



Genesee Valley Central School

Jag News



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GV/BC HOMECOMING 2023

Homecoming was held on September 29th and 30th, preceded by Spirit Week, September 25-29. To start off the weekend activities, students from GV along with fellow athletes from Belfast gathered in the gym for a pep rally as the Pep Band played music to get everyone excited for Homecoming. The pep rally included our traditional tug of war, followed by the seniors playing musical chairs. Over the weekend, several events took place including soccer games, volleyball matches, the Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony, and the Homecoming Dance at Belfast Central. Thank you to everyone who made this weekend a big success!



2023 Homecoming Court



Whitney Young, Nolan Hunter, Evan Turybury, GV King - Jayden Beckwith, GV Queen - Cassidy Hand, Belfast Queen - Mary Hamer, Belfast King - Jordan Stout, Callahan Tallman, Carly Moulthrop, Haelyn Clark, Bayleigh Tallman, Addison Bradt, Mason Thomas, Jackson Southwick-Powers

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

Dear Families,

As fall settles in and winter approaches, the skies become grayer and the days shorten. There is a comfort that comes with autumn. It presents an opportunity to remain indoors, settle in by a fire, read a good book, and spend quality time with those we love. I love autumn for the bright colors, hunting season, and the opportunity to connect with those I see this time of year.

Autumn also presents an opportunity to reinforce the importance of school safety. At Genesee Valley the safety of our children, faculty, and staff is our priority. The continued tragedies in the nation and around the world bring awareness and serve as a reminder of the importance of safety procedures in schools. We partner with local law enforcement and are thankful for their visibility on campus. We practice and plan annually for emergency situations and frequently review incident plans and best practices. We practice safety procedures regularly and are mindful of school safety every day.

Safety procedures at GV practiced daily include the following:

- Keeping all exterior doors locked.
- Requiring that visitors always be screened at entrances.
- Video surveillance systems with digital cameras that may be shared with police and fire responders during emergency situations.
- Updated phone, fire alarm, and public address systems.
- Conduct safety, fire, and lockdown drills annually.
- The leadership team, faculty members, and BOE serve on the Safety Committee.
- CPR, AED, and numerous other training and first aid procedures are regularly offered.

What can you do to help?

- If you see something, say something. If it is an emergency call 911. If it is not an emergency, please call the District directly at 585-268-7900.
- Contact us immediately if you observe or become aware of any potential safety or security concerns.
- Keep your emergency contact information current with the Guidance Office.
- Review safety precautions with your children at home.
- If a real emergency ever occurs, please follow directions provided to you to reconnect with your child. Emergency and school officials may need to make decisions to ensure safety and preserve order. In some situations, students may be transported to alternate locations or released to you at a specific location.
- Follow visitor policies when you come to school by entering through the main entrance.
- Please remember all deliveries (homework, instruments, etc.) for students should be brought to the Welcome Desk at the main entrance. Students should not be going outside to pick items up.
- Keep informed via the District's newsletters, website, social media, and electronic newsletters.

We focus daily on the well-being of students and staff. All year, teachers, staff, and principals work tirelessly to create a safe and comfortable learning environment. We must continue to take care of one another. Thank you for your continued support and care for our children and each other.

Sincerely,



Dr. Brian Schmitt
Superintendent
Genesee Valley CSD



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



Dr. Brian Schmitt,
Superintendent

www.genvalley.org

THANK YOU BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS!

School Board Recognition Week - Observed Oct. 16th – 20th

This is a time to promote awareness and understanding of the important work performed by local school boards. School board members take on one of the most important citizen responsibilities—overseeing the education of the community’s youth. They make tough decisions every month and spend many hours studying education issues and regulations in order to provide the kind of accountability our community stakeholders expect. School Boards are comprised of volunteers who do not receive any compensation for their service. They are individuals within the community who dedicate their time to improving public education.

The key work of school boards is to raise student achievement by:

- Developing a shared vision and goals for the district
- Ensuring strategies, resources, policies and programs align with district goals
- Assessing and providing accountability for student achievement
- Supporting a healthy school district culture in which to work and learn
- Evaluating the superintendent to ensure continuous improvement
- And much more!

