

Ram Announcer

February 2022

www.g-aschools.org



Third Grade Mathematicians Learning Together

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Award Recipients
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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Galesburg-Augusta Families:

I hope this RAM Announcer finds you and your family healthy. I know it has been great to be back in school full time. Our students express how much more they are learning by being in person with their teachers. Indeed, the brain research shows that learning is a social process when we can talk about our learning with others, ask questions and seek feedback immediately.

The year has also had its challenges. Besides the volume of Covid testing, contact tracing and staffing classrooms during teacher absences, we have had the challenge of ensuring students catch up the large loss of learning from the last two years.

Each of the buildings have increased time and opportunities for students to fill gaps in important academic areas. For example, many of our youngest students lost time to learn the fundamental skills it takes to be a reader. They now need extra time to get to grade-level in reading and math. The Primary School has put together a team of coaches who help teachers look at diagnostic assessments, and each grade level has set aside additional time during the day when students are regrouped, based on the skills they need in real time. Recently their team presented their students' progress, and the data is showing a significant amount of growth. We have dedicated teachers who know they can collaboratively make a difference! We are all very proud of their work.

Two interesting or staggering statistics for us to acknowledge and consider: today's sophomores (10th graders) had their last normal September to June fully in person school year when they were 7th graders! Can any of us imagine handling the challenges of Algebra II, Chemistry, etc., when they have spent so little time sitting in classrooms? Last school year during the 1st semester, our high school students sat in seats for only 14 days! Some even less if they were isolated or quarantined.

This significant loss in learning will take time to come back from -at least through next year, hoping that isolation and quarantine are a thing of the past. Our goal is to get every student impacted by pandemic-learning across the graduation finish line on time. They deserve, and our District's responsibility is, to provide them additional time and opportunities to be adequately prepared for the world of work.

Across the country, including here at G-A, we have added staff to support students' mental health. Galesburg-Augusta Middle School recently received the Whole Child Award from the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association. They have received numerous visits from other area school districts and regional educational service centers. This speaks to our District's commitment to social, emotional, physical and academic growth of each student who is part of our G-A Family.

Staff shortages at every level in education are now at critical levels throughout the State of Michigan, as it is across the country. G-A has started its own "Grow Your Own" teachers with staff currently employed. We are utilizing grants from the Michigan Department of Education as well as Covid Relief Funds from the federal government.

I am so very proud of the creativity and outside-the-box thinking of each and every one of our Galesburg-Augusta staff. I am thankful for our Board of Education Members who are working to guide our district through these challenging times. And finally, I am thankful for the parents and caregivers of each and everyone of our students, and your patience and grace for us. We have not gotten everything perfect, but you can be assured we are learners each and every day. We are dedicated to doing our best for your children.

Be healthy.

Wendy



G-A Community Schools Foundation

WHEN: Monday, February 28th, 2022

WHERE: Dig In Café - 111 W. Michigan Ave, Augusta, MI

Menu: Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and a desert!

\$10 Each Meal



TAKE OUT ONLY!

Just drive up to the window. We will deliver to your car.

The Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools Foundation has awarded over \$100,000 in the past 20 years to graduating seniors, classroom grants, and middle school awards. Please support our local foundation to continue helping our G-A students

A Note from the Food Service Department:

This year, school breakfast and lunch are free for ALL students, which has increased participation. We are currently averaging 300 breakfast meals served and 750 lunches served daily. We have accomplished this while being down over 40% of our food service staff. If you are looking for a part time job or would like to volunteer, please contact me at 269-484-2106.

Thank You, Cheryl Cadwell



Thank You!

We want to thank all the individuals who helped make this bond a success. Whether it was passing out flyers, canvassing neighborhoods, making phone calls, volunteering your time at special events, or sharing information through friends, you made a difference in the lives of our current and future students.

Picture below are some of those who made a difference. There are many more to whom we owe our gratitude.



A Note on Emergency Readiness from Nurse Nancy:

Nancy Saline MSN, RN, School Nurse

I cannot stress enough the importance of being prepared. Some are prepared each day for work, some are prepared for a trip they're going to take, and some are prepared for accidents. Understand that the more you are prepared the better off your experience will be. Here are some ways I prepare—some are simpler than others.

1. I have made a first aid kit for my car. I keep latex free gloves, roller bandages, band aids, water, alcohol swabs, tweezers, aspirin, Benadryl, sugar packets, small towels and hand sanitizer (amongst other Nursing equipment) in this kit.

