

## Griswold High School Parent/Guardian/Student Memo August 5, 2022

Happy August, GHS Students & Parents/Guardians!

I am so excited to ring in the 2022-2023 school year! We have been working hard this summer in preparation for an incredible year. For those of you who are new to Griswold High School, WELCOME! My name is Erin Palonen, and I am the very proud principal of this high school. Every person, past and present, who walks through these doors is a valued member of our Griswold family.

In an effort to ensure effective communication and collaboration throughout the school year, I send weekly memos on Fridays. These will be emailed to you with the email addresses we have on file. Our wonderful PTO also helps to share this information on social media, so please be sure to follow our school and PTO pages. If you are not receiving this information, please contact us at 860-376-7640.

I want to introduce you to new members of our faculty/staff this year. **Mr. Art Howe** has been acclimating beautifully to his new role as GHS Associate Principal. He looks forward to getting to know you all, and to the year ahead. In today's memo, please see Mr. Howe's welcome letter. We will also welcome GHS Special Education teacher, **Ms. Meghan Davis** (GHS Alumni) and English teacher, **Ms. Alicia Schaefer.** 

I have a lot to share! I want to emphasize and encourage you all, for all things throughout the year, please reach out with questions or concerns. We are a community who works together to ensure student success!

The first day of school for students is Tuesday, August 30th, and it is a GREEN DAY!

## **School Counselors & School Counseling Assignments**

- Mr. Lorenzo Chavez, school counselor for all students with <u>last names</u> beginning
   A-G.
  - o lchavez@griswoldpublicschools.org
- Ms. Kiley Flynn,, school counselor for all students with last names beginning H-R.
  - o kflynn@griswoldpublicschools.org
- Ms. Elaine Taylor (School Counseling Director), school counseling for all students with <u>last names</u> beginning S-Z and those attending Griswold Alternative School.
  - o etaylor@griswoldpublicschools.org
- Ms. Darlene Melgey, Administrative Assistant in the School Counseling Office
  - o dmelgey@griswoldpublicschools.org
- School Counseling Office #860-376-7680
- We will also have a College Advisor in our School Counseling Office through a
  partnership with the College Advising Corps and UCONN. We will introduce him/her as
  soon as he/she is assigned.

## **Main Office Staff**

- Ms. Melissa Blondet, mblondet@griswoldpublicschools.org
- Ms. Melissa Russell (attendance), mrussell@griswoldpublicschools.org
- Ms. Jennifer Lowell, <u>ilowell@griswoldpublicschools.org</u>

## New Schedule at GHS!

Please see our "Daily Schedule" included in today's memo. Please note, our "SIB/Capstone Connection/Activity" time has moved to after A period every day. Please note, senior privilege for those seniors eligible will <u>only</u> be for A OR D period assigned study halls. All students are required to report for SIB/Capstone Connection/Activity beginning at 8:58 a.m.

## Student Schedules for the School Year

Our School Counseling Office is in the final stages of schedule assignments. They plan to finalize next week, and schedules will be available in Infinite Campus following. We understand that students will want to practice their lockers/combinations and find classrooms. Once schedules are out, all students are welcome in the building, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. You simply need to buzz into the main office and let them know you are here to practice your schedule. Parents/Guardians, you are welcome to come, too! We will be here in the Main Office if you have any questions.

## Senior Privilege

Seniors with Senior Privilege are eligible to leave early/come in late if they have an A or D period study hall. In order to be eligible for Senior Privilege, a student must have all

grades above a 75 from the previous quarter. To start the year, eligibility is determined based on 2021-2022 Quarter 4 grades. Eligibility will be reevaluated at Progress Report time in Q1, and at the end of each quarter.

Schedules will NOT be adjusted to accommodate late arrival/early dismissal.

Early dismissal for eligible seniors taking AP/Honors courses is at the discretion of the teacher.

The Senior Privilege Permission form can be found in this memo and in the main office.

Seniors eligible will be told ahead of the start date for senior privilege (September 12th).

