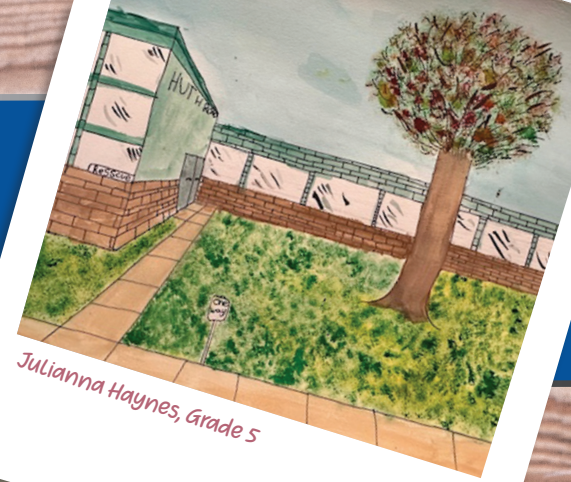


Grand Island Central School District

2024-25 Calendar & Community Notifications

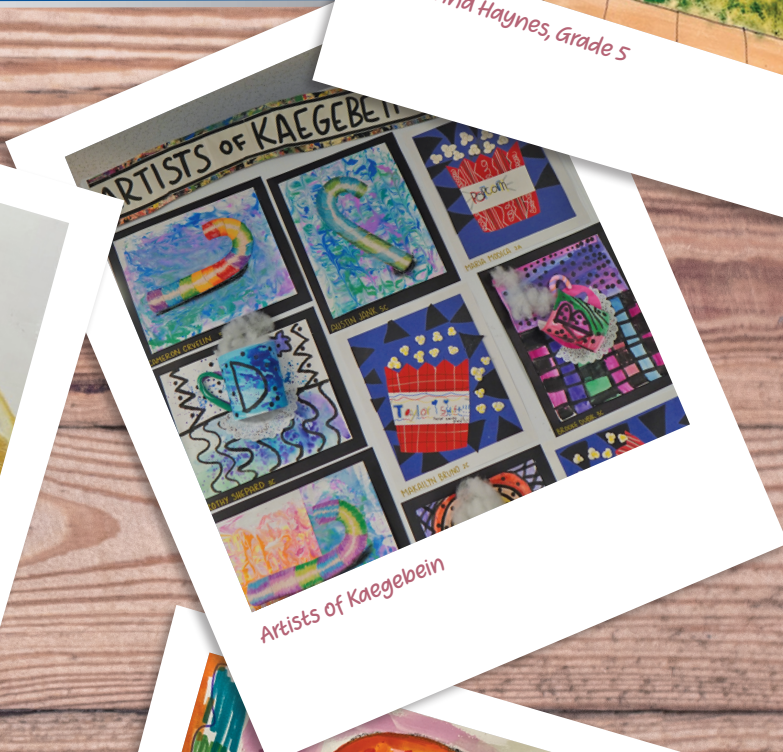
www.grandislandschools.org



Julianna Haynes, Grade 5



Angelina Freedman, Grade 8



Artists of Kaegebein



Kyleigh Ulrich, Grade 12

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
PERSONAL GROWTH
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Colbie Mesmer, Kindergarten

Welcome to the Grand Island Central School District

Dear Grand Island Families,

As I embark on my ninth year as the superintendent of schools, I am once again filled with excitement and great anticipation. Over the past eight years, I have had the privilege of witnessing the remarkable growth and achievements of our students, staff, and community. This year, I am more inspired than ever by the dedication and passion that define our wonderful school system and community, and I look forward to another year of progress and celebration.



We continue to recognize the vital importance of fostering a strong partnership between home and school. This publication includes not only district and building events but also essential annual notifications and other information that our community needs to stay informed. The involvement of parents and guardians both inside and outside the classroom remains a crucial factor in enhancing student learning. The more we share the amazing activities and accomplishments of our dedicated staff and students, the more we can create a thriving atmosphere of extended learning opportunities.

This year, we have so much to be proud of and even more to look forward to. As I visit classrooms across the district, I am consistently impressed by the meaningful and rigorous learning experiences our teachers design for their students. Our educators continue to excel in providing differentiated instruction that meets the needs of all learners. They serve not only as teachers but as leaders in their classrooms, facilitating high-quality learning that is both challenging and developmentally appropriate.

In the evolving landscape of education, Artificial Intelligent-driven personalized learning platforms are playing a pivotal role in transforming how students engage with educational content. We are excited to announce a partnership with Khan Academy where every student in our high school will have access to Khanmigo, an innovative AI Tutor. Khanmigo stands out in the AI-driven personalized learning space by offering real-time, interactive support tailored to individual student needs. Khanmigo can answer questions, provide hints, and engage in meaningful dialogue, fostering a deeper understanding of academic material.

Thank you for your unwavering support as we strive to continuously improve and grow as a school system. I hope that you and your family have enjoyed a restful and fulfilling summer, and that your children return in September eager and ready to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Together, we will continue to build a championship school district that we can all be proud of.

Sincerely,
 Brian Graham, Ed.D.
 Superintendent
 Email: BrianGraham@gicsd.org
 Phone: 716-773-8801

Follow me on X (the social media formerly known as Twitter) @BrianSGraham.
 Follow the district on X @GrandIslandCSD and on Instagram @grandislandschooldistrict

2024-25 School Hours for Students

GIHS/VCMS

7:23 a.m. Buses Drop Off
 7:34 a.m. School Begins
 2:28 p.m. Buses Depart

Huth/Kaegebein/Sidway

8:50 a.m. Buses Drop Off - Huth/Kaegebein
 8:55 a.m. Buses Drop Off - Sidway
 9 a.m. School Begins
 3:15 p.m. Buses Depart

Please note that the actual schedule may be revised by no more than 5 minutes either way after the start of school once the bus patterns are established.

Our Points of Pride

- Engaged in a five-year strategic plan initiative involving all stakeholders within the district as we build the foundation of a master plan.
- Caring, supportive faculty and staff focused on student success.
- Outstanding athletic program with a rich history and tradition of success within the Niagara Frontier League, Section VI, and the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.
- Listed as a "Best Community for Music Education" by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) for the 13th consecutive year.
- Robust curriculum that provides a variety of learning experiences for students.
- District-wide character education that emphasizes responsibility, respect and safety.
- Extended learning experiences through clubs and activities.
- Dedicated registered nurse in every building.

GICSD Telephone Directory

Grand Island Central School District
 1100 Ransom Road, Grand Island, NY 14072
 District Phone: 773-8800

Central Office Departments

Student Registration..... 716-773-8800
 Facilities Use..... 716-773-8800
 Office of the Superintendent..... 716-773-8801
 Business Office 716-773-8805
 Athletics..... 716-773-8812
 Special Education..... 716-773-8815
 Curriculum 716-773-8818
 Human Resources..... 716-773-8822
 Community Relations 716-773-8833
 Community Education..... 716-773-8864
 Food Service 716-773-8885
 Transportation..... 716-773-8890



VISIT THE DISTRICT WEBSITE AT WWW.GRANDISLANDSCHOOLS.ORG TO KEEP ABREAST OF NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE SCHOOLS AND TO FOLLOW GRAND ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS. A COMPLETE LIST OF ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS IS AVAILABLE UNDER THE COMMUNITY TAB OF THE DISTRICT WEBSITE.