2. I also have a small survival kit in my car which includes: a blanket, gloves/hats, hand warmers, lighters, a charged mophie (power source) with a cord, a pocketknife, granola bars, water, flashlight, extra batteries, glow sticks, whistle, rain poncho, back up medications, and dry socks.

3. Another way to prepare is to change your voicemail message if you get lost or been in an accident (and can still speak/use your hands). This helps even when your phone dies. If someone calls you, they will be able to hear your voicemail message.

4. When I park, before I exit my car and after I open the care door, I look at the road to make sure I'm careful when I exit my vehicle—I have fallen before because it was icy or there's been mud.

5. I always know where the exit is, where the AED (automated external defibrillator) is, and where the fire extinguisher is whenever I enter a building.

6. I have an emergency plan if my house is on fire, and I have a fire escape ladder for my second story window.

This information is NOT to scare you but to prepare you. My motto is, "It's not if it will happen....but when." Be prepared!

Central Office Updates Board of Education



Back (left to right): Jessica Eberstein (Treasurer), Jeff McCubbin (Trustee), Benjamin Overgaard (Vice President), Erik Reed (Trustee), Diana Shoup (Trustee)

Front (left to right): Krista Simmons (Secretary), Wendy Maynard-Somers (Superintendent), Diana Walker (President)



The Central Office welcomed three new staff during first semester.

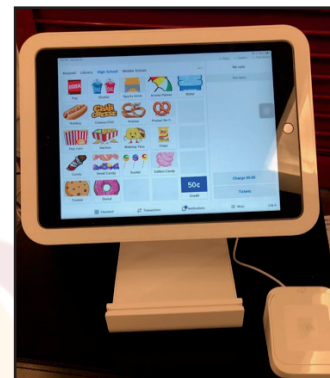
In October, Nicole Twohy joined the G-A team as the District Receptionist/Human Resources Assistant. Mrs. Twohy recently moved to the area from Minnesota, where she worked for Mayo Clinic. She says, "My favorite part of my job is getting information out to the community by creating social media posts (thanks for the 'likes!') and updating the district website." In her free time, she enjoys board games, hanging out with her 9-month-old son, and taking her great dane, Otis, to the dog park.

At the beginning of January, Mrs. Erica Deubner moved down the hall in the central office, from her role with Eastern Service Area to the role of Executive Assistant to the Superintendent. She says the best part of her new role has been getting to know everyone on the G-A team. When she's not working, Mrs. Deubner enjoys traveling, reading (she read 108 books in 2021!), and relaxing at home with her husband and their cats.

G-ACS also welcomed Mrs. Hilary Diebold to the team at the beginning of January. Mrs. Diebold is the new Coordinator of Interventions & Supports for ESA. Prior to joining the ESA team, she worked for KRESA. Mrs. Diebold says she has loved learning about how she can best support the G-A team's passion to serve students and the community. In her spare time, she loves to travel around the world. When she's not traveling with her husband, she's probably planning a trip, hanging out with her yorkies, reading/watching *Outlander* or getting some time in at the gym.



We also want to recognize Mrs. Brenda Sutherland, who retired this past December from her role of Executive Assistant to the Superintendent. Brenda was with the district for 25 years. Thank you for your service over the years. Happy Retirement!



Support your G-A Rams by Volunteering in the Concessions Stand!

Have you been scared to volunteer working concessions because the money stuff is intimidating? Well worry no more! Processing sales is fun and easy with our new touch screen system. Students are welcome to volunteer with an adult. It's a great learning opportunity for all. Please visit the Galesburg Augusta Sports Boosters Facebook page or swing by the concessions stands during an athletic event to learn more.

News From the Business Office:

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the federal government has provided Covid Relief Funds to local school districts to address the impact the pandemic has had on schools. The following is a list of allowable uses:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Cleaning Supplies | Coordinated Services for Long Term Closures |
| Educational Technology | Professional Development |
| Mental Health Supports | Parent Education |
| Supplementary Learning | Learning Loss (20% of grants must be allocated) |
| Added Needs for at Risk Population | Improving Air Quality |
| Transportation | Improving Facilities |
| McKinney Vento Expenses | Implementing Public Health Acts |

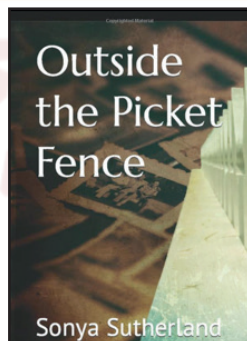
The Board of Education recently solicited community input into which of the above should be considered the top priorities of the district. The timeline for use of these funds is 2023.