## **New Student & Freshmen Orientation**

Mark your calendars: Tuesday, August 16th from 10-12:30

Parents, please plan to drop your child off at the main entrance for 10 a.m. Your student will be greeted by staff upon arrival. You can pick up your child at 12:30 - feel free to wait in the parking lot. Lunch will be provided.

## **GHS Capstone Experience**

The GHS Capstone Experience is a student-driven learning opportunity developed to showcase our students' college and career readiness upon graduation. We believe this work is at the core of our school culture in providing our students with multiple opportunities to grow and make progress on the essential life skills outlined in our Vision of the Graduate. Every student will have a Capstone Coach this year who will support him/her through Capstone Connection! Stay tuned for regular communication throughout the year. Any and all information pertaining to our Capstone Experience can be found on our website: <a href="https://www.griswold.k12.ct.us/ghs/capstone">https://www.griswold.k12.ct.us/ghs/capstone</a>

There are a ton of attachments in today's memo, so please take a good look! Please reach out with any questions or concerns.

860-376-7640

epalonen@griswoldpublicschools.org ahowe@griswoldpublicschools.org

Most Sincerely,

#ghsisthebest

Follow me on Twitter: @PalonenGHS



Griswold High School 267 Slater Ave Griswold, CT 06351 Phone (860) 376-7640 Fax (860) 376-7684 www.griswold.k12.ct.us

Erin Palonen, Principal

Art Howe Jr., Associate Principal

Dear GHS Students, Parents, and Guardians,

It is with great enthusiasm that I introduce myself to you as the new Associate Principal at Griswold High School. I started my teaching career here in 1999, and am so thrilled to be back in this community to serve in this role. I am looking forward to working with staff and community members to continue the tradition of high academic expectations for all students. I strongly believe that education is a partnership between the school and family to ensure the success of all students.

I have been in the field for 24 years, both as a teacher and administrator. My education includes a BS from Bryant University, MS from the University of New Haven, and a Sixth Year degree from Sacred Heart University. Throughout my career I have continued to learn new and innovative ways to educate our youth focusing on creating and expanding the relationship between the school and community. We will continue to provide a high standard of academic rigor that engages students in their learning. I will be working with GHS faculty and staff to provide curriculum and instruction that is engaging, rigorous, and allows students to develop the skills necessary to succeed beyond high school.

As the Associate Principal, I am here to support the students academically, socially, and emotionally. Your children will see me in the hallways, lunchroom, their classrooms, school events and special activities. I believe in every student. Together, we will prepare them to be productive members of society by providing experiences that are relevant, challenging, and meet their needs. I look forward to the opportunities and exciting challenges ahead. I welcome and value your input as a team member of your students' education, and I look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Art Howe, Jr. Associate Principal Griswold High School

## GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL New Student Orientation

Tuesday Aug 16, 2022 10 am - 12:30 pm

## **Welcome Wolverines!**

We hope you are enjoying your summer vacation and looking forward to what will surely be an exciting school year. You are invited to join us for our annual New Student Orientation on Tuesday, August 16th, 2022 at 10 am. The purpose of this event is to welcome our incoming new students and help them make the transition to Griswold High School with ease and confidence. Students can be dropped off at the front of the building between 9:30 and 10:00 am and picked up around 12:30 at the same location.

## Schedule of Activities

## 9:30 - 10:00 Student Sign In

New students sign in outside the front office to receive a packet that contains important information and then report to the auditorium.

## 10:00 - 10:45 Administrator Welcome

- 10:00 10:15 Welcome address by Principal Mrs. Palonen.
- 10:15 10:30 Mr. Howe's handbook overview, behavior expectations, supports available.
- 10:30 10:45 Mr. Cravinho's overview of GHS athletics and activities
- 10:50 11:00 Students report to the cafeteria and locate assigned student guides.

## 11:00 - 12:00 Guided Tours/Locker practice

- 11:00 11:20 Guides and students tour the building (maps will be provided)
- 11:30 11:45 All students will report to their lockers and practice opening them.
  - Any students with locker issues should report to the tables outside the main office where staff/faculty will assist you.