**Grand Island High School**

Grades 9-12
1100 Ransom Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

Hillary Kretz-Harvey, Principal

Adam Hernandez, Assistant Principal

Jaime Peld, Assistant Principal

Attendance Office, 716-404-1303

Main Office, 716-773-8820

Nurse's Office, 716-773-8827

Points of Pride

- Rigorous academic program with options for honors, advanced placement, and other coursework through colleges and universities including Niagara University and Erie Community College.
- Advanced technology education in the district's state-of-the-art technology wing.
- GIHS Art Club collaboration with the Town of Grand Island Recreation Department.
- Award-winning DECA business club.
- Travel abroad opportunities through the language program.

**Veronica E. Connor Middle School**

Grades 6-8
1100 Ransom Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

Dr. Felicia Pallaci, Principal

Christine Hietz, Assistant Principal

Attendance/Guidance Office,
716-773-8837, 716-773-8844

Main Office, 716-773-8830

Nurse's Office, 716-773-8838

Points of Pride

- WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) is a middle school orientation and transition program that trains eighth-graders as mentors who make new students feel comfortable in middle school. A monthly character education program and social emotional learning activities (WEB days) are presented to all seventh and eighth-graders too.
- Seventh-grade students participate in raising money to build a fresh water well in South Sudan, inspired by the book "A Long Walk to Water" by Linda Sue Park.

**William Kaegebein Elementary School**

Grades 2-5
1690 Love Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

Principal

Main Office, 716-773-8840

Nurse's Office, 716-404-1606

Points of Pride

- Ten raised beds and a pollinator garden in the courtyard.
- Collaboration with Buffalo State on math and science evening.
- Rise and Shine and Read.
- Math and Reading Game Night.
- Video streaming of morning announcements.
- Heart Healthy Night.
- One-to-one technology.
- Award-winning music program.
- Touch TVs/SMART Boards in every classroom.
- School musical and class plays.
- Art and Chamber Music Evening.

**Huth Road Elementary School**

Grades 2-5
1773 Huth Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

Maxwell Pikula, Principal

Main Office, 716-773-8850

Nurse's Office, 716-404-1706

Points of Pride

- National PTA School of Excellence.
- Award-winning faculty.
- After-school activities.
- One-to-one technology.
- Touch TVs/SMART Boards in every teaching space.
- Grade-level Field Days.
- Multiple enrichment assemblies throughout the year.
- Strong music program.
- Well-attended PTA fundraisers.

**Charlotte Sidway Elementary School**

Early Childhood Center
Grades K-1
2451 Baseline Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

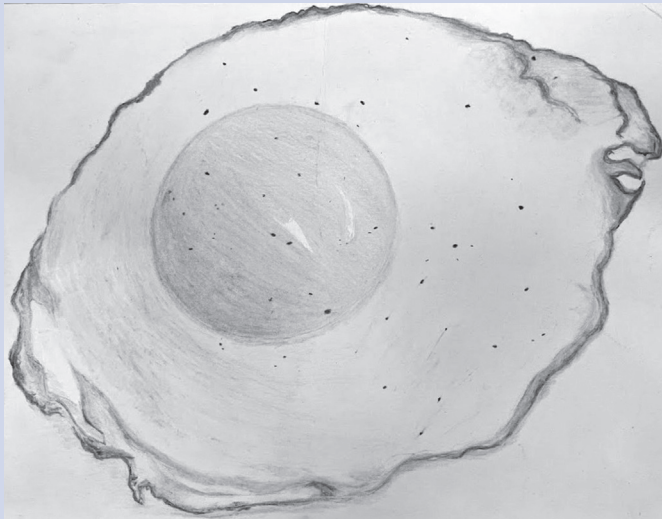
Michael Antonelli, Principal

Main Office, 716-773-8870

Nurse's Office, 716-404-1504

Points of Pride

- Recipient of National PTA School of Excellence designation.
- New PBIS Program focuses on the Viking Values, "Be responsible, be respectful, be safe and compassionate."
- New school mascot, "Sid Kid Viking," encourages our students to do things the "Sid-Way."
- New school-wide murals featuring Sid the Kid showing off the Viking Values.
- Yearly Fine Arts Show and Ice Cream Social.
- Annual kindergarten and first-grade musical performances.
- New multi-age playground.
- Book vending machine purchased through PTA fundraising to be used as part of PBIS rewards.



Than Hlaine, Grade 8

Parent Portal

Parent Portal is a web-based tool that provides parents/guardians access to timely and secure information about their child's academic progress and school records. The Parent Portal is open for parents of middle school and high school students. For instructions visit the district website.

Student Registration

We welcome all new students to the district. Our district uses a central registration system that starts with completing the Registration Enrollment Packet, available in print at the District Office, 1100 Ransom Road, or online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Please call 716-773-8800 (ext. 0) to set up an appointment to register your child. You must bring all of the required documents listed in the enrollment packet. Registration is by appointment only. After registration is completed at District Office, please call the building your child will attend to schedule an appointment for enrollment.

GICSD Food Service Breakfast & Lunch Program

Welcome Back. We look forward to a great school year.

Children need healthy meals to learn. The Grand Island Central School District offers healthy meals every school day.

Meal Pricing for the 2024-25 School Year.

Breakfast:	K-12	\$2.00		
Lunch:	K-1.....	\$2.75	2-5	\$3.00
			6-12.....	\$3.25

**Children attending Sidway Elementary, Kaegebein Elementary, and Veronica E. Connor Middle School will receive a FREE breakfast and lunch meal at school beginning on Sept. 4 and for the entirety of the 2024-25 school year. This implementation is a result of the United Edits to calendar under Food service States Department of Agriculture (USDA) expanding access to the federal Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). CEP allows eligible schools participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs to offer school meals at no charge to all students.

Should you have any questions regarding this program, or anything related to food services, contact Food Service Director Patrick Smith at 716-773-8885 or email patricksmith@gicsd.org.

Pre-Pay Student Meals

1. Online prepayments can be made by creating a MySchoolBucks account if you do not already have one. MySchoolBucks is a safe and convenient way for you to pay for your child's meals and review your child's meal history.
2. Send in a check or exact amount of cash to be deposited into your child's account. Please make checks payable to Grand Island Food Service with your child's name in the memo section.
3. Mail check or cash to: Grand Island Food Service Department at 1100 Ransom Road. Grand Island, NY 14072. Please include the child's name with all prepayments.

If you have any questions please contact Patrick Smith at 716-773-8885 or at patricksmith@gicsd.org.