Board members complete mandatory courses for Board membership. They attend GVCS Board meetings, committee meetings, NYS School Boards Association meetings/conventions, Allegany County School Boards Association meetings, and various school events.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Education for their dedication to our school: Heath “Buddy” Gordon, President; Eric Knapp, Vice-President; Timothy Hand, Fred Grusendorf, Max Gilluly, Michelle Kelley and Jamie Willson.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES



- Thursday, November 9 – **Parent/Teacher Conference / Superintendent Conference Day**
Grades PK-12...No school
- Friday, November 10 – **Veterans Day Observed – School Building Closed**
- Tuesday, November 21 – **11:00 a.m. - All Students Dismissed**
- Wednesday, November 22 – **Thanksgiving Break – No School**
- Thursday, November 23 – **Thanksgiving Day – School Building Closed**
- Friday, November 24 – **Thanksgiving Break – School Building Closed**
- Friday, December 22 - January 1 – **Christmas Break/New Year’s Holiday – No School ,**
School Building Closed Dec. 22, 25, 29 & Jan. 1 – Students return Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024

Stay Tuned for Closings and Delays

GVCS uses School Messenger phone system to notify parents with a recorded phone call when school is closed or delayed. This information is pulled from Power School, which is our student information software. If your phone number recently changed, please contact Denise Baker at (585) 268-7937 or e-mail dbaker@genvalley.org with changes.

We also announce closings and delays on our District Website, TV Channels 2, 4, 7 & Spectrum, along with local radio stations: WQRW 93.5 FM, WLSV/WJQZ 103.5 FM and WPIG 95.7.



UPCOMING CONCERTS

Veterans Recognition Concert:

Genesee Valley would like to invite everyone to a special **Veterans Recognition Concert at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 7th.** The High School Band is excited to recognize the veterans with a musical tribute. Please come and support this musical celebration.

Winter Concerts:

- * *Thursday, December 7*
6:00 p.m. – Gr. K-1
6:45 p.m. – Gr. 2-4

- * *Tuesday, December 12*
4:00 p.m. – Senior Citizens
Concert & Dinner
6:30 p.m. – Gr. 9-12 Band / Gr. 7-12 Choir

- * *Thursday, December 14*
6:30 p.m. – Gr. 5-8 Band / Gr. 5-6 Choir

A message from Mr. Durant,

*Hello families! We have a small change for the Spring Concert schedule. The 5th-6th grade choir concert originally scheduled for Thursday, May 16th is **changed to Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 p.m.***

If you have any questions, you can reach me at cdurant@genvalley.org.

From: Mrs. Donlon 7-12 Building Principal



The school year is off to a great start! Classes are under way and the fall athletic season is in full swing. Our students had fun showing their school pride during spirit week! We had great weather for games and the dance was well attended.

Parent/Teacher conferences for grades 7-12 will be held the week of November 6. Please reach out to your child's teachers to schedule a time to come to the building, talk on the phone, or video conference.

As we look forward to the holiday season, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the Genesee Valley school community. I am thankful for the students, faculty, and community members who make up our district. Thank you for the part you play in making our community a wonderful place to live, learn, and grow!

With gratitude,

Mrs. Donlon

Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner - December 12th

The annual Christmas concert and dinner to honor our district's senior citizens is scheduled for Tuesday, December 12th. The high school band and choir will perform in the Auditorium starting at 4:00 p.m. Immediately following the concert, you will be guided to the cafeteria to enjoy a Christmas dinner prepared by our cafeteria staff and served by our National Honor Society students and GV staff.

When arriving at Genesee Valley, you may park in the back of the school or in the front; students will be available at both entrances to assist our special guests in getting to the auditorium. Visitors are asked not to arrive before 3:30 p.m. so that parking space is available once staff members leave. We also request that only senior citizens living in the GVCS district attend.

For reservations, call Pam Winterhalter at (585) 268-7909 by Tuesday, December 5th.
We look forward to sharing this evening with you.

NEW EMPLOYEE WELCOMED TO GVCS



Linda Burdick joins us this year in a new position as an Administrative Assistant to the Director of Special Education. For the past 26 years she has been a substitute in many areas here at Genesee Valley. Linda graduated from Northern Potter Central School District, and she resides in Angelica with her husband (Herb) of 40 years. She writes, "I have 3 beautiful daughters, 3 great sons-in-law, and 5 grandchildren (Landon, Kallie, Penelope, Velma, and a baby boy due in March)." Her hobbies/interests include walking, reading, painting, being with the grandbabies, and antique shopping.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Grades K-12: Conferences will be held between Monday, November 6th and Thursday, November 9th by appointment. Please reach out to your child's teachers to schedule a time via Zoom, TEAMS, email, phone, or in person.

****NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE on Thursday, November 9th; and the School Building is CLOSED on Friday, November 10th - Veterans Day Observed**

"Eat Your Lunch"

Observations from the Cafeteria Manager

Now that we are well into the 2023-24 school year, I've made a few observations that I wanted to share with our parents and guardians. I've seen many students of all ages throwing food away on a daily basis. I watch fruit, milk, and most of their main lunch choice go right into the garbage cans. How very sad, not to mention wasteful. This leaves hungry bellies for the remainder of the day.

I would love to see students branching out and trying the hot lunch options, the fresh fruits, and veggies that we work so hard to procure and prepare. I believe that healthy eating must begin at home! Families must strive to serve more nutritional, home-cooked meals with lots of local fruits and veggies. There are so many healthy and hearty meal options that are budget friendly.

Let us all strive to make our beautiful children more healthy!

"The First Wealth is Health" (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Kelli Zenoski
Food Service Manager
Genesee Valley Central School



CHARACTER WORDS OF THE MONTH

NOVEMBER - GRATITUDE: Gratitude is when you feel thankful for the good things in your life.

DECEMBER - COMPASSION: Compassion is having sympathy and concern for sufferings or misfortunes of others.



2023 ATHLETIC WALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Pictured L-R: Tim Filkins, Dustin Kelley, Nick Kelley, Josh Miller, Zach Scholla, Janet Swarthout, Brian Fanton, and Dean Scholes.



Dean Scholes is a 1986 graduate of Angelica Central school. Dean was a two-sport athlete competing for 4 years in soccer and basketball.

During his high school soccer career at Angelica he was awarded Allegany County 1st Team All-Star, Allegany County League Co-MVP, Section V Tournament MVP, and Section V Honorable Mention All-Star all in his senior season. In basketball he was Angelica Central team MVP Junior and Senior years, Houghton Christmas Tournament All-Star Junior and Senior years, and Richburg tip-off tournament All-Star his senior year. While at Angelica, he was a member of the Class D state soccer championship finalists' team in 1985 which was inducted into the 2009 GVCS Wall of Fame.

Dean has continued being involved as a coach or assistant in basketball, t-ball, little league, and soccer for 12 years with the Angelica Athletics Association and independent teams.

He currently resides in Angelica with his wife April and has four children.

Brian Fanton is a 2008 graduate of Genesee Valley Central School. Brian was a two-sport athlete playing soccer for 3 years and basketball for 4 years at GVCS.

While attending GVCS, he was a basketball 1st Team Allegany County All-Star and 1st Team Expressway League All-Star. He was chosen to the Big 30 basketball team as well as the Ronald McDonald Senior All-Star basketball game in Rochester. Some other noteworthy achievements in basketball include being named MVP at the Campbell Thanksgiving Tournament, Section V player of the week honors, and receiving the IAABO referees' scholarship in 2008. He also received the coaches award and was most dedicated in basketball during the GVCS sports banquet. Other extracurricular activities included National Honor Society, FBLA, and receiving 2 outstanding science awards, the Ben Franklin Award in history, and perfect attendance award for one year while attending GVCS.



Following graduation Brian has continued being involved as a coach and president for the Belmont Youth Leagues. He has coached multiple youth programs including summer soccer, basketball, bowling, and high school AAU basketball.

Brian has three children and resides in Belmont with his wife Caitlin.



Janet Swarhout is a 1980 graduate of Belmont Central School. She was a multi-sport athlete competing in soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball, and bowling. She was a four-year member of the soccer, volleyball, basketball, and softball teams.



During her high school years, Janet was a 1st Team All-Star in basketball for 3 years, 1st Team All-Star in volleyball for 2 years, 1st team All-Star in soccer and softball for 1 year. She scored 1,134 career points in basketball (prior to the 3-point shot being used). Her Junior and Senior years she was selected as an All-Star for the Angelica Girls Invitational Basketball Tournament.

Janet was also part of the Section V Class D Championship team in softball. She was a Belmont Central School MVP in basketball, volleyball, and softball for 2 years running and named outstanding senior athlete at their annual banquet. Other extracurricular activities include choir and band for 4 years and making Senior High All-County in both Choir and Band.