## 12:00 - 12:30 Food/Question and Answer

12:00 - 12:30 - Guides and students will return to the cafeteria for food and dismissal



Time	Portion of Day	
7:35 - 8:53	<u>A-Period</u>	
8:53 - 8:58	Passing Time	
8:58 -9:40	SIB/Capstone/Coaching/Advisory/Activity (Morning Announcements)	
9:40 - 9:45	Passing Time	
9:45 -11:03	<u>B- Period</u>	
11:03 -11:08	Passing Time	
11:08 -12:56	<u>C- Period</u> 1st Lunch: 11:08-11:38 Class: 11:43 -12:56  2nd Lunch: 11:47 -12:17 Class: 11:08 - 11:42/12:22 -12:56  3rd Lunch: 12:26 -12:56 Class: 11:08-12:21	
12:56-1:01	Passing Time	
1:01-2:19	<u>D- Period</u>	
2:19	Dismissal Time	



## **Schedule**

Warning Bells 7:30, then 7:34

Period A 7:35-8:28

Period B 8:33-9:26

Period D 9:31-10:24

Period C 10:29-12:00 (with lunch embedded)

1st lunch: 10:26-10:56

2nd lunch: 10:58-11:28

3rd lunch: 11:30-12:00



## Two-Hour Delay Schedule

Warning Bells 9:30, then 9:34

Period A 9:35-10:33

Period B 10:38-11:36

Period C 11:41-1:16 (with lunch embedded)

1st lunch: 11:41-12:11

2nd lunch: 12:13-12:43

3rd lunch: 12:46-1:16

Period D 1:21-2:19

## Griswold High School Green/White Days 2022/23

Fir	st Quarter Starts	Secon	d Quarter Starts	Th	aird Quarter Starts	Fo	urth Quarter Starts
8/30	Green Advisory	11/7	Green C1	1/23	Green C1	4/3	Green C1
8/31	White  Advisory	11/9	White ½ day	1/24	White A2	4/4	White A2
9/1	Green Advisory	11/10	Green ½ day	1/25	Green CAPSTONE	4/5	Green CAPSTONE
9/2	White <i>Advisory</i>	11/14	White B2	1/26	White B2	4/6	White B2
9/6	Green A1	11/15	Green D1	1/27	Green D1 Pick New Activity	4/17	Green D1
9/7	White CAPSTONE	11/16	White D2	1/30	White C2	4/18	White C2
9/8	Green B1	11/17	Green A1	1/31	Green A1	4/19	Green CAPSTONE
9/9	White A2	11/18	White ACTIVITY	2/1	White CAPSTONE	4/20	White D2
9/12	Green C1	11/21	Green B1	2/2	Green B1	4/21	Green ACTIVITY
9/13	White B2	11/22	White C2	2/8	White ACTIVITY	4/24	White A2
9/14	Green CAPSTONE	11/23	Green ½ day	2/6	Green C1	4/25	Green A1
9/15	White C2	11/28	White D2	2/7	White D2	4/26	White CAPSTONE
9/16	Green D1	11/29	Green C1	2/8	Green CAPSTONE	4/27	Green B1
9/19	White D2	11/30	White CAPSTONE	2/9	White A2	4/28	White ACTIVITY
9/20	Green A1	12/1	Green D1	2/10	Green ACTIVITY	5/1	Green C1
9/21	White C2	12/2	White ACTIVITY	2/13	White B2	5/2	White B2
9/22	Green B1	12/5	Green A1	2/14	Green D1	5/3	Green CAPSTONE
9/23	White ACTIVITY	12/6	White A2	2/15	White D2	5/4	White C2
9/26	Green C1	12/7	Green CAPSTONE	2/16	Green A1	5/5	Green ACTIVITY
9/27	White A2	12/8	White B2	2/22	White CAPSTONE	5/8	White D2
9/28	Green CAPSTONE	12/9	Green ACTIVITY	2/23	Green B1	5/9	Green D1
9/29	White B2	12/12	White C2	2/24	White ACTIVITY	5/10	White CAPSTONE

