s Pre-K4 Classroom. They donated \$108.12! Our entire school donated a total of \$409.00. It was an amazing week!

WORK-BASED LEARNING PROGRAM

Genesee Valley’s Life Skills class has had an amazing 1st year with our new Work-Based Learning Program. Our students have had the opportunity to experience a variety of real life work environments from Stock Clerk, to Sales Associates, Building Maintenance, Vehicle Maintenance and working in Equestrian Barns. They’ve spent time in a restaurant environment which involved working in the kitchen (back of house) and the Dining Area (front of house). They’ve experienced the workings of running a small Pharmacy/Gift Shop business and the world of books in a library.

These experiences could not have happened without the partnering of our community’s local businesses. A big “Shout Out” and “Thank You” to this year’s Work-Based Learning Partners: Houghton University’s Maintenance Department and Equestrian Program, Giant Food Mart, Nicholson Pharmacy, Island Style Grill, Angelica Library, Alfred State’s ACES, Tops Grocery, East Wind Nursery, and our own GV Kitchen crew, Maintenance Department, and Bus Garage crew.

We look forward to partnering with these businesses and more next year as we continue to learn new skills and build our resumes to expand our future adult job successes.



GVCS RETIREES

Maureen Kelley

Maureen Kelley will be retiring this June after 44 years in education! After teaching for a year at Jasper Central School she started



teaching at Angelica in 1979. During her time in the Angelica and Genesee Valley Districts she has taught 3rd and 4th grades. Throughout four decades in the profession, she has mastered the art of balancing organization and efficiency with learning and fun in her classroom. Maureen has a desire to see each one of her students reach their full potential.

Fellow third grade teacher April Cole shared, "Maureen is my rock! Her experience and knowledge were invaluable to me when I first started in third grade. We work so well together as a team and balance each other perfectly! I can't tell you how hard it will be without her."

Linda Warner graduated from Angelica with Maureen. She commented: "I appreciate Maureen's kindness, strength, knowledge, and friendship. She has a great sense of humor that is kept hidden, but in quiet Maureen style, comes out often, giving you the best laugh."

Congratulations, Maureen, and best wishes in your retirement!



Rhonda Slocum

Congratulations to Rhonda Slocum on her retirement! Rhonda has worked in the cafeteria at Genesee Valley for 31 years. She will be missed greatly, and we are so happy for her and her family as she enters a new chapter in life. She is especially looking forward to an upcoming trip to Italy! Thank you, Rhonda, for sharing your smile with all of us at GVCS for the past 31 years.



Lori Olcott

Congratulations to Lori Olcott on her upcoming retirement! Lori has served the GVCS District as a bus driver for the past eight-and-a-half-years. Upon her retirement she plans on moving to Kentucky.



***Congratulations
to the cast and
crew of Matilda,
performed at
GVCS
March 10-12, 2023***



May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
PLEASE NOTE - SPORTS SCHEDULES WILL BE ON GV WEBSITE	1 CHARACTER WORD OF THE MONTH CITIZENSHIP	2	3	4 -Last day to register for 6/3 SAT Test	5 -Last day to register for 6/10 ACT Test	6 -SAT Test (register by 4/7)
7	8	9 -5:30pm - Board of Education Budget Hearing & Regular Meeting, Room 1121	10	11	12 -End of 4th Mid-Quarter -NYSSMA Solo Festival at Fillmore	13 -NYSSMA Solo Festival at Fillmore
14	15	16 -12-8:00pm-District Vote, Belmont residents-GV Pool Vestibule; Angelica Residents-Grange Hall -Accept Vote Results -Spring Concert: 6:30pm Gr. 9-12	17	18 -Spring Concert: 6:30pm Gr. 5-8	19 -Progress reports available online/mailed home Gr. 6-12 -Springville Jazz Band Festival, 8-3:00pm	20 -Springville Concert / Marching Band Festival
21	22	23	24	25	26 School Closed - (unused snow day)	27
28	29 -School Closed -Memorial Day Observed -Angelica Parade, 9:00am -Belmont Parade, 11:00am	30	31			

CALENDAR OF EVENTS June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CHARACTER WORD OF THE MONTH -PATIENCE	PLEASE NOTE - SPORTS SCHEDULES WILL BE ON GV WEBSITE			1	2	3 -SAT Test (register by 5/4) -Prom
4	5	6	7 -6:00 pm Fine Arts Banquet	8	9	10 -ACT Test (register by 5/5)
11	12 -End of 4th Marking Period, Gr. 5-12 -End of 3rd Marking Period Gr. K-4 -Last Day Grades 7-12	13 -Regents Exams -5:30pm - Board of Education Meeting, Room 1121	14 -Regents Exams -1:00pm The Julia Deichmann Memorial Flag Day March	15 -Regents Exams	16 -Regents Exams -Last day to register for 7/15 ACT Test	17
18	19 -School Closed -Juneteenth Observed	20 -Regents Exams -Last Full Day Grades PK-6	21 -Regents Exams -1:00 pm dismissal for Grades PK-6	22 -Regents Exams -1:00 pm dismissal for Grades PK-6	23 -Regents Rating Day -Senior Class Lunch & Graduation Practice -HS Concert Band Rehearsal for Graduation	24 -11:00am - Class of 2023 Graduation Ceremony
25	26	27	28	29	30	



