



Genesee Valley Central School *Jag News*

January/February 2026 • Vol. 30 • Issue 3



Mrs. Doulgas, Whitney Young, Nolan Hunter, Meara Kelley, Jacey Davis, Mrs. Horne



Annual Senior Citizens Concert & Dinner

Genesee Valley hosted another successful concert and dinner for approximately 100 Senior Citizens on Tuesday, December 9. This fun-filled event is held annually to honor our school district's senior citizens. Everyone enjoyed music provided by our high school band and choir under the direction of Alva Robbins and Caleb Durant. After the concert, our guests were directed to the cafeteria for a delicious turkey dinner prepared by the cafeteria staff. Dinner was served by our administrators and National Honor Society members, under the direction of Mrs. Horne and Ms. Douglas, NHS Advisors. Dinner was served by our administrators and National Honor Society members—under the direction of Mrs. Horne and Ms. Douglas—and cookies were provided by Mrs. Mapes' baking class.

Thank you to everyone that made this evening a night to remember.



STAY CONNECTED! Find staff contacts, upcoming events, facility use details, and other helpful information at:

www.genvalley.org

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER



"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

-Eleanor Roosevelt

I have always loved this quote from Eleanor Roosevelt.

It embodies that we each have the power to put forth the time and effort required to make our dreams a reality.

As we move into the second half of the school year, we are working hard here at GVCS to provide opportunities for students, both in and out of the classroom, to try new things and to push themselves to new heights – to believe in the power of their own dreams.

Not only is the start of a new calendar year the perfect time to write down goals and dreams for the year, it is also the perfect time to pause, reflect, and express our gratitude for all that our amazing community has to offer.

There are so many individuals who tirelessly give of their time and talents to not only our students, but the greater community as a whole. From the parent organization events here at school, to our Junior Firefighters engaging with local volunteer fire companies, to the coaches and volunteers to ensure that our students have the opportunity to grow as athletes. From our teachers working with students, to the administrative team who keep the building running on a regular basis, to our transportation staff who make sure everyone arrives safely for school and events.

We thank you and we look forward to the second half of the school year.

Dream big in 2026!

*With gratitude and enthusiasm,
Dr. Paige Kinnaird*

We are pleased to announce that the 2025 Capital Improvement Vote **PASSED!**
94-Yes / 20-No

Thank you to everyone that either came out to vote or sent in an absentee ballot.



Download the ParentSquare app today!

Stay involved with your student's learning and activities at school. From anywhere.



 ParentSquare



Character
WORDS OF THE MONTH

JANUARY

Acceptance

is the act of taking or receiving something offered

FEBRUARY

Trustworthy

is someone that is reliable, honest, dependable, and keeps their promises, showing integrity and being consistent in actions and words, which builds confidence in personal, professional, or technical contexts



SCHOOL CLOSINGS, DELAYS, OR EARLY DISMISSAL

Genesee Valley Central School District recently changed to ParentSquare to keep parents and staff informed of important school activities, news, closings/ delays, etc.

Keep Emergency Contact Information Updated – It is very important if your phone number, email address or mailing address has changed to contact **Denise Baker** at **(585) 268-7937** or e-mail **dbaker@genvalley.org** with any changes.

We also announce closings/delays on the following:

- GVCS Website
- Buffalo News TV Stations: NBC, CBS, ABC and Spectrum
- Local Radio Stations: 93.5 FM, 95.7 and 103.5



SCHOLASTIC CHALLENGE

On January 9, 2026, our fabulous four teams of Scholastic Challenge students will be battling their knowledge against the wit of other teams from area schools. Wish them luck! Meanwhile, they'll be brushing up on capital cities, types of clouds, Greek gods and goddesses, laws of physics, Australian architecture, and blood types!



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, December 22 – Friday, January 2

Christmas/New Year's Break – No School
(School Building Closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1 – Students return Monday, Jan. 5, 2026)

Monday, January 19

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed (Building Closed)

Monday, February 16

President's Day (Building Closed)

Tuesday, February 17 – Friday, February 20

Mid-Winter Break (No School)



Watch their speeches here:



GENESEE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL'S 2025 ACADEMIC HONORS DINNER

On November 19, 2025, Genesee Valley Central School celebrated its ninth annual Academic Honors Dinner, held at the Angelica American House and Hotel. The event recognized high school students who achieved honor roll status or above for all four quarters throughout the 2024-2025 school year, as well as previous high school years.