Reygan Jordan, Grade 2



September 2024

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day No School	3 Superintendent's Conference Day No School <small>School Supply Dropoffs: Sidway/Meet the Teacher, 1st grade, 1-2 p.m.; K, 2-3 p.m., K bus ride, 3 p.m.; Kaegebein, 5-7 p.m.; Huth Road 2nd grade, 2-3 p.m</small>	4 First Day of School for Students	5 <small>Sidway Elementary K-1 Open House, 5:30-7:30 p.m.</small>	6	7
8	9 <small>BOE Meeting and Workshop at Eco Island, 7:30 p.m. PTSA Meeting, GIHS Library, 5:30 p.m.</small>	10 <small>PTA Meeting, VCMS Little Theater, 3 p.m.</small>	11 <small>GIHS Picture Day DECA Informational Meeting, 2:30 p.m.</small>	12 <small>GIHS Picture Day GIHS Extracurricular/ Activity Fair, GIHS Viking Mall, 2:30-3:30 p.m. GIHS Open House, 6:30-8:30 p.m.</small>	13	14
15	16	17	18 <small>Sidway Picture Day VCMS Picture Day, GIHS Grand Viking Theater Sidway PTA meeting, 3:30 p.m.</small>	19	20	21
22	23	24 <small>ConnectLife Blood Drive, GIHS</small>	25	26 <small>Night at the Vikings/ Powder Puff Game, 6-9:30 p.m.</small>	27 <small>Homecoming Football Game, 7 p.m.</small>	28 <small>Homecoming Dance, 7-10 p.m.</small>
29	30					

Student Busing Information

The Grand Island Central School District Transportation Department is utilizing a digital solution to distribute student busing information. We will be maintaining Versatrans e-Link® for parents/guardians to gain access to their child's busing information. Versatrans e-Link is an online student transportation parent portal, which enables parents to access their student's transportation information and bus schedules at any time.

More information can be found on the district website under the Transportation Department section.

The Grand Island Central School District's Transportation Department provides excellent service throughout your child's educational journey. Our school bus safety program, mandatory safety drills, and exceptional transportation staff work hard at ensuring student safety. Working together with parents, we strive to maintain a high level of safety.

In order to assure safe transportation to and from school, proper behavior must occur while riding the bus. Misbehavior that distracts the driver is a very serious hazard to the safe operation of the bus, and as such, jeopardizes the health, safety and welfare of all the passengers.

Acceptable items to carry on the bus include books, small back packs, small book bags, lunch boxes. Students are not allowed to take photos or videos on the bus with an electronic device. High school and middle school students may walk up to five-tenths (.5) of a mile to a bus stop. Students in grades 2-5 may walk up to three-tenths (.3) of a mile to a bus stop; kindergarten and first-grade students may walk up to two-tenths (.2) of a mile to a bus stop.

Parents/guardians of K-1 students are requested to meet their children at the bus stop to help ensure their child's safety.

After-school/late run buses

Please have your child notify you in advance that they plan to stay after school, the reason or event, and the expected time home. Each after-school late run bus has a large area of the Island to cover with an abbreviated service. Drop-offs may not be the same as the regular A.M.-P.M. bus stop. Additionally, drop-off times may vary each night, depending on how many students are on the bus and where they live.

Work for a Great District!

We continuously recruit substitute teachers, bus drivers, cleaners, and food service staff. Interested applicants should visit the HR Personnel page under the Departments and Services tab on the district website.

APPLY NOW AT THE BUS GARAGE!

The Grand Island Central School District Transportation Department is currently hiring school bus drivers and substitute drivers.

If you do not have your CDL license, we will train you. In fact, the district will pay \$16 an hour up to 30 hours maximum for the CDL Class B license with a PS endorsement training. Starting pay as a substitute driver is \$20 an hour. After 20 days of consecutive work, your hourly rate will go up to \$24.10. The hours are part-time with a split daily schedule, (approximately 25-30 hours per week) and include other great benefits. Stop by the Jack Burns Transportation Center at 2451 Baseline Road behind Sidway and pick up an application or call 716-773-8890.



Sam Mesmer, Grade 11



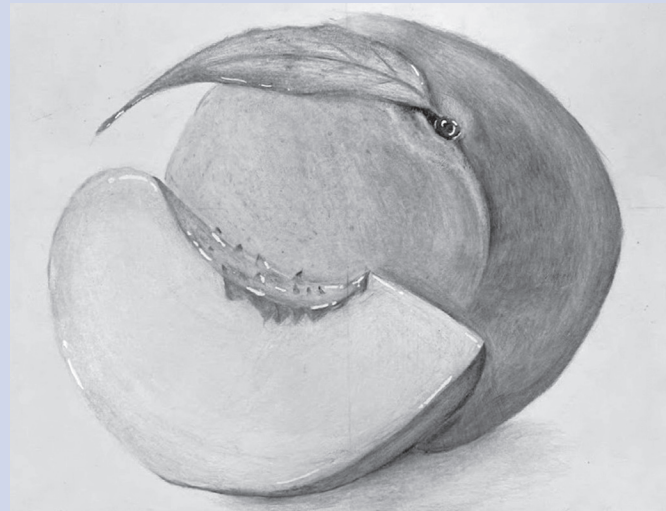
Sophia Myers, Grade 8



October 2024

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Financial Aid Night, GIHS large cafeteria, 6:30-8 p.m.	3	4 GIHS Senior Luncheon	5
6	7 BOE Meeting and Workshop at Charlotte Sidway Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.	8 WNY College Consortium, GIHS large cafeteria, 8:45-9:30 a.m.	9 GIHS midpoint of quarter 1 Senior Portraits, Class of 2025	10 Senior Portraits, Class of 2025	11 Spotlighters Tales for Tots, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 5-7 p.m.	12
13	14 Columbus Day No School	15	16 GIHS School Picture Retakes Sidway PTA Meeting, 3:30 p.m. at Sidway DECA Induction, GIHS large cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.	17	18 VCMS Musical, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m. Sidway Trunk or Treat, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (rain date Oct. 25) Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony	19 VCMS Musical, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
20	21	22	23 GIHS String and Choral Concert, Grand Viking Theater, 8 p.m.	24	25	26 PSATs, GIHS
27	28	29	30 GIHS Band Concert, Grand Viking Theater, 8 p.m.	31		



London Harsch, Grade 8

Public Access to School Records

School district records are open for public inspection and copying. Access is limited to the extent that it would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Requests to inspect and/or copy district records can be made through any administrator. If you need assistance locating information, the district office staff will assist you. Copies of documents are 25 cents per page.

Kindergarten

The full-day kindergarten curriculum emphasizes the Learning Center approach. It helps individualize learning experiences while capitalizing on student curiosity and interests. Youngsters are involved in directed and free-choice activities encompassing reading, mathematics, social living, science, art, music and motor activities.

Partnering with Our Community

Staff and students at all buildings are involved actively supporting our community throughout the school year. Especially active during holiday times, district-wide food collections through the Grand Island Neighbors Foundation assist families in need. Our local veterans partner with the district on several projects. Our district and its community partners raised substantial funds for the new John R. Oishei Children's Hospital and had a Grand Island Community Room dedicated on the hospital's 10th floor. We are proud of the strong ties we have built with the business community through the Grand Island School & Business Alliance (GISBA).

Staying Connected

To stay connected with community, the district uses several media avenues:

- On social media, follow the district's accounts: @GrandIslandCSD on X (the social media formerly known as Twitter) and @grandislandschooldistrict on Instagram.
- The Bridge newsletter is published and mailed to all district homes.
- Bookmark the district website, www.grandislandschools.org, to stay abreast of events and news from the buildings.
- The Board of Education meetings are recorded and available for viewing on the BOE web page.