9/30	Green ACTIVITY	12/13	Green B1	2/27	Green C1	5/11	Green A1
10/3	White C2	12/14	White CAPSTONE	2/28	White C2	5/12	White ACTIVITY
10/4	Green D1	12/15	Green C1	3/1	Green CAPSTONE	5/15	Green B1
10/5	White CAPSTONE	12/16	White ACTIVITY	3/2	White ½ day	5/16	White A2
10/6	Green A1	12/19	Green D1	3/3	Green ½ day	. 5/17	Green CAPSTONE
10/11	White D2	12/20	White D2	3/6	White D2	5/18	White B2
10/12	Green CAPSTONE	12/21	Green CAPSTONE	3/7	Green D1	5/19	Green ACTIVITY
10/13	White A2	12/22	White A2	3/8	White B2	5/22	White C2
10/14	Green ACTIVITY	12/23	Green ½ day	3/9	Green A1	5/28	Green C1
10/17	White B2	1/3	White B2	3/13	White A2	5/24	White CAPSTONE
10/18	Green B1	1/4	Green CAPSTONE	3/14	Green B1	5/25	Green D1
10/19	White A2	1/5	White C2	3/15	White CAPSTONE	5/26	White ½ Day
10/20	Green C1	1/6	Green ACTIVITY	3/16	Green C1	5/30	Green A1
10/21	White ACTIVITY	1/9	White D2	3/17	White ACTIVITY	5/31	White B2
10/24	Green D1	1/10	Green A1	3/20	Green D1	6/1	Green B1
10/25	White C2	1/11	White CAPSTONE	3/21	White B2	6/2	White ACTIVITY
10/26	Green CAPSTONE	1/12	Green B1	3/22	Green CAPSTONE	6/5	Green Advisory
10/27	White D2	1/13	White ACTIVITY	3/23	White C2	6/6	White Advisory
10/28	Green ACTIVITY	1/17	EXAM (Green)	3/24	Green ACTIVITY	6/7	EXAM (Green)
10/31	White A2	1/18	EXAM (White)	3/27	White D2	6/8	EXAM (White)
11/1	Green A1	1/19	EXAM (Green)	3/28	Green A1	6/9	EXAM (Green)
1/2	White	1/20	EXAM	3/29	White C2	6/12	EXAM
11/3	CAPSTONE  Green B1		(White)	3/30	Green B1		(White)
11/4	White			3/30	White		
	ACTIVITY D 1st Quarter (46)		2nd Quarter (44)	END	ACTIVITY		D 4th Quarter (44)

# **GRISWOLD PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR**

## 2022/2023

Approved by the Griswold Board of Education on 12/13/21

AUG	AUGUST		1518.PÅ	2/2	SEP	SEPTEMBER	BER	2	21/23	00	OCTOBER	~	19,	/42
Σ	F	>	⊢	ш	Σ	⊢	>	H	ч	Σ	T	8	T	ш
								1	2	3	4	5	9	1
					5	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12	13	14
					12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	56	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	56	27	28
53	30	31			56	27	28	29	30	31				
NOV	NOVEMBER	E.	18	18/60	DEC	DECEMBER	~		17/71	JAN	JANUARY		50	20/97
Σ	_	3	_	4	Σ	_	3	-	ш	Σ	_	3	F	ш
	1	2	3	4				1	2	2	8	4	5	9
7	8	16	10/	11	5	9	7	8	6	6	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	73/	24	25	19	20	21	22	23/	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30			97	27	28	59	30	30	31			
FEBR	FEBRUARY		17/	17/114	MARCH	СH		22	22/136	APRIL	_		14/	14/150
Σ	_	8	⊢	ч	Σ	⊢	3	L	ш	Σ	⊢	8	T	ш
		1	2	3			1	17	3/	3	4	5	9	1
9	7	∞	6	10	9	7	∞	6	10	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28
27	28				27	28	59	30	31					
MAY			22	22/173	JUNE	w		80	8/180					
Σ	T	8	-	ц	Σ	T	×	_	F					
1	2	3	4	2				1	2					
∞	6	10	11	12	5	9	7	00	6					
15	16	17	18	19	12/	13	14	15	16					
22	23	24	25	/92	19	20	21	22	23					
29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30					