Dean of Students and Curriculum Coordinator, Paula Roberts, organized and hosted the event. Genesee Valley Central School Superintendent, Dr. Paige Kinnaird, and 7-12 Principal, Sara Donlon, also addressed students and parents, congratulating them regarding the students' academic success.

ONE-YEAR ACADEMIC HONORS RECIPIENTS

Honor roll or above for four quarters in a row during the 2024-2025 school year:

Arianna Anticola, Baylee Babbitt, Victor Baxter, Tayla Brenna, Leah Burrows, Alivia Crossley, Regina Dougherty, Ryley Frank, Larry Geffers, Ada Griffin, Morgan Grooms, McKenna Jefferds, D'Andre LaClair, Zackery Mapes, Gabriel Marble, Alayna McCullen, Lena McNinch, Mackenzie Newman, Spencer Rambaran, Jade Sallazzo, Andra Shultz, Paizlee Tilton, Mackenzie Turybury, Rowan Vossler, and Aason White.

TWO-YEAR ACADEMIC HONORS RECIPIENTS

Honor roll or above for four quarters in a row during the 2024-25, 2023-24, or 2022-23 school years

Riley Blarr, Addison Bradt, Kylee Christensen, Ethan Davenport, Mason Fanton, Tanner Herdman, Trent Hutchison, Ian MacKenzie, Christina McAuley, Elivia McIntyre, Addison Middaugh, Dominick Miller, Maks Stocking, and Kayla Wedge.

THREE-YEAR ACADEMIC HONORS RECIPIENTS

Honor roll or above for four quarters in a row during the 2024-25, 2023-24, and 2022-23 school years

Graham Bradt, Cree Bulkley, Logan Callahan, Bryce Davis, Jacey Davis, Ryker Holmes, Nolan Hunter, Meara Kelley, Tristan Metatos, Kenton Shultz, Lannden Tilton, and Whitney Young.

At this year's Academic Honors Dinner, three alumni were inducted into the Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame:

JIM GALLMAN, Class of 1962 from Angelica Central School, has served his community in countless ways, including as County Legislator, Town Supervisor, Fireman for over 60 years, and more.

The late **BILL HEANEY**, Class of 1961 from Angelica Central School, had a celebrated career in politics, serving as Allegany County Republican Chairman, Congressional Regional Director, and delegate to multiple national conventions.

LINDSEY CHAMBERLAIN-ZELLER, Class of 2010 from Genesee Valley Central School, has a diverse educational and professional career, including a Doctorate of Education from the University of Rochester, leadership roles at Alfred University and the University of Rochester, and currently serving as Executive Director of the Finger Lakes Community College Association.

Pictured L-R: Lindsey Chamberlain-Zeller, Jim Gallman, and Eva Heaney (representing Bill Heaney)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ACADEMIC HONORS STUDENTS AND OUR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI WALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!



SECONDARY PRINCIPAL'S CORNER



Dear Parents,

Our building has been bustling with activity as many wonderful things have been happening at Genesee Valley in recent weeks! In November, we held our annual Academic Awards Banquet at the Angelica Hotel for students who have been on honor roll for four consecutive quarters. We recognized our fall senior athletes at their senior nights, welcomed parents and guardians to the building for parent/teacher conferences, and enjoyed our annual Veterans Recognition concert. Winter sports practices and games are underway.

As 2025 comes to a close and we look forward to 2026, I am grateful for our students, parents, and community members. Thank you for your continued support as we move forward into the New Year.