ROBOTICS: STATE TOURNAMENT

By Carolyn Wright

On March 11, the Robotics Class consisting of James Frawley, Izak Hutchison, Rylee Ordway, and Kaden Huffer, and the RoboJags Team represented by Dominic Marra and Dean Frawley competed in the State Tournament held in Syracuse, NY. At the end of the qualifying rounds, the class bot was seeded 18th and the RoboJags bot was seeded 20th. Both teams were able to choose an alliance and make it into the elimination rounds. During their first elimination match, both teams defeated higher ranked teams quite handily. Unfortunately for both teams, their State run came to an end in the quarterfinals. The class robot was 12 points away from advancing to the semifinals. Both teams represented GV well, and I am very proud of the hard work and dedication they both put into creating and programming their robots.



AG LITERACY WEEK

By Carolyn Wright

The week of March 20-24 marked NY's Agricultural Literacy Week. This is an effort organized by New York Agriculture in the Classroom to educate students about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives as well as introduce students to career opportunities within the industry. To support this initiative, Genesee Valley CSD FFA, with the help of Allegany County CCE and county legislator Gretchen Hanchett, read to and facilitated an agriculture-based lesson to elementary classrooms at GV. During the week of March 20th, eleven FFA students read to eight elementary classrooms in grades K-3. The students read a book titled "Tomatoes for Neela" and then led a brief class discussion which led into an activity where students planted both tomato and basil seeds. The response from the elementary teachers and their students was overwhelmingly positive, and all of the FFA students did an amazing job reading and facilitating the activity in classrooms.





Student Name _____ Age _____ Grade entering in Fall _____ D.O.B. _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Phone _____

Emergency Contact #1 Name _____ Phone _____

Emergency Contact #2 Name _____ Phone _____

Does your child have allergies (including food allergies) or other medical concerns? Please describe.

Person(s) Authorized to Pick Up Your Child

**Note: We will not release your child to anyone not listed below other than custodial parent/guardian.*

Name _____ Phone _____

Relationship to Child _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Relationship to Child _____

Check which week(s) your child will be attending:

- Week 1** (July 10-July 14)
- Week 2** (July 17-July 21)
- Week 3** (July 24-July 28)
- Week 4** (July 31-August 4)
- Week 5** (August 7-August 11)
- Week 6** (August 14-August 18)

Please return form ASAP to Payton Watson, Extended School Day Director



WINTER SPORTS ALL-STARS

Congratulations to the following All-Stars and other special honors from Genesee Valley (GV) and Belfast Central (BC) during the winter athletics season.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

1st Team All-Stars:



MARY HAMER

Mary Hamer (BC)



ANNA DROZDOWSKI

Anna Drozdowski (BC)

Section V Class D1
All-tournament team:
Mary Hamer (BC)

Dan Denner Girls
Basketball Scholarship:
Adison Grusendorf (GV)

Exceptional Senior Game:
Harley Proctor (BC)
Anna Drozdowski (BC)

BOYS BASKETBALL

1st Team All-Star:



IAN MACKENZIE

Ian MacKenzie (GV)

Exceptional Senior Game:
Thai Norasethaporn (GV)
Max Wedge (GV)

CHEERLEADING

1st Team All-Star:



SOPHIA GUGINO

Sophia Gugino (GV)
Sophia was also selected to cheer at the Ronald McDonald game.

BOWLING

1st Team All-Star Section V:



ETHAN BIGELOW

Ethan Bigelow (GV)

Kory Nurse
(Wellsville)

Kory was selected to the State Qualifier Composite Team for Section V

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

1st Team All-Star:



CANAAN SULLIVAN

Canaan Sullivan (BC)

MARCH MADNESS

During March Madness (Locura de Marzo), Spanish Teacher Ms. Lindquist ran a competition with music instead of basketball. Each day, students listened to and watched the music videos for the day and discussed the genre, artists, and lyrics, and then the students voted on their favorite. There are multiple genres included as well as artists from various Spanish speaking countries. Music is a great way to connect with students and also a great way to learn a language!