Calendar Break Down:

GMS, GHS, GAHS = 7:30 - 2:19 PM School Hours: GES = 8:40 - 3:10 PM

180 Student Days/8 Staff Professional Development Days

June 12/Shortened Day for Students Last Day of School for Students	or Students Last I

Shortened Day	Shortened Day	1
	mber 23	

## **HOLIDAYS /VACATIONS - NO SCHOOL**

September 5	Labor Day
October 10	Columbus Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 24, 25	Thanksgiving Break
December 26 – January 2	Holiday Recess
January 16	Martin Luther King Day
February 20, 21	President's Day Recess
April 7	Good Friday
April 10 - 14	Spring Break
May 29	Memorial Day

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

August 25, 26, 29	Staff Development Days/No Students
October 7	Staff Development Day/No Students
November 8	Staff Development Day/No Students
February 17	Staff Development Day/No Students
March 10	Staff Development Day/No Students
May 26	Staff Development Day/PIM
June 12	Staff Development Day/PM

## CONFERENCE DATES

Snow days will be made up in this order: June 13, June 14, June 15, 16, 17. Should we exceed five snow days by 2/1/23, the Board may consider vacation days/staff development days to be school days. GHS Exam Half Days: January 17, 18, 19, 20 and June 7, 8, 9, 12. Please keep in mind that June exam dates could change and will be based on number of snow days to be made up at the end of the school year.



## PSAT's & SAT's at Griswold High School

It's important for you and your child to become familiar with the College Board website, tools and resources.

At GHS, students are granted a free opportunity for PSAT in the fall in grades 9, 10 and 11. In grade 11, SAT Day happens for all juniors, free of cost and during the school day on Wednesday, March 22nd, 2023. This year, PSAT Day will happen at GHS on Wednesday, October 12th, 2022 (which will be an early dismissal day at noon; and a Post -Secondary Planning Day for Seniors.)

## PSAT & SAT-Why is it important?

Parent Action Plans—please visit
<a href="https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-parents">https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-parents</a> for pertinent information for you and your child! It's never too early to start planning!

Resources for you to continue encouraging with your child:

- Collegebord.org
- Khan Academy
- Daily Practice for the New SAT App
- See your School Counselor and ask questions about your score and personal growth goals!



## **AVAILABLE COVERAGE OPTIONS**

Depending on which program your school provides, some or all of the following voluntary insurance products are available for purchase on a voluntary basis:

- · School time only student accident insurance
- 24-hour accident coverage
- · Student dental accident insurance

## KIDS WILL BE KIDS

- Make sure your child is properly covered against unforeseen accidents.
- 2. Purchase coverage at your convenience from any computer.
- 3. Follow the easy step-by-step instructions and you're done in minutes!



These voluntary participation student accident insurance plans offered through your school can be purchased easily online at:

www.BollingerSchools.com

## OFFICE LOCATION

200 Jefferson Park, Whippany, NJ 07981

### BollingerSchools.com



The information contained herein is offered as insurance industry guidance and provided as an overview of current market risks and available coverages and is intended for discussion purposes only. This publication is not intended to offer legal advice or client-specific risk management advice. Any description of insurance excessing is not meant to interpret specific coverages that your company may already have in place or that may be generally available. General insurance descriptions contained herein on to include complete insurance policy definitions, terms and conditions, and should not be reflect on for coverage interpretation. Actual insurance policies must always be consulted for full coverage details and analysis. DBA Risk Placement Services insurance Blokers, CA Lichase No. 0066724. Copyright © 2020 Risk Placement Services.

# No matter how well you protect your child, accidents happen.

Visit www.BollingerSchools.com and review the student accident insurance plan available for your child.