**Sincerely,
Mrs. Sara Donlon**

Dear Genesee Valley Families,

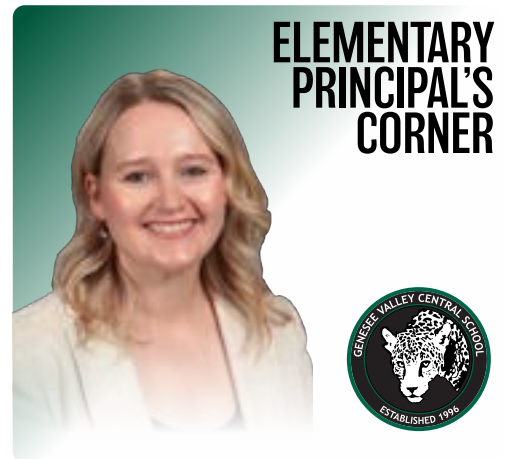
Welcome to a brand-new year at Genesee Valley! We hope your winter break was restful and filled with meaningful time with loved ones. As we return to school, we are excited to continue building on the progress and growth that defined the first half of our year.

The new year brings renewed energy and opportunities for our students. Teachers have been preparing engaging lessons, hands-on activities, and supportive routines to help every child start 2026 with confidence.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the families for your support of our recent holiday concerts. Each performance showed incredible talent and hard work. From enthusiastic singers to dedicated instrumentalists, our students shined on stage and brought the spirit of the season to life. We are so grateful to our families for attending, encouraging your children, and fostering a strong school- community connection.

Coming up in January, there will be no school on January 19 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. In February, Mid-Winter Break will be from the 16th to the 20th.

**Warm regards,
Mrs. Sarah Taylor**



Mrs. Tilton is showing off her headband crocheted by her student to go along with their not planned matching outfits!



The administration of Genesee Valley Central School announces the following students, grades 7-12, have been named to the Honor Rolls for the 1st quarter of the 2025-26 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.

FOURTH QUARTER HONOR ROLL LIST:

PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL:

12th grade: Graham Bradt, Tayla Brenna, Bryce Davis, Jacey Davis, Byron France, Ryker Holmes, Nolan Hunter, Amani Kaffan, Meara Kelley, Christina McAuley, Tristan Metatos, Xander Murray, Roy Osgood, Kenton Shultz, Lannden Tilton, Whitney Young

11th grade: Kylee Christensen, Samantha Clark, Tanner Herdman, Trent Hutchison, Zackery Mapes, Elivia McIntyre, Addison Middaugh, Kayla Wedge

10th grade: Ada Griffin, Leah Hutchison, Madisyn Lananger, Alayna McCullen, Andra Shultz, Paizlee Tilton

9th grade: Braedon Callahan, Boone Fanton, Gracyn Graham, Finn Hunter, Kylee Kear, Anthony Marra, Ella Schoonover, Madelynn Scott

8th grade: Allison Geffers, Nadia McEvoy, Tye Vargas-Frezza

7th grade: Laci Dean, Jasper Fanton, Hadleigh Graham, Avery Jones, Evan Kermott, Zachariah Lyon, Madyson Mahoney, Fiona Marble, Lillian Mountain, Hazel Prout, Malia Scott, Blake Sheridan, Isabella Snapp, Attica Weinblatt

HIGH HONOR ROLL:

12th grade: Cree Bulkley, Logan Callahan, Ethan Davenport, Mason Fanton, Joseph Frawley, Larry Geffers III, McKenna Jefferds, D'Andre LaClair, Ian MacKenzie, Jade Sallazzo, Justine Willson

11th grade: Addison Bradt, Roderich Clarke, Alivia Crossley, Parker Davis, Derick Grantier, Bryan Kear, Ian Miller, Maks Stocking, Trenton Whitsell

10th grade: Baylee Babbitt, Regina Dougherty, Morgan Grooms, Ryan Jadwin, Brett Lewandowski, Gabriel Marble, Lena

McNinch, Spencer Rambaran, Zachary Ryan, Mackenzie Turybury, Rowan Vossler

9th grade: Kaylin Greene, Trent Lewandowski, Ainsley Marciano, Jocce Morton, Isabelle Waters

8th grade: Harper Bell, Amelia Edmund, Abigail Montgomery Collins, Killian Stocking, Natalie White, Jaxson Wyre, Braelyn Zwiefka

7th grade: Brayden Besant, Grayson Burt, William Campbell, Tara Cartwright, Brockten Fanton, Nicholas Geffers, Brayden Graves, Kendra Harding, Amaya Jamison, Melody Johnson, Olivia McCullen, Paul Mitchell

HONOR ROLL:

12th grade: Ayeron Bentley, Cole Cochran, Zachary Davis, Kasey Ganoung, Brady Hamilton, Raymond Lance III, Logan Rice, Riley Rogers, Cayleigh Shipman

11th grade: Hailee Allen, Dorian Barnes, Riely Barnes, Riley Blarr, Caylin Brenna, Landyn Burrows, Damon Davis, Sarah Dorrett, Dominick Miller, Chilaleah Ormsby, Brian Stevens

10th grade: Victor Baxter, Matthew Besant, Jaden Brown, Leah Burrows, Cierra Davenport, Ryley Frank, Mackenzie Newman, Cameron Otto, Aason White, Faith White

9th grade: Nevaeh Bliven, Leon Burrows, Alayna Davis, Kori DeLude, Elizabeth Grantier, Emily Laraby, Leah Laraby, Allie Marsh, Corbin Pease, Destanee Pease, Liviya Rice, Dana Stevens

8th grade: Audrey Clark, Alaina Cleveland, Avery Geoppner, Jackie Hudson, Everett McNinch, Corbin Norton, Rae Scholes

7th grade: Alyx Allison, Amelia Aylor, Ivan Bolzan, Lydia Burrows, Steven Dougherty, Serenity Easton, Zachary Irish, Alyssa McGaughey, Karson Osterhout, Mia Pineiro

HONOR ROLL FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING BOCES:

HIGH HONOR ROLL:

12th Grade: Graham Bradt, Tayla Brenna, Cree Bulkley, Bryce Davis, Joseph Frawley, Larry Geffers III, Nolan Hunter, Meara Kelley, D'Andre LaClair, Ian MacKenzie, Christina McAuley, Tristan Metatos, Kenton Shultz, Justine Willson, Whitney Young

11th Grade: Landyn Burrows, Parker Davis, Derick Grantier, Tanner Herdman, Trent Hutchison, Bryan Kear, Elivia McIntyre, Ian Miller, Mason Thomas, Trenton Whitsell

HONOR ROLL:

12th Grade: Ayeron Bentley, Logan Callahan, Ethan Davenport, Zachary Davis, Mason Fanton, Kasey Ganoung, Riley Rogers, Jasmine Rounds, Jade Sallazzo, Cayleigh Shipman

11th Grade: Riely Barnes, Dorian Barnes, Spencer Cole, Damon Davis, Sarah Dorrett, Dominick Miller, Chilaleah Ormsby, Maks Stocking



EMT CERTIFICATION COURSE

Genesee Valley Central School is offering a free, 165-hour Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification course beginning January 12, 2026 – open to students ages 17+ across the region. This hands-on program includes classroom instruction, ride-along experience, and the opportunity to earn New York State EMT certification at no cost to students.



COURSE INFORMATION

Course: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification

Dates & Times:

- First class: January 12, 2026
- Classes will be held Tuesdays and Wednesday 5:00-8:00 p.m. with some Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Course will run until the beginning of June.

Eligibility: Students must be 17 years old by the course start date.

Capacity: Limited to the first 12 registrants.

Cost: Free - ARC grant covers the course fee, textbooks, uniform pants, and protective polo shirt.

COURSE FORMAT

- 165 hours of classroom instruction
- 10+ hours of direct patient-contact ride-alongs
- Preparation for the NYS EMT Certification Exam
- The course will be taught by local certified EMT instructors

PRE-REQUISITES

- FEMA ICS 100, FEMA ICS 700, training. fema.gov
- Haz Mat – must complete one of the following or have taken BEFO with HMFRO
 - WMD/Terrorism Awareness for Emergency Responders Online-T&M Engineering Extension Service
 - Hazardous Materials Awareness IFEMA- Center for Domestic Preparednes

TO REGISTER

Contact:

Bonnie VanHousen
 Allegany County Office of Emergency Management
 585-268-5290
bonnie.vanhousen@alleganyco.gov

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
 THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
 Office of State Assessment
 Albany, NY 12234

Examination Schedule: January 2026

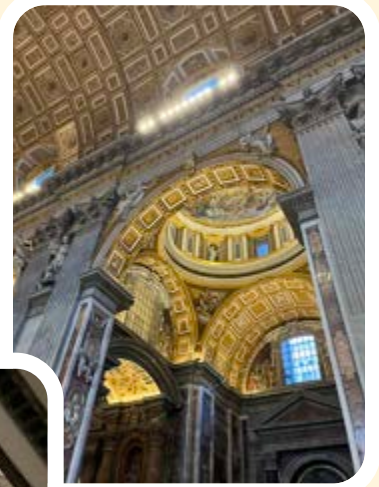
Students must verify with their schools the exact times that they are to report for their State examinations.