At this time, the district has focused its efforts on additional personnel and other supports to address academic learning loss, emotional and mental health supports. We are committed to creating a culture of safety and supports that allows all students to cross the finish line well-prepared for their futures.

Staff Spotlights



Ms. Washburn came to us from WoodsEdge Learning Center in August to student teach in 6th grade English Language Arts. In October, she began as a resource room teacher at G-A Primary and G-A Middle School. Ms. Washburn is a graduate of Galesburg-Augusta High School and Grand Canyon University. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, hiking, reading, archery, dinosaurs, playing Planet Zoo, and watching true crime documentaries. Her message to our G-A Family: "I am excited to be a Ram again! Thank you for welcoming me back with open arms."



Our new occupational therapist, Sonya Sutherland, provides OT to students in Climax-Scotts, Comstock, Galesburg-Augusta, Gull Lake, and Parchment. She has also recently published a book!

Her book, *Outside the Picket Fence* is a fictional story inspired by patients Sonya used to work with, who had Alzheimer's, as well as women who broke the mold of traditional gender roles. Sonya has a bachelor's degree in journalism, a master's degree in occupational therapy, and a heart for writing. Sonya writes, "I am thoroughly entertained by all things kitschy and ironic. I love to read, write, embarrass my children and travel."

G-A Music Program

Upcoming Concerts:

Thursday, March 3, 2022 (HS Gym, 7pm)

Festival Preview Concert (Jazz Band, Vocal Music, 8th Grade Band, Symphonic Band)

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 (MS Auditorium, 7pm)

Middle School Band Concert (6th Grade Band, 7th Grade Band)

On Tuesday, March 15th our 8th Grade Band Students will be participating in a music clinic at WMU.

Our High School Band has been working hard to prepare for Symphonic Band Festival which will be held in mid-March at Mattawan.

Good luck to all our high school band students that will be participating in Solo & Ensemble on Saturday, February 5th! (Korbin Nigg, Kayla Nichols, Jessica Cassel, Ashley Wing, Alyssa Johnson, Nick Martin, Emily Fletcher, Andrew Matthews, Joy Connors and Grace Carter)



After auditioning, students Sophie Corsi, Lauren Gates, and Bradlee Hubbard were selected to represent G-A and perform in the MSBOA District 11 Middle School Honor Band on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at Plainwell High School!



Thank you bus drivers!



Our district School Improvement team



We love our Ram Fam!



Learning about a new teacher evaluation tool



G-A Staff using delayed start time to improve teaching strategies

Galesburg-Augusta Inspirational Alumni Award

The Galesburg-Augusta Inspirational Alumni Award Committee would like to congratulate the first-year recipients. The award celebrates individuals whose endeavors have brought honor to Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools and who will inspire students on their road to success. The first cohort of honorees will receive their awards on April 22, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The ceremony will be at G-A High School. Students in grades 8-12 will help us celebrate, along with other invited guests.

The 2022 recipients are:

- Dave "Dizz" Eldrige (class of 1945)
- Keith Martin (class of 1962)
- Dale Martin (class of 1964)
- Frank Baker (class of 1981)



Dave "Dizz" Eldrige



Keith Martin



Dale Martin



Frank Baker

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA PRIMARY SCHOOL

315 W. Battle Creek St. Galesburg, MI 49053

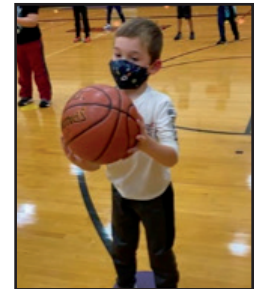
Principal: Shaun Sportel • (269)484-2040



Mr. Merasco awarded SHAPE Michigan's 2021 Elementary PE Teacher of the Year

We are proud to announce that our very own Mr. Jeff Merasco has been awarded the title of 2021 Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year! A recent SHAPE Michigan press release stated, "This annual award acknowledges exceptional contributions in curriculum, teaching methodologies, professional commitment, and the provisions of innovative learning experience in order to impact the lives of all students."