Following graduation Janet attended Brockport State where she continued playing soccer for 2 years, competing on Brockport's first women's soccer team; she also played basketball for 1 year. Janet continued being involved in coaching for 16 years at the JV and Modified level in soccer, basketball, and volleyball in Spencerport, NY. She spent 8 years coaching modified basketball, volleyball, and softball in the Rochester City School District.

Janet was selected to the Central Western Zone of the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance; she was named Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2008 and Amazing Person of the Year in 2009.

Janet has 1 child and resides in Walworth, NY with her spouse.

2002 GENESEE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

Section V Class DD Champions



This team finished with a 16-4-2 record, winning Section V Class DD championship and the Allegany County Division I Championship. The team was ranked as 8th in Class D in New York State and #1 in the final Olean Times Herald Big 30 rankings.

Team roster included: Matt Trowbridge, Mark Willson, Cole Finnemore, Dustin Kelley, Nick Kelley, Ryan Sandlas, Eric Rosenberger, Jared Finnemore, Joe Gehl, Tim Filkins, Hans Zlomek, Guy Middaugh, Tim Dobmeier, Matt Bliven, Casey McNinch, Zach Scholla, Jake Presutti, Josh Miller, Nick Tucker, and Coach Mark Emery.



Congratulations!



Congratulations to Varsity Girls Soccer Coach Lisa Scott-Schneider for recently reaching her 200th win in her soccer coaching career. Congrats coach - how about 200 more?!

GV Drama Club



GV Drama Club did a final performance of Annie Jr. on October 5th followed by a trip to see Frozen in Rochester, NY



GENESEE VALLEY CSD FFA CHAPTER OFFICIALLY CHARTERED BY NEW YORK STATE



On Monday, September 25th, the Genesee Valley CSD Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter welcomed the New York State FFA Officer Team as the inaugural stop on their Statewide Officer Tour. During their visit, the Officer Team conducted the official chartering ceremony, formally recognizing the Genesee Valley CSD FFA as a Chapter. Twenty-six GVCSD FFA members were present, along with 14 school and community supporters.

The official chartering solidified Genesee Valley's commitment to the values and principles of the FFA. Juleah Tolosky, Director of NY FFA, expressed her enthusiasm, stating, "It's always a thrill to add new FFA programs in our state. Genesee Valley worked diligently last year to qualify for a charter, and today was a great opportunity to celebrate and charter them in front of community supporters."

The event culminated in a speech by NYS FFA Vice President Courtney Taibi, who encouraged and challenged the FFA members to support one another and to embrace new opportunities as they collectively worked towards growing their chapter.

Carolyn Wright, Genesee Valley's FFA advisor, shared, "I'm really proud of the effort the students have put into creating and building this chapter so far. It is rare that a day goes by when a student doesn't come up to me and share an idea we should try. Their enthusiasm motivates me to be the best I can be for them and is the real driving force of the growth of Genesee Valley CSD's FFA Chapter."

Derick Grantier, a 9th grader at Genesee Valley, commented, "I joined FFA because I like agriculture and thought it would be a fun opportunity. My best experience so far was when we went to Buffalo for the State Convention." Derick expressed excitement for the upcoming year, encouraging his fellow classmates to join.

Addison Middaugh, another 9th grader in the program, joined in part because of her agricultural background and her dream of becoming a veterinarian. "I am super excited for what the FFA chapter holds for our future and what Miss Wright has planned for us," she shared. "In my short time in FFA I have learned how to collaborate with others and have been challenged to get out of my comfort zone."

The Genesee Valley FFA Chapter will begin their first major fundraiser, a citrus fruit sale, the week of October 9. It will run through the week of November 13. These funds will help students attend the NYS FFA Convention in May as well as other leadership and career events such as the COLT Conference at Cornell University on October 21.



BUILDING SCIENCE CLASS




Our Building Science class has been hard at work for the Village of Angelica. They are building a lean-to for outside the Electric Department Village Office.