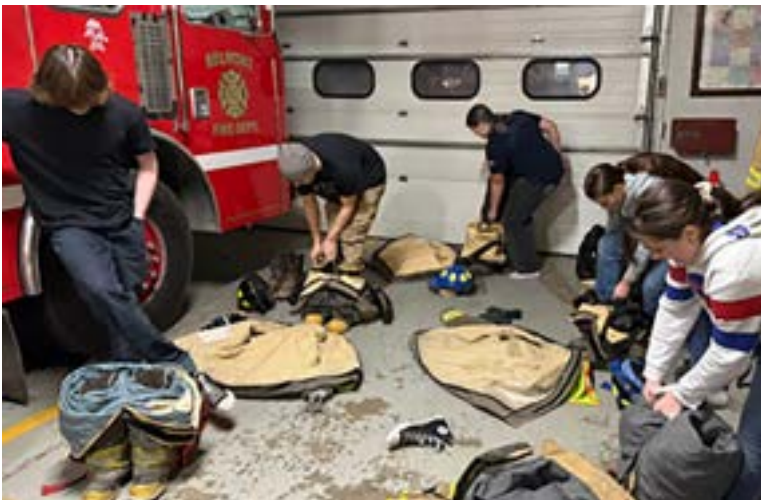
JANUARY 20 TUESDAY 7:45AM	JANUARY 21 WEDNESDAY 7:45AM	JANUARY 22 THURSDAY 7:45AM	JANUARY 23 FRIDAY 7:45AM
English Language Arts	Geometry U.S. History & Government	Global History & Geography II	Earth and Space Sciences Physical Setting/Earth Science
11:45AM	11:45AM	11:45AM	<u>Uniform Admission Deadlines</u>
Life Science: Biology Living Environment Physical Setting/Chemistry	Algebra I Physical Setting/Physics*	Algebra II	Morning Examinations – 10:00 a.m. Afternoon Examinations – 2:00 p.m.

* Available in Restricted Form only. Each copy of a restricted test is numbered and sealed in its own envelope and must be returned, whether used or unused, to the Department at the end of the examination period.

Trip to Italy

Thirty-eight journeyers from Genesee Valley, Belfast, and the surrounding communities, experienced a sunny and warm adventure-of-a-lifetime trip to Venice, Florence, and Rome this past November 2025. The highlights included riding in a gondola along quiet Venice canals, indulging in sumptuous gelato, sipping bold espresso, eating amazing authentic dinners, navigating exciting metro rides, visiting the Tower of Pisa, touring the ancient Colosseum and perfectly preserved Pantheon, playing cards on high-speed trains, sleeping in ritzy hotels, shopping galore in the old city centers, strolling along thousand-year old beautiful streets with breath-taking architecture, and relishing in days and days of awe and wonder at such a glorious, majestic, and artistic place. Hope you can join us on our next adventure! Where shall we go?





JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

Our Junior Firefighters have been hard at work! During a December 1 work night at the fire hall, they challenged themselves to suit up in full gear in under one minute and crawl through a pipe while fully equipped. They've also been learning basic CPR and first aid skills. Advisor Miranda Hemphill shared, "I'm so proud of these kids. They work hard at school and in sports, and still find the time and dedication to do this."



VETERANS CONCERT

On November 12th the High School Concert and Jazz bands, led by band director Alva Robbins, performed for our annual Veterans Recognition Concert. Veterans, **THANK YOU** for everything you have done for our country and our freedom!



YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT SUCCESS!

The weekend of November 22nd, 19 of our 7th graders attended the Middle School Youth & Government Conference – New York’s largest ever with 506 students statewide!

Our delegates drafted and presented four bills on:

- Banning glyphosate
- Sealing juvenile records for non-violent offenses
- Speed reduction on sharp turns
- Reclaiming abandoned properties

We’re proud to share that two bills – glyphosate ban & abandoned property reclamation – PASSED and were signed into YAG Law!