Piper Robey, Grade 4



Liliana Palazzo, Grade 1



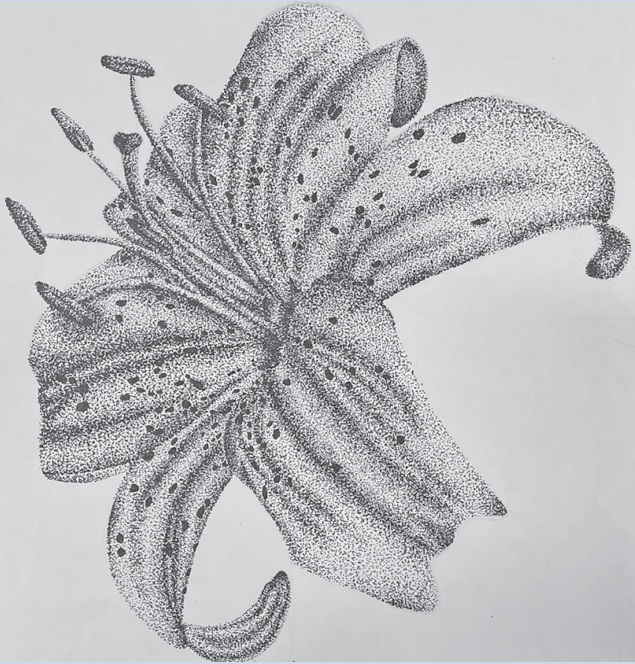
Eleanor Murray, Grade 8



November 2024

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Junior High Area All-State at Akron High School	
						SAT test, GIHS
3	4 BOE Meeting and Workshop at Huth Road Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.	5 Election Day Superintendent Conference Day No School	6 Sidway Picture Retakes Huth Road Elementary Band Concert and Elementary String Concert, Huth Road Elementary Auditorium, 7 p.m.	7 GIHS end of quarter 1	8 Veterans Parade	9
10	11 Veterans Day No School	12 PTSA Meeting, GIHS Library, 5:30 p.m.	13 Kaegebein Elementary School Band Concert, Kaegebein Auditorium, 7 p.m.	14 VCMS 7th/8th Grade Fall Concert (Band 7/8, Chorus 7/8, Orchestra 7/8), GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	15	16
17	18	19 GIHS National Honor Society induction ceremony, 6:30 p.m.	20 VCMS Sixth Grade Fall Concert (6 Band, 6 Chorus, 6 Orchestra), GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m. Sidway PTA Meeting, 3:30 p.m. at Sidway	21	22	23
					Senior High Area All-State at Fredonia	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			Thanksgiving Recess - No School			



London Harsch, Grade 8



Dexter Klutkowski, Grade 4

Emergency Weather Closings

As a matter of policy, schools will remain open whenever possible. However, when school must be closed because of weather conditions or other situations endangering the health or safety of children, announcements will be made over local media stations. We always strive to make this decision in a timely manner so that all families can make alternate arrangements, if needed.

The district will send out a recorded message on the Rapid Response System. **If you have not received a call from this system during a school closing, it may be that we do not have current contact information.** Please review the information provided to the school on a regular basis and send in a signed note with any changes, corrections, or additions. If no announcement is made between 6 and 9 a.m., you can assume that school will be open as usual. The following is a list of the local media stations contacted by the school district. Please consult your local stations for information regarding school closing.

- AM radio stations: WGR 550, WBEN 930, WNED 970, WUFO 1080, WECK 1230, WHLD 1270, WLVL 1340
- FM radio stations: WBUF 92.9, WBLK 93.7, WJYE 96.1, KISS 98.5, WHTT 104, WYRK 106.5, WNSA 107.7
- Television stations: WGRZ Channel 2, WIVB Channel 4, WKBW Channel 7, YNN Channel 9

Administering Medications

These procedures must be followed for all prescription and over the counter medications. This includes cough drops, lozenges, lip balms, skin creams and analgesics, etc.

1. All medications must be brought to school by the parent. Students are not permitted to transport prescription or over the counter medication on the bus.
2. Written orders signed by a healthcare provider and instructions by the pharmacist must accompany the medication. These instructions must include the student's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, the route (the way it is given), time interval, the duration, possible side effects, etc. (A pharmacy label does not constitute a written order from a physician.)
3. The medication must be kept in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy, doctor or manufacturer. Parents may wish to ask the pharmacist to split the prescription into two labeled containers, one for home and one for school.
4. Written permission must be submitted by the parent and kept on record in the health office, requesting that the school district comply with physician's orders. A copy of the prescription and over-the-counter medication request form is available in the health office and on the district website.
5. Students assessed by their licensed healthcare provider as being self-directed may carry and self-administer an inhaler or epi-pen once written permission is on file.

**SENIORS EARN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS
THROUGH THE GIHS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, WHICH ENCOMPASSES
SCHOOL CLUBS, COMMUNITY AGENCIES AND MEMORIAL FUNDS.**