FIRE SAFETY AND FIRE TRUCK TOUR




November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
 <p>PLEASE NOTE- SPORTS SCHEDULES WILL BE ON GV WEBSITES</p>	<p>CHARACTER WORD OF THE MONTH GRATITUDE</p>		1	2 -Last day to register for 12/2 SAT Test	3 -End of 1st Marking Period Gr. K-12 -Last day to register for 12/9 ACT Test -Jr. High Area All State Music Festival Rehearsal at Hornell, 12-8pm	4 -SAT Test (register by 10/5) -Jr. High Area All State Music Festival Concert at Hornell, 2:00pm	
	5	6	7 -PK3-12 Retake Picture Day -6:30pm-Veterans Recognition Concert, Auditorium	8	9 -Parent-Teacher Conferences -No Student Attendance -Reports cards ready for parent pick up/ mailed home Gr. K-12	10 -School Building Closed - Veterans Day Observed	11
	12	13	14 -5:30pm - Board of Education Meeting, Room 1121	15	16	17 -Sr. High Area All State Music Festival Rehearsal at Southside Elmira, 12:00pm	18 -Sr. High Area All State Music Festival Concert at Southside Elmira, 2:00pm
	19	20	21 -11:00 All Students Dismissed	22 No School -Offices Open -Thanksgiving Break	23 School Building Closed -Happy Thanksgiving	24 School Building Closed -Thanksgiving Break	25
	26	27	28	29	30		

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
 <p>CHARACTER WORD OF THE MONTH -COMPASSION</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE- SPORTS SCHEDULES WILL BE ON GV WEB-SITE</p>					1	2 -SAT Test (register by 11/2)	
	3	4	5	6	7 -Winter Concerts: -6:00pm Grades K-1 -6:45pm Grades 2-4	8 -ACT Test (register by 11/3)	9
	10	11 -12-8:00pm Capital Project Vote -4:00pm Senior Citizens dinner/ concert -5:30pm Board Meeting -Winter Concert: 6:30pm Gr. 9-12 Band/Gr. 7-12 Choir	12	13	14 -Winter Concerts: -6:30pm Gr. 5-8 Band -Gr. 5-6 Choir	15 -End of 2nd Mid-Quarter Gr. 6-12	16
	17	18	19	20	21 -Progress Reports mailed home Gr. 6-12	22 School Building Closed -Christmas Break	23
	24 31	25 School Building Closed -Merry Christmas	26 No School -Offices Open -Christmas Break	27 No School -Offices Open -Christmas Break	28 No School -Offices Open -Christmas Break	29 School Building Closed -Christmas Break	30



GV EXCHANGE STUDENT



GV was happy to welcome a surprise visitor in Mrs. Horne's PIG class. Former foreign exchange student Filip Trajkovski from Macedonia stopped in and joined right in with their discussion on immigration. It was great to learn how immigration is treated elsewhere in the world from Filip.

Work-Based Learning Program



GVCS students in the work-based learning program gain practical work experience at local business and organizations throughout the year. So far this fall they have worked at Houghton University and Tops in Wellsville.





GV - BCS
EUROPE
TRIP
2024

LET'S GO TO ATHENS!

March 27-April 4

Interested in more information?
Contact Mrs. Sarah Horne at
shorne@genvally.org.

Little Caesars
Fundraising
Make our world famous pizza in your own kitchen!

PIZZA-PIZZA

**The Sophomore Class will be selling
Little Ceasar Pizza Kits in November.
We are hoping to deliver right before**

Thanksgiving break 😊

Stay Tuned to PJC for more details!



flu shot clinic

Wegmans pharmacists will be on-site providing flu shots.

When: **Tuesday, November 7th
4pm-7pm**

Where: **Innovation Center
(Pool Vestibule Entrance)**

50 copay with most insurances.

Minimum age requirements vary by state.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend getting the flu vaccine as soon as it becomes available to help protect you from the flu throughout the flu season.

Wegmans
pharmacy



**scan here for
appointment**



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
Tracie Bliven, Interim Director of Special Education &
CSE/CPSE Chairperson
Paula Mighells, Dean of Students and
Curriculum Coordinator
Erin Ostrander, School Business Official

Board of Education:

Heath Gordon, President
Eric Knapp, Vice-President
Timothy Hand
Fred Grusendorf
Max Gilluly
Michelle Kelley
Jamie Willson

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

GENESEEE 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.* 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 4:30 p.m.,

Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. Room 1170

*Instructor Pat Presutti,
Call 716-860-8287 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 4:00-5:15 p.m.

Room 1170

*Instructor Kristin Buchholz,
for more information contact Kristin at
kbuchholz@genvalley.org or call
(607) 382-7755*

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.