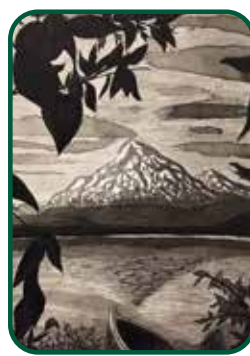
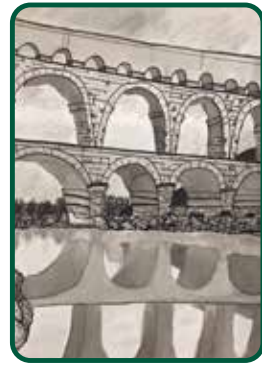
COSTA RICA / PANAMA TRIP



Spanish Teacher SueAnn Lindquist led a GVCS Tour of Costa Rica and Panama over Spring Break. Highlights from the tour included the Biodiversity Museum in Panama, the Panama Canal, kayaking in a rain forest, visiting the La Fortuna waterfall, ziplining, great food, and experiencing Latin American culture!

Students attending: Brooke Timberlake, Nolan Hunter, Graham Bradt, Daphne Gugino, Riley Stephan, and Ellaina Scholes.

PAINTING CLASS ARTWORK



ODYSSEY OF THE MIND STATE TOURNAMENT

Two GVCS Odyssey of the Mind teams competed in the state tournament on Saturday, April 15. Each team was required to participate in two challenges at the tournament. First, each team was given a problem in advance and was tasked with creating and performing an original play. Second, each team was presented with a “spontaneous challenge” where they had a limited amount of time to work together to solve a problem.

Our teams competed against 20 other schools from across the state, each taking home 9th place! Our teams included Katie Cunningham, Melody Coats, Alyssa McGaughy, Avery Geoppner, Amelia Edmund, Rowan Vossler, and Jacob Anger.

Congratulations, students, on your hard work! And a big thank you to our OM advisors, Julia Wesche, Jill Vossler, and Pat Kozlowski.



GVCS CLASS OF 2026

Thank you for supporting our Otis Extravaganza Fundraiser. We appreciate you very much. Please watch for our table to be set up at Baseball/Softball home games. We will be selling Country Meat Beef sticks 2/\$3.

Also, for a \$1.00 donation (or more) you may choose a key chain, zipper pull or magnet of your choice.



ELEMENTARY PAW AWARDS

Our Pre-K through 5th graders enjoyed a special treat for earning 50,000 Paw Awards so far this year! Safari Seth from Prehistoric World brought some exotic animals to share with our students, including an Asian water dragon, king snake, red eared slider turtle, sulcate turtle, monitor lizard, legless lizard and more! This event was sponsored by the elementary guidance office and the GVCS PTO.



Join us on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 10-3

FOREVER YOUNG COMMUNITY CLUB

at Genesee Valley Central School

We are looking for community members that are 50+ to join us for activities and socialization!

For more information or to register, please contact the Office for the Aging at 585 268 9390 or Larissa at 585 497 1972



SUPPORTED IN PART BY EXHALE FAMILY CAREGIVER INITIATIVE



Genesee Valley Central School

1 Jaguar Drive
Belmont, NY 14813



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
Beverly Evans
Joshua Shannon
Frederic Grusendorf
Eric Knapp
Max Gilluly

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

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

GENESEE VALLEY FITNESS CENTER

NOTE: A friendly reminder when you use the GVCS Fitness Center: *please remember to change into clean shoes before entering the fitness center.* (Salt from the roads is getting into some of our equipment.) There is ample space to change footwear prior to entering the center. Thank you for helping us keep our fitness equipment clean and usable for all.

Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday 5:00-8:00 a.m. and 3:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

If the school building is closed (holidays, snow days, early dismissals, etc.) **the Fitness Center will be closed**

Rules for Using the Fitness Center

- Enter & exit through the main doors by the Fitness Center
- Members must ensure that the equipment is clean by wiping off all equipment after each use. GVCS fitness center does provide sanitary wipes for use.



FITNESS ACTIVITIES OFFERED AT GVCS

(only when school is in session)

Cardio, Core, Strength & More

Mondays and Wednesdays
at 4:00 p.m.,

Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. Room 1170

Class also on Zoom

Instructor Pat Presutti,
Call 716-860-8287 for
information.

Zumba Fitness Classes

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Room 1170

Instructor Linda Presutti,
Call 716-474-0761 for
information.

Open Indoor Walking Track

Weekdays 7:00-8:00 a.m.
& 5:00-8:00 p.m.

(except during athletic contests
& holidays)

Adult Yoga Class

Thursdays 3:55-5:00 p.m.
Room 2108

Instructor Kristin Buchholz,
Contact Kristin at kbuchholz@genvalley.org or call
(585) 268-7900 ext. 1151
for more info.

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.