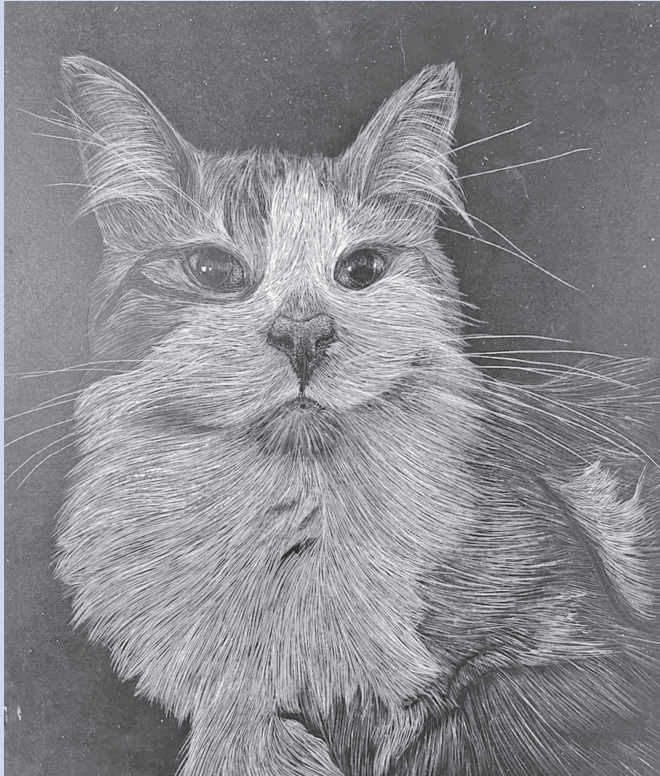




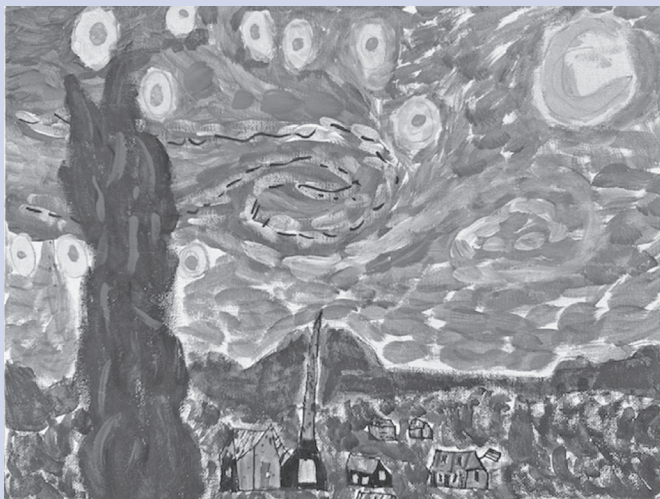
December 2024

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Sidway Book Fair, evening sale, 5-7:30 p.m. VCMS/GIHS Teacher Conference Day -- no school for VCMS/GIHS students	3	4 Kaegebein Elementary School Choral Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	5 Huth Road Elementary Choral Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	6	7
Conference All-State (music)						
8 Conference All-State (music)	9 BOE Meeting and Workshop at Kaegebein Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.	10 Huth Road Elementary Third Grade Concert, Huth Road School Auditorium, 7 p.m.	11 GIHS Winter Concert, Grand Viking Theater, 7:30 p.m.	12 GIHS midpoint of quarter 2 Beginner Band Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	13	14
15	16	17 VCMS Winter Fest (8th Grade Band, Chorus, Orchestra), GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	18	19 ConnectLife Blood Drive, GIHS Grand Viking Theater	20 Huth Road Elementary Holiday Assembly (all ensembles), 10 a.m. Kaegebein Elementary School Musicales (Chorus, Band, Orchestra), TBA	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Winter Recess - No School						
29	30 Winter Recess - No School	31				



Hazel Shepard, Grade 8



Kolton Kish, Grade 5

Communication Between Home and School

Good communications are the basis of understanding that unites home and school efforts in support of youth. We will do our best to keep you informed of your child's progress, instructional offerings, proposed program changes and general levels of student achievement through report cards, parent conferences, notes and phone calls, open house programs, board meetings, news releases and advisory councils.

If you have a concern with your child's education, or with any aspect of the school system, we invite you to call the individual most closely associated with your concern. Initially your concern should begin with your child's teacher. When a problem relates to a building, call the principal; if it is a bus problem, call the transportation supervisor; if you are concerned with the appropriateness of your child's educational placement, call the director for curriculum and instruction. If you have not been able to resolve your concern at those levels, then call the superintendent of schools. If you still feel your communications are unsatisfactory, contact the board of education.

Remember, there are two sides to every story. To bypass the classroom teacher, the building principal or the superintendent of schools, it discredits them and is not fair to school personnel, yourself and your child.

Child Abuse Hotline Notification (NYSOCFS)

School districts are required to provide this information to the community. If you suspect abuse or maltreatment, report it now! Call the NYS Office of Children and Family Services statewide toll free telephone number 1-800-342-3720 or access the website here: <http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/> If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call TDD/TTY at 1-800-638-5163 or have your Video Relay System provider call 1-800-342-3720. If you believe that a child is in immediate danger, call 911 or your local police department.

Pesticides

If you would like a 48-hour prior notification of the application of pesticides that are scheduled to occur in your school, please contact the facilities office at 773-8824 or e-mail jamesrozler@gicsd.org to receive the request for the pesticide application notification form.

AHERA Annual Notification

Under EPA regulations, the school district is required to notify all employees and occupants that asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) are present in each of the schools. The location of asbestos in each building can be found in the asbestos management plan located in the main office of each school. In order to protect the health and safety of every person who comes into the schools, the District has conducted periodic surveillances to detect any problems. Trained personnel continue to maintain the asbestos in a condition that will provide a safe environment for everyone. If you have any questions regarding the above information, please contact the business office at 773-8805.

Use of School Facilities

The Board of Education encourages community groups to use school facilities that are not in use for school programs. Groups desiring to use school facilities should make their requests well in advance by filling out appropriate application forms. To obtain these forms, call 773-8800 (ext. 0). An up-to-date insurance form must accompany the completed application before consideration can be made for scheduling of the facility.



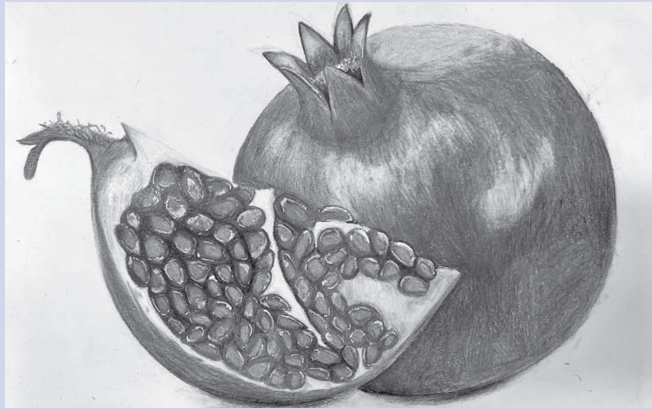
January 2025

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day No School	2	3	4
5	6 BOE Meeting and Workshop at Connor Middle School, 7:30 p.m. Academy of Finance Information Night	7 Academy of Finance Information Night (online)	8 Beginner String Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	9	10	11 Elementary Instrumental, Junior High Vocal, Instrumental Jazz All-County auditions
12	13	14 HS PTSA meeting, GIHS library, 5:30 p.m.	15 Sidway PTA Meeting, 3:30 p.m. at Sidway	16	17	18 Junior High Instrumental All-County Auditions
19	20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No School	21	22	23	24	25
Regents Exams						
					GIHS end of quarter 2	Senior High Instrumental, Vocal Jazz All-County Auditions
26	27	28	29 Lunar New Year	30	31	



Madelyn Pfeil, Grade 8



Hazel Shepard, Grade 8



Kamryn Paolucci, Grade 3

Section 504

504 plans aren't part of special education. So, they're different from IEPs. 504 plans and IEPs are covered by different laws and work in different ways. But the end goal is the same: to help students thrive in school. 504 plans are formal plans that schools develop to give kids with disabilities the support they need. That covers any condition that limits daily activities in a major way. These plans prevent discrimination. And they protect the rights of kids with disabilities in school. They're covered under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. This is a civil rights law.

Children with Disabilities

A child with a disability means a student under the age of 21 who is entitled to attend public schools and who, because of mental, physical, or emotional reasons can only receive appropriate educational opportunities from a program of special education. A child is not considered as having a disability if his/her educational needs are due primarily to unfamiliarity with the English language; environmental, cultural, or economic factors; or lack of appropriate instruction in reading or mathematics.

If the State Education Department finds the district has inappropriate policies, procedures or practices resulting in a significant disproportionality by race/ethnicity in the suspension, identification, classification and/or placement of students with disabilities, the district will ensure that it publicly reports on the subsequent revisions to those policies, procedures, or practices.

The Board of Education recognizes the existence of individual differences in the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development of children attending school in the district. In recognizing these differences, the board supports a system of services offered in the least restrictive environment for children with disabilities.