A huge congratulations to Melody Johnson, who was named Outstanding Delegate and elected the 2026 Speaker of the Assembly after addressing all 500+ students. An incredible honor!

Endless thanks to Nathan Slawson and Nancy George for their hours of assistance in working with these students, giving up lunches, sleep, and an entire weekend to support our students, and to Karen Bliven for getting us safely there and back.

Our student delegates: Brayden Besant, Brayden Graves, Serenity Easton, Blake Sheridan, Malia Scott, Fiona Marble, Avery Jones, Madyson Mahoney, Zach Lyon, Alyssa McGaughey, Laci Dean, Jazmyne Ost, Will Campbell, Zach Irish, Steven Dougherty, Attica Weinblatt, Melody Johnson, Ivan Bolzan, Lillian Mountain and Addison Bradt.

We’re so proud of this group – they represented Genesee Valley with leadership, respect and heart.

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Character Word of the Month: Acceptance				NEW YEAR'S DAY School Building Closed 1	Christmas Break No School Offices Open 2	3
Please Note - Sports Schedules will be on GV Website 4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	5:30pm - Board of Education Meeting, Room 1121 13	14	15	Allegany County Music Festival Rehearsal at Cuba-Rushford School, 12-6:00pm 16	Allegany County Music Festival Concert at Cuba-Rushford School, 2:00pm 17
18	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY School Building Closed 19	Regents Exams 20	Regents Exams 21	Regents Exams 22	Regents Exams/ Rating Day End of 2nd Marking Period Grades. 5-12 23	24
25	26	5:30pm - Board of Education Work Session, Room 1121 27	28	29	Report cards mailed home Grades 5-12 30	31

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Character Word of the Month: Trustworthy				ConnectLife Blood Drive at GVCS 9:00am - 3:00pm	Allegany County Solo Festival at Fillmore	Allegany County Solo Festival at Fillmore
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Please Note - Sports Schedules will be on GV Website 8	9	5:30pm - Board of Education Meeting, Room 1121 10	4:00-6:00pm - JAM Beef on Weck Dinner 11	12	13	ACT Test VALENTINE'S DAY 14
15	PRESIDENT'S DAY School Building Closed 16	Mid-Winter Break LUNAR NEW YEAR No School Offices Open 17	Mid-Winter Break No School Offices Open 18	Mid-Winter Break No School Offices Open 19	Mid-Winter Break No School Offices Open 20	21
22	23	24	25	26	End of 3rd Mid-Quarter Grades 6-12 End of 2nd Marking Period Grades K-4 27	28

Genesee Valley Central School

1 Jaguar Drive
Belmont, NY 14813



Central Administration:

Dr. Paige Kinnaird, Superintendent
Erin Ostrander, School Business Official
Sara Donlon, 7-12 Principal
Sarah Taylor, PK-6 Principal
Adreanna Wight, CSE/CPSE Chairperson
Paula Roberts, Dean of Students
and Curriculum Coordinator

Board of Education:

Heath Gordon, President
Max Gilluly, Vice-President
Timothy Hand
Michelle Kelley
Jamie Willson
Shawn Grusendorf
James Cartwright
Rylee Ordway, Student Rep

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

Postal Patron

Or Current Resident

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

GENESEE VALLEY FITNESS CENTER



HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY-FRIDAY

5:00-8:00 A.M. &

3:00-9:00 P.M.

SATURDAY-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**

FITNESS ACTIVITIES OFFERED AT GVCS

(only when school is in session)

Cardio, Core, Strength & More

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS AT 3:30 P.M.,

SATURDAYS AT 9:00 A.M. ROOM 1170

INSTRUCTOR PAT PRESUTTI

Call 716-860-8287 for information.

RULES FOR USING THE FITNESS CENTER

- All members must be a district resident, alumni, faculty, staff or taxpayer of the Genesee Valley community or have a student attend GVCS.
- All applicants will complete a training session prior to receiving their membership, please contact Tory Rounds for more information - (585) 268-7900
- No one under 18 may utilize the fitness center without adult supervision.
- 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.

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.