



Griswold Public Schools

Monthly Newsletter

June
2018

The community of the Griswold Public Schools educates for excellence by empowering students to become compassionate, confident, creative, and resourceful members of society.

From the Office of the Superintendent...

Dear Family & Friends,

It's hard to believe that another school year is coming to an end. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our students, families, faculty, staff, BOE and community members for another successful school year experience.

Students, I ask that you continue your learning in the summer months. Read, read, read! Make reading a part of your everyday routine! Reading—and understanding what you read—is such an important skill for lifelong learning, regardless of where you go and what you do.

Seniors, congratulations on your upcoming graduation. May your experiences at Griswold High School bring you continued success and rewards in a bright future ahead, whether you are going to college, entering the Armed Services, or immersing yourself in the workforce. Congratulations to you and your family on completing this milestone known as senior year!

Returning students, we look forward to greeting you all at the start of the 2018-2019 school year.

Have a safe, happy summer.

Sincerely,

Sean P. McKenna
Superintendent

Important District Dates to Know....

- June 11th—BOE meeting, GMS library media center, 6pm
- June 14th—Flag Day
- June 19th—GMS Promotion Ceremony, 6pm, GHS gymnasium
- June 20th—Last day of school for students
- June 20th—GHS Graduation, 6pm, GHS gymnasium
- June 21st—First day of summer
- June 25th—BOE meeting, GMS library media center, 6pm



DISTRICT MISSION

The community of Griswold Public Schools educates for excellence by empowering students to become compassionate, confident, creative, and resourceful members of society

DISTRICT VISION

The community of Griswold Public Schools excels at education for excellence for all students to be college and/or career ready.



Griswold Public Schools would not be successful without the continued support of all parents and community members.

We appreciate your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to communicate with your child's school or with the Superintendent's office directly. The Superintendent can be reached by calling 860-376-7600 or email: smckenna@griswoldpublicschools.org

Research has shown that parental involvement is the most important factor in a student's success in school.

GES JUNE NEWS

Dear GES Families:

It is difficult to believe that the 2017-2018 school year is coming to a close. One-hundred eighty school days go by very fast. We want to thank you all for making this year such a success, and we recognize that those successes are a direct result of the collaborative partnership involving our students, our staff members and our families.

As you are aware, reading is a focal point for us here at GES. The summer vacation can be the perfect time to enjoy a good book! Below are some facts related to summer reading and its importance:

- **Get children to read 4 or more books.** Studies show that by reading four or five books during the summer, elementary students can avoid reading achievement losses that normally occur over those months.¹
- **Provide easy access to books.** Ensuring that books are available to any child at any time of the year will be a good first step in enhancing the reading achievement of low-income students and an absolutely necessary step in closing the reading achievement gap.²
- **Launch a lifelong love of reading by letting kids choose the books they want to read.** 89% of kids say that their favorite books are the ones they pick out themselves.³

¹*Summer Reading and the Ethnic Achievement Gap, Jimmy Kim, Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk. 2004*

²*Ameliorating summer reading setback among economically disadvantaged elementary students, Richard Allington. April 2007*

³*The 2008 Kids and Family Reading Report conducted by Yankelovich and Scholastic. 2008*

In addition to reading being a focal point, we understand the importance of Mathematics. We are excited to be participating in the Commissioner's Summer Math Challenge. Why has the State of Connecticut launched this challenge to our students? Because being mathematically literate is important. Mathematically literate individuals are able to make informed decisions about the world around them and have the interest and confidence to meet the needs and challenges of today's society.

- **Mathematics is a core skill for life.** It is necessary in a range of life-skills.
- **Mathematics develops critical thinking skills.** It requires logic and order to solve complex problems.
- **Mathematics enables us to explain how things work.** It allows us to express our thoughts and ideas with clarity, coherence and precision.
- **Mathematics is essential in a world of constant change.** New technologies are changing the way we live. It is becoming an increasingly important factor in a variety of industries.

GES JUNE News *continued*

- **Mathematics is the gateway to the future.** Learning mathematics will enable students to become college and career ready.

What YOU Can Do to Encourage Mathematics?

- Encourage your child to use what is already known to find answers for new problems.
- Ask your child to explain what she or he is doing when working on a problem. Be patient with unfamiliar methods, because they might be helpful to support your child's understanding of mathematics.
- Encourage your child to stick with a problem that may seem difficult at first; working on different ways to solve a problem can be helpful.
- Play math games with your child and ask for explanations of his or her strategies and solutions.
- Use everyday activities to show your child how mathematics is used.
- Reinforce mathematics by sharing your thinking as you work through real problems, especially if it takes some time and effort to find a solution.
- Show enthusiasm for your child's study of mathematics.

To learn more about the Summer Math Challenge, contact the Commissioner's Summer Math Challenge project at 860-713-6557, or visit <http://www.ct.gov/sde>.

The GES office will be open during the summer; please call if you have any questions. Have a wonderful summer and we will see you in late August.

Sincerely,
Mr. Bordeau and Ms. Love

DATES TO REMEMBER:

6/20 – Last day of School for Students – 1:10 dismissal

6/21 – Last day of School for Staff

8/27 – First day of school!



GHS JUNE NEWS

Dear GHS Families and Friends:

It is hard to believe we are closing the school year. It has been a school year filled with reflection and growth, and we are just so proud of our students and their success. Though high school is often referred to as "the best times," it is important to highlight the amount of work that goes into a day in the life of a Griswold student. In two days, many balance seven or eight academic classes. Each class affords the students a significant amount of new knowledge and expectations. From there, they balance social lives, sports and athletics, art, music, drama, student clubs, honor societies, family, and other extracurriculars. For many of our upperclassmen, they are looking at and planning for life after 12 years of school routine. They do this while dealing with their own growth and development, issues in society, and the uprise of social media. When looking at it from their perspective, that's a lot to balance! And, Griswold High School students amaze us with balancing it all with respect, honor and integrity. We are so proud of our Wolverines! Thank you to our parents and community for your continued and endless support! Working together is the only way to achieve our goals, and we value you so much.