VIKING TIP LINE



The Grand Island Central School District is partnering with AnonymousTips.com in an effort to provide a completely anonymous email system for students, parents or community members to utilize when student safety is at risk. The Viking Tip Line link is in the Quick Links area on the website homepages for the district and all school buildings.

Individuals using AnonymousTips.com will be able to send information to schools related to bullying, cyberbullying, sexting, suicide threats, drug activity, internet harassment, discrimination, illegal activity and other school-related safety concerns. When reporting, it is imperative that names, dates, times and any other details are included in the report.

The district believes that students should not be subjected to harassment on school property or at a school function; nor shall any student be subjected to discrimination based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity or expression), or sex by school employees or students on school property or at a school function.

The report is completely anonymous and cannot be traced unless you provide information to the selected educational institution to contact you.



February 2025

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 BOE Meeting, Workshop, and First Budget Input Session, GIHS Professional Development Room, 7:30 p.m.	4	5 GIHS High School Musical In-School Assembly for Huth and Kaegebein, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, TBA	6 GIHS High School Musical, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	7 GIHS High School Musical, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	8 GIHS High School Musical, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 6 p.m.
9	10	11	12 All-Island Band Concert #1, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	13 String Kaleidoscope Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	14	15
16	17 Presidents Day No School	18	19	20	21	22
		Mid-Winter Recess - No School				
23	24	25	26	27	28	

Family Support Services

Grand Island School District Family Support Services (FSS) program is excited to offer a variety of programs to families with students in need of mental health support. FSS is a joint endeavor of the Grand Island Central School District Board of Education and the Grand Island Town Board.

FSS has partnered with a variety of providers from the WNY community to offer students opportunities to engage in individual counseling sessions during the school day, at the District Office, or within their school building. A clinician from Horizon Health Services is available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at District Office for students 13 and over. We will have a clinician from Mobile Counseling of New York at District Office on Fridays to meet with students of any age. We have another clinician from Gateway on Fridays at Huth and Kaegebein to service our elementary students. We have a private practitioner on Tuesday afternoons to service all of our students. Lastly, we have a private practitioner from Family and Child Services on Fridays, at District Office, to service all of our students.

Information and referrals to additional outside agencies and resources are also available in order to meet the needs of students and their families. Needs may include, but are not limited to, behavioral concerns, mental health issues, parenting, marital issues, and alcohol and/or substance abuse. FSS is also able to link families with temporary support for basic needs such as food and clothing.

These services are coordinated by the counselors, psychologists, and school social workers within each building and Jessica Hutchings, the district social worker. Family Support Services will accept referrals from faculty, staff, students, and families.

If families are inquiring about counseling or other resources for their children, they should contact the appropriate social worker or counselor directly.

It is our hope that Family Support Services will continue to expand and provide easier access to essential support services for both our students and their families in an effort to further promote healthy families and academic success.

Please see the list below to determine who to contact if you are interested in counseling for your child.

- Brodie Kaiser - high school social worker
- Jessica Hutchings - middle school social worker/Family Support Services coordinator
- Alyssa Brown - Huth Road/Sidway school counselor
- Missy Keem - Kaegebein/Sidway school counselor
- Sara Pratt - high school/Kaegebein social worker

FSS also runs an educational series on emotional wellness. Parents will have many opportunities throughout the school year to participate in these events virtually or in-person. Please visit the FSS Virtual Office to see when upcoming events are scheduled.

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act is a federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records. Educational records subject to this protection include all academic, attendance, health, guidance and special service reports. FERPA requires schools to inform parents and students annually of these rights. For the entire FERPA policy, please see the Annual Notifications webpage under the Community tab of www.grandislandschools.org

Under FERPA, parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) have the rights to inspect and review the student’s educational records within 45 days from the date in which the school receives a request for access; to request the amendment of the student’s educational records that the parent or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA; to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without their consent.

Generally, schools must have written permission/consent from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student’s education records. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions to a school official with a legitimate educational interest (i.e., the official needs the record to fulfill his or her professional responsibility); to another school district to which the student seeks or intends to enroll; to specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes; to appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student; to organizations conducting certain studies on behalf of the school; to accrediting organizations; to comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena; to appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and to state and local authorities, within the juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

In addition, schools are also permitted to release information, without prior written consent of the parents or eligible student, which has been appropriately designated as “directory information” by the district. Grand Island Central School District has designed the following information as “directory information” used in honor roll, merit roll, annual yearbook, playbills and graduation programs: student’s name, address, telephone listing, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, date and place of birth, grade level, enrollment status, the school most recently previously attended if not Grand Island.

If you do not want Grand Island Central School District to disclose “directory information” from your child’s education records, you must notify the building principal in writing that you do not want “directory information” disclosed. The written notice to the principal about photo/directory information must be received no later than 14 days after the date of publication of the notice (or within 15 days of newly enrolling in the district).



March 2025

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 GIHS midpoint of quarter 3 District Choral Concert (K combined choirs, H Select, 6, 7, 8, GIHS Choir and Concert Choir), GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	5 College Planning Night, GIHS cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.	6	7 Superintendent's Conference Day No School for Students	8
					Junior High All-County Festival	
9	10 BOE Meeting, Workshop, and Second Budget Input Session, GIHS Professional Development Room, 7:30 p.m. HS PTSA meeting, GIHS library, 5:30 p.m.	11	12 12 VCMS 7/8 Band, Singcopations, 7/8 Orchestra Elementary Tour	13	14	15
	GIHS Spring Spirit Week					
					All-County Jazz Festival	
						Elementary All-County Concert
16	17	18	19 Sidway PTA Meeting, 3:30 p.m. at Sidway	20	21	22
					Senior High All-County Festival	
23	24 BOE Meeting, Workshop, and Third Budget Input Session, GIHS Professional Development Room, 7:30 p.m.	25	26 All-Island Jazz Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m. ConnectLife Blood Drive, GIHS	27	28	29
		Sidway Kindergarten Show				
30	31 Joint Town Board/School Board meeting, GIHS PD room, 7 p.m.					

Grand Island Central School District and Building Dignity Act Coordinators

District

Cheryl Cardone 716-773-8815

High School

Hillary Kretz-Harvey, Adam Hernandez, Jaime Peld ... 716-773-8820

Veronica E. Connor Middle School

Dr. Felicia Pallaci..... 716-773-8830

Huth Road

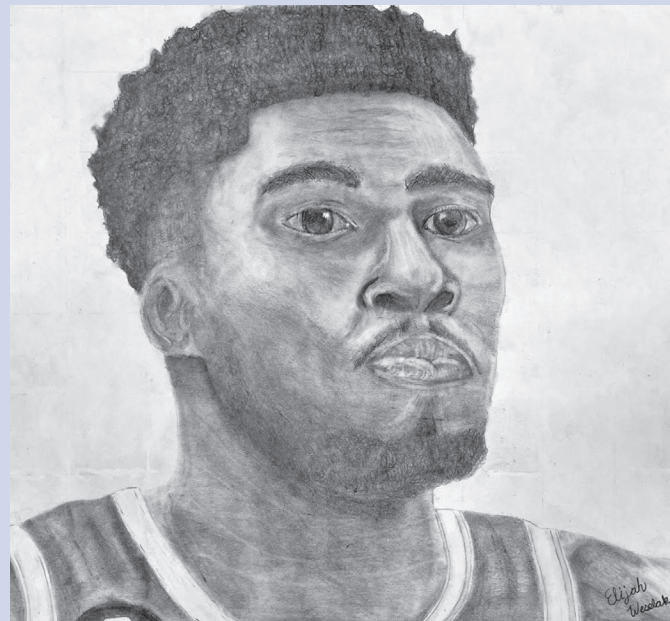
Maxwell Pikula..... 716-773-8850

Kaegebein

..... 716-773-8840

Sidway

Michael Antonelli 716-773-8870



Elijah Weselak, Grade 8

Student Rights and Responsibilities

All students are entitled to exercise their constitutional rights as long as they do not interfere with the rights of others, or the orderly process of the school. The school has the right to adopt reasonable regulations in order to provide an orderly school environment. We demonstrate that we value our rights by behaving in a responsible manner. For the entire Code of Conduct, consult the district website.