The information contained herein is offered as insurance industry guidance and provided as an overview of current marker risks and available coverages and is intended for discussion purposes only. This publication is not intended to offere legal advice or client-specific risk management advice. Any description of insurance coverages is not meant to intended specific coverages that your company may already have in place or triating by be generally available. General insurance descriptions contained herein do not include complete insurance policy definitions, terms and/or conditions, and solid of the relied on for coverage interpretation. Actual insurance policides must always be consulted for full coverage details and analysis. DBA Rick Placement Services Insurance Brokers. CA License No. 0066/724. Copyright to 2020 Risk Placement Services, Inc.



# Student Accident Insurance

Let Bollinger Specialty Group help when the unexpected happens. With just a few clicks you may easily:

- · View the plan description
- · Purchase coverage online
- · Print an application to enroll by mail





## Does Your Child Have Health Insurance?

CONTROL CHARLENGE COST OF HEE FUNCTIONS

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Is your child protected by health insurance? If not, your school and the State of Connecticut want to help.

Healthy kids do well in school! Connecticut's HUSKY Health program, for example, pays for doctor visits (including physical exams), prescriptions, emergency care, vision and dental care, mental health care, special health care needs, and more. It's for children under age 19 in families of all incomes. Nearly 300,000 Connecticut children now have their health care covered by the HUSKY Health program.

There are two parts to the HUSKY Health program for children:

- 1) HUSKY A (or Medicald), for children in families with limited incomes. Parents, relative caregivers, and pregnant women may also be eligible.
- 2) HUSKY B (or Children's Health Insurance Program) for children in families with higher incomes.

To apply online, please visit <a href="www.accesshealthct.com">www.accesshealthct.com</a>. To apply by phone please call 1-855-805-4325 (TTY: 1-855-789-2428). For general information about HUSKY Health, please visit www.huskyhealth.com. You can apply for HUSKY A or HUSKY B any time of the year.

### Access Health CT Enrollment for 2015 begins November 15, 2014 through February 15, 2015.

Unless applying for HUSKY for children/families (Medicaid or CHIP), or HUSKY for low-income adults (Medicaid), most Connecticut residents will have to wait until the next open enrollment period (November 15, 2014 – February 15, 2015) to get health care coverage through Access Health CT. However, you may be able to get coverage earlier. If you have a "qualifying life event," you will get a special enrollment period. (which generally last 60 days from the date of the event). During this time, you can enroll in a health insurance plan through Access Health CT.

### What is a "Qualifying Life Event"?

Certain life changes, including changes in family size and income, are considered qualifying life events. Examples of qualifying life events include:

- · Getting married to someone who is already enrolled
- · Having or adopting a child
- · Permanently moving to Connecticut from another state
- Having a change in Income or household status that affects eligibility for tax credits or cost sharing reductions (for those already enrolled)
- Losing other health coverage for example, due to a job loss, divorce loss of eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP, expiration of COBRA coverage, a health plan being decertified, an employer cancelling health coverage for employees or their beneficiaries, or an employer ceasing their contributions toward such coverage. Note that voluntarily quitting other health coverage or being terminated for not paying your premiums is not considered loss of coverage.

For more information visit www.accesshealthct.com or call 1-855-805-4325



## SENIOR LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL REQUEST FORM

By signing the information below, you are acknowledging that you have read the entire document and understand the rules, regulations, and procedures related to the late arrival/early dismissal senior privilege for the 2022-2023 school year.

Please note that the administration reserves the right to revoke permission of this privilege at any time pending non-compliance with GHS rules, regulations, and expectations.

Student Name (print):	
Student Signature:	Date:
Student Contact Number (cell):	
Please check requested period for late arriv	al and/ or early dismissal:
Late Arrival: A1 and/or A2 (cir	cle those that apply)
Early Dismissal: D1 and/or D2 (c	circle those that apply)
* In order to be considered for early dismissal or late arrival you must he	ave a cafe study in your schedule during that time.*
Parent/Guardian Name (print):	·
Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:
Parent/Guardian Contact Number:	
Parent/Guardian Email:	
FOR OFFICE USE O	ONLY
Date RCVD: School Counselor Signat	ture:
Approved: Denied:	
Administrator's Signature:	