Important Dates in our last month:

6/12-->6/15: Exams for **SENIORS**

6/13: Underclassmen Awards at 6 p.m. (invite only)

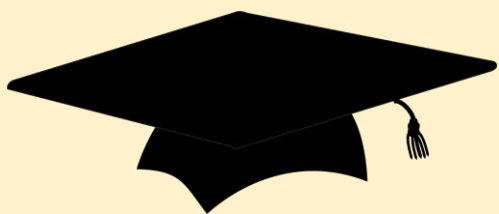
6/14: Senior Class Night

6/15-->6/20: Final Exams (**these are shortened days with dismissal at noon**) -- **6/20 last day of school**

6/19: Senior graduation rehearsal at 7:35 a.m. followed by the graduation walk at GES around 10 a.m.

6/20: Senior breakfast; graduation rehearsal, and

GRADUATION AT 6 P.M. at GHS



Congratulations Griswold High School Class of 2018!!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Palonen & Ms. Macrino

GMS JUNE NEWS

Dear GMS Families:

As the 2017-2018 school year winds down and summer approaches, we are looking to finish the year strong with many great events in June. Everyone at GMS would like to thank our families for being supportive throughout this wonderful year. We saw a lot of change and transition this year, and the entire GMS and Griswold community helped us get through that seamlessly. We wish all of our GMS families a fantastic and relaxing summer break. Please see our end of year activities/events below:

Important Dates

- 6/2 - Sunflower City Festival (Jazz Band)
- 6/5 - Holiday Hill trip (Grade 8)
- 6/5 and 6/6 - Mystic Seaport trip (Grade 5)
- 6/8 - Bluff Point trip (Grade 6)
- 6/8 - D.A.R.E. Graduation (Grade 5)
- 6/12 - Odetah trip (Grade 7)
- 6/14 - Coast Guard/Fort Trumbull trip (Grade 5)
- 6/14 - Awards Night (GMS Auditorium - 6:30)
- 6/15 - Pachaug State Forest trip (Grade 6)
- 6/15 - Promotion Dance (7:00)
- 6/19 - Promotion (GHS Auditorium - 6:00)
- 6/20 - Last day of school for students (12:00 dismissal)

Sincerely,

Mr. LaBossiere & Mr. Vamvakides





Griswold Public Schools
Educating for Excellence

Please nominate Griswold High School Alumni for recognition in the

Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame

The Griswold High School Wall of Fame Selection Committee invites you to nominate candidates for Griswold High School Distinguished Wall of Fame honors and recognition.

This award is presented to alumni who exemplify the values, the tradition, and the successes of Griswold High School. We hope their accomplishments will inspire and encourage GHS students to achieve at the same level as our recipients.

The 2018 inductee to the Griswold High School Distinguished Wall of Fame will be recognized in the fall of 2018.

Eligibility Requirements

- The nominee must be a graduate of Griswold High School.
- A period of at least ten years must have elapsed between graduation and nomination for induction.
- Posthumous nominees will be accepted.
- The nominee must have made a significant contribution to their community or their field of work, or have been recognized for an outstanding achievement, accomplishment, contribution or act that has had a profound and positive effect.
- Any supporting material such as newspaper articles, stories, letters of recommendation, etc. should be submitted with the nomination form. The selection committee will review only the information provided and will not do further research.

Inductees

2013

**Elizabeth (Jedziniak) Osga GHS
Class of 1970**

**Kris Johanessen
GHS Class of 1978**

2014

**Dorothy M. Stott
GHS Class of 1976**

2015

**Mary Rose Deveau
Class of 1951**

2016

**Phil Anctil
Class of 1972**

2017

No Recipient

Nomination/Selection Procedure

Anyone may nominate a graduate for consideration. All nominees will remain on the nominee list until the time he or she is selected for induction. If a person was nominated, but not selected, additional reference materials may be submitted.

Nomination forms are attached below. The Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame Selection Committee will review the nominations and notify both the inductee and the nominator in August 2018.

Deadline for Nomination: July 1, 2018.

Mail completed application forms along with any supporting materials to:

Robin Drobiak, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Griswold Public Schools
211 Slater Avenue
Griswold, CT 06351





Griswold Public Schools
Educating for Excellence

Griswold High School Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame

Nomination Form

If you nominated someone last year, you do not need to include the detailed information again. Additional reference material may be submitted. Past nominees will automatically be considered.

Nominee's Biographical Data

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Griswold High School Class of: _____

Nominee's Area of Distinction (Please attach information as necessary)

Describe Nominee's Area(s) of Distinction:

(Include Business, Community Service, Military, Education, Government, Medicine, Performing/Arts, Religion, Science Technology, Athletic accomplishments as applicable.)

Please attach information that displays how:

1. The nominee has made a significant contribution to their community of their field of work - **OR** -
2. The nominee has been recognized for an outstanding achievement, accomplishment, contribution or act that has had a profound and positive effect.

Information may include a written testimonial, additional letters of recommendation, newspaper clippings, nominee's resume, etc.

Nominator's Information

Name of Nominator: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Date Submitted: _____

Return to: Robin Drobiak, Griswold Public Schools, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, CT 06351



Visit us at: griswoldpublicschools.org

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