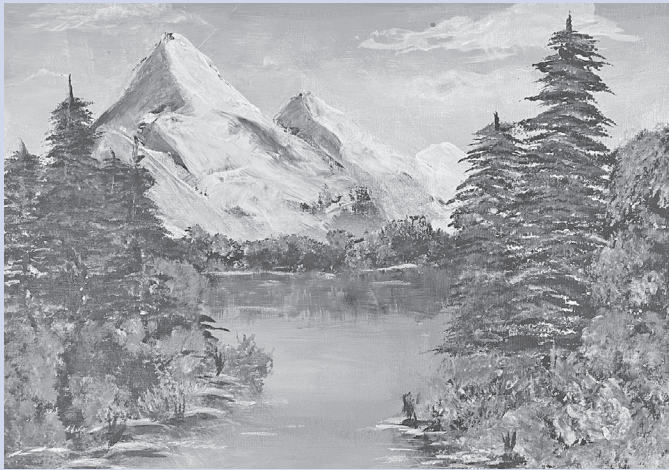
A. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RIGHT TO:	B. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO:
Attend school in this district when residence requirements are met.	Attend school daily, except when ill, and to be on time to all classes.
Dress in such a way as to express his or her personality.	Dress so as to not endanger others' health and safety, or to distract others.
Expect that the school will be an orderly place for all students to gain an education.	Be aware of all rules and expectations regulating student behavior and to conduct himself/herself in an orderly manner.
Be given due process in cases of disciplinary action, including suspensions and/or expulsion.	Supply information of importance in disciplinary cases.
Be represented by an active student government selected by free school elections (Grades 6-12).	Take an active part in student government by running for office, conscientiously voting for the best candidates and/or making his/her problems known to the representatives.
Be granted equal educational opportunities.	Take advantage of all programs in order to develop abilities to the fullest.
Be afforded the opportunity to participate in athletic teams and extra-curricular activities regardless of gender.	Be physically fit and have an aptitude for the athletic event(s), and be aware of all rules and expectations governing participation and to conduct him/her in accordance with these guidelines.
Have access to information concerning drug and alcohol abuse, and to individuals or agencies capable of providing direct assistance.	Be aware of the information and services available in order to seek assistance in dealing with personal problems.
Have his/her student records available for inspection upon request.	Be aware of the right to inspect student records and the process to be followed.
Retain a reasonable degree of privacy.	Be aware of actions, which constitute serious and dangerous wrongdoing and not commit such acts.
Be given a formal grievance process.	Try to resolve grievances informally before moving to the formal stage.
Be free from discriminatory practices.	Refuse to join in any discriminatory practices against others.
Be respected as an individual who is entitled to his/her personal dignity and integrity.	Demonstrate appreciation for the dignity and integrity of all.
To be protected from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, or religious practice, sex, gender/gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability, by employees or students on school property or at school-sponsored event, function or activity.	To respect one another and treat others fairly in accordance with the District Code of Conduct and the provisions of the Dignity Act. To conduct themselves in a manner that fosters an environment that is free from intimidation, harassment or discrimination. To report, and encourage others to report, any incidents of intimidation, harassment or discrimination.



April 2025

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

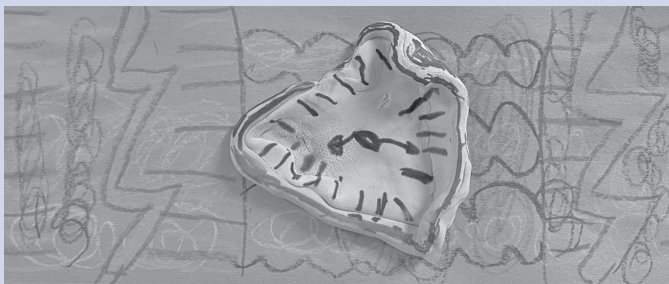
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Kaegebein Elementary School Chamber Recital, Kaegebein Elementary Auditorium, 7 p.m.	4 Islandwide PTA Meeting (TBA) GIHS end of quarter 3	5 Spring Fling, GIHS Underclassman Semiformal, 7-10 p.m.
6	7	8 Huth Road Elementary School Grade 3 Chorus Concert, Huth Road School Auditorium, 7 p.m.	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Spring Recess - No School					
20	21 Spring Recess - No School	22 BOE Meeting, Budget Adoption, Erie 1 BOCES Budget Vote and Election, 7:30 p.m.	23	24 Huth Road Elementary School Spring Band Concert, Huth Road School Auditorium, 7 p.m.	25	26
	27	28	29	30 Instrument Demonstration Day, third-grade students, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 10 a.m. Celebration of Inspiration, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 6-8 p.m.		



London Harsch, Grade 8



Christopher Sobrino, Grade 8



Roman Malik, Grade 1

Student Dress Code

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails shall:

- Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
- Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing.
- Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is deemed inappropriate and/or a safety hazard as determined by the Administrator will not be allowed.
- Not including the wearing of hats in the classroom and/or building except for a medical, religious or relevant instructional purpose.
- Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.
- Jewelry shall not be worn during the participation of athletic events and physical education including, but not limited to, any body piercing.

A listing of what is considered acceptable as well as unacceptable clothing is disseminated to students and their parents periodically throughout the year and in the High School Student-Parent Handbook and the Middle School Agenda, which is given to all students. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so or who repeatedly fails to comply shall be subject to discipline.

Title IX

The Grand Island Central School District hereby advises students, parents, employees and the general public that it offers employment and educational opportunities, including vocational education opportunities, without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, or handicap. Inquiries regarding this nondiscrimination policy may be directed to the Title IX coordinator, Section 504 coordinator, or special education director: Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services Cheryl Cardone, 1100 Ransom Road, Grand Island, NY 14072 (716-773-8815, cherylcadone@gicsd.org). Complaint procedure: A parent, student or employee who wishes to complain about a violation of rights may do so by written complaint mailed, or delivered, to the official designated above.

STUDENT ARTWORK FOR THE DISTRICT CALENDAR WAS PROVIDED BY THE GICSD ART DEPARTMENT:

Keri Schlageter, Elizabeth Carpenter, Andrew Dulak,
Dana Allen, Cynthia Wynne, Matthew Doherty,
Megan Gaiek, and Paul Thompson.





May 2025

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Huth Road Elementary School Choral Spring Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	2	3 SAT test, GIHS Junior Prom, 6:30 p.m.
4	5 Apex Fun Run	6 BOE meeting and budget hearing, GIHS Professional Development Room, 7:30 p.m.	7 Business Marketing Honor Society Induction, GIHS large cafeteria, 6:30 p.m. Senior portraits, Class of 2026	8 Kaegebein Elementary School Choral Spring Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m. Senior portraits, Class of 2026	9 GIHS midpoint of quarter 4	10
11	12	13 HS PTA meeting, GIHS library, 5:30 p.m.	14 Kaegebein Elementary School Band and String Spring Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m.	15 VCMS Orchestra Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m. Spotlighters Drama Showcase, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 6 p.m.	16 PTSA Awards	17
18	19 Beginning Instrumental Parent Night, 7 p.m. K-12 District Art Show Opening, GIHS Viking Mall (gallery on display May 19-23)	20 Grand Island On-Broadway Cabaret, 7 p.m. Annual Budget Vote and BOE Trustee Election, GIHS main gym, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.	21 Sidway PTA meeting, 3:30 p.m. at Sidway GIHS Orchestra Spring Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7:30 p.m.	22 VCMS Spring Band Concert (Band 6, 7, 8, Jazz), GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m. ConnectLife Blood Drive	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day No School GIHS Wind Ensemble performance at Town of Grand Island Memorial Day Ceremony, DeGlopper Park, 10 a.m.	27	28 GIHS Choral Concert, Grand Viking Theater, 7:30 p.m. Athletes college signing day, GIHS, 2:30-4:30 p.m.	29 Sidway Ice Cream Social/ Fine Arts Show/Book Fair VCMS Spring Choral Concert, GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 7 p.m. Seal of Civic Readiness and Seal of Biliteracy Receptions, GIHS PD room, 5 p.m.	30	31 Senior Prom

Patriotism, Citizenship Education

The Board of Education recognizes and affirms the importance to students of learning to appreciate the sanctity of life and the dignity of the individual. In order to promote a spirit of patriotic and civil service and obligation, as well as to foster in students of the District moral and intellectual qualities which are essential in preparing them to meet the obligations of citizenship, the Board requires students over the age of 8 who are attending District schools to attend instructional courses in patriotism, citizenship, and human rights issues, with particular attention to the study of the inhumanity of genocide, slavery and the Holocaust. The Board also directs that all students attending District schools in grades 8-12 receive instruction in the history, meaning, significance of the United States Constitution, the New York State Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

PPRA affords parents and students who are 18 or emancipated minors (eligible students) certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (protected information survey) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above;
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum

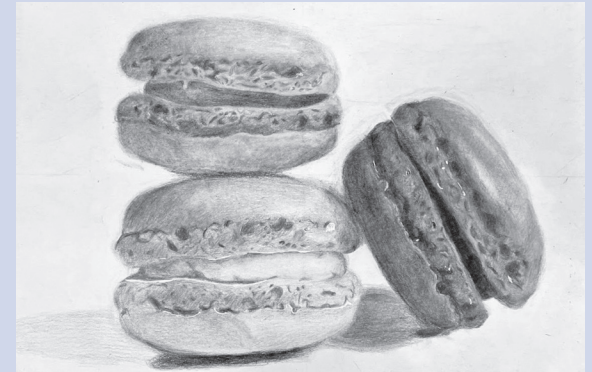
Code of Conduct Summary

The goal of DASA is to create a safe supportive school climate where students can learn and focus, rather than fear being discriminated against and/or verbally and/or physically harassed. All public elementary and secondary school students have the right to attend school in a safe, welcoming, considerate and caring environment.

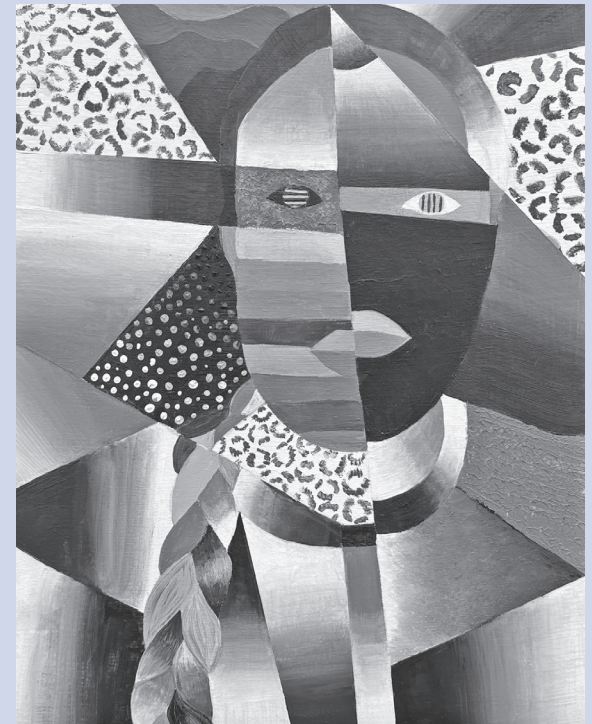
The Board of Education of the Grand Island Central School District has adopted and implemented a written policy on school conduct and discipline designed to promote responsible student behavior.

In accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act, School District policy and practice must ensure that no student is subject to discrimination or harassment, based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex by school employees or students on school property, on a school bus, or at a school function. The Dignity Act emphasizes the creation and maintenance of a positive learning environment for all students. In addition, the amended Dignity Act requires the development of measured, balanced, progressive and age-appropriate responses to discrimination, harassment, and bullying of students by students and/or employees. Remedial responses should place the focus of discipline on discerning and correcting the reasons why discrimination, harassment and bullying occurred. They should also be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the behavior, and protect the target of the act.

For the entire code of conduct, consult the district website.



Olivia Groff, Grade 8



Alayna Schwinn, Grade 10



June 2025

Events are subject to change.
Please check online at www.grandislandschools.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 District Tenure/Retiree Reception, 6 p.m. BOE Meeting and Workshop, GIHS Professional Development Room, 7:30 p.m.	3	4	5 GIHS Spring Band Concert, Grand Viking Theater, 7:30 p.m.	6	7
8	9 Class Day	10	11 Vike Night (Athletics awards), GIHS Grand Viking Theater, 6 p.m.	12	13	14 Flag Day
15	16 GIHS end of quarter 4	17 Regents Exams	18	19 Juneteenth No School	20 Regents Exams	21
22	23 Regents Exams	24	25	26	27 Graduation, 7 p.m.	28
29	30					



Grand Island

Central School District

1100 Ransom Road • Grand Island, NY 14072
www.grandislandschools.org

Board of Education

Dr. Ashli Dreher, President
Susan Marston, Vice President
Roger Broeker
Danielle Bruno
Jay Grover
Joy LaMarca
Sherry Steffans

Superintendent

Brian Graham, Ed.D.

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Resident

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Mr. Doherty and Mrs. Ehlenfeld's Class



Jacob Marcel, Grade 2



Elizabeth Zhrebilov, Grade 11



Livia Voskerichian, Grade 7



Brison Fitzgerald, Grade 4