Check out the Facebook group "Mr. Merasco. GA Physical Education" to see some of the awesome things Mr. Merasco does for our students every day



THANK YOU GALESBURG-AUGUSTA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION!!!!

To support everyday learning, coordination, strength, and stability skills in the classroom, an Education Enhancement Grant (\$500) was sought by Patricia Schuring, an Early Childhood Education teacher at G-A Primary School. Occupational and Physical therapists were also consulted in the selected equipment.

Thank you GACS Foundation for offering this grant to our G-A kids. We are grateful for more opportunities to grow and build strength on a daily basis!



This Fall, first graders took a field trip to Historic Charlton Park. They visited The Lee Schoolhouse and used slates to practice spelling, penmanship, and mathematics. We read from old fashioned readers, and one friend (voluntarily) even wore the dunce cap! Afterward, we played outside with wooden hoops and sticks.

They spent some time touring The Bristol Inn and learning about fascinating artifacts like spittoons and chamber pots. The students learned where the phrase, "Goodnight, sleep tight, don't let the bed bugs bite" originated. It was also interesting seeing the old-fashioned furniture and toys.

Finally, they spent some time in the kitchen of The Bristol Inn peeling and chopping vegetables for soup, churning butter, and washing dishes. Most of the children chose to sample the soup and butter during lunchtime. What a fantastic day!



The Primary School's Focus on the Whole Child

At the Primary School, we are increasing our curriculum to support the mental health and emotional, social, and physical needs of our students. Some of these supports include:

- Zones of Regulation
- Daily Check-in / Check-out
- Classroom calming centers and sensory toolboxes
- Daily classroom community circles
- Restorative circles
- Movement breaks in the "Rams Success Center"

Additional family/child services include Warm Kids/Warm Coats, First Day Shoe Fund, and periodic food distribution. Weekly Rams winners are also eligible for free tokens to use at the Book Vending Machine. Emily Walker and Cheryl Wells facilitate lunch groups to discuss topics of interest and concern.

At the Primary School, we continually evaluate our programs to service the needs of the whole child.



GALESBURG-AUGUSTA MIDDLE SCHOOL

750 W. Van Buren St., Augusta, MI 49012

Principal: Shana M. Wiese • (269)484-2020



Galesburg-Augusta
Middle School

2021 Whole Child School of the Year

We are honored to announce that Galesburg-Augusta Middle School was selected as the Michigan ASCD's 2021-2022 Whole Child School of the Year. Certainly no school is perfect, and we face the same challenges all middle schools face while helping guide students through adolescence. However, at G-AMS, it is our top priority that when our students are with us, their physiological needs are met, they feel safe, they feel loved, and they feel a strong sense of belonging at G-AMS.

We greet every student and staff that enters our building. It is important to us that all our students

are both seen and heard. We believe love is a verb and that we can choose to love the person even if we don't always love their behavior. We use a digital Mood Meter twice a day to help students identify their emotions. We also use cool down spaces, community circles so all students can be heard, and restorative circles during times of conflict.

These, among many other reasons, are why we are proud to be a part of the Galesburg-Augusta Family.



"The team at Galesburg Augusta is doing an exemplary job of committing to the WSCC (Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child) model in every way." - Michigan ASCD



Jamie Korinek, Student Support Specialist and Lori Washburn, Student Support/Family Liaison accepting the Whole Child Award

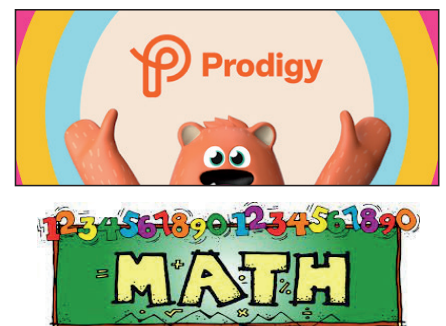


Middle School staff were recognized at a December Board meeting for their achievements.

WHAT IS PRODIGY?

Prodigy Math is a web-based math program that all our middle school students use to improve their math skills. At the start of the program, all students are tested to determine which level math skills they need to work on. Our Math Interventionist, Mr. Goerge analyzes the results and designs individualized programs for each student. Their program progress is reported in "real-time" so that Mr. Goerge and the classroom teacher can quickly identify which skills the students have mastered, and which ones might require additional support.

In January 2022, 175 students took the test again, and 82 students improved their scores by one full grade level (46.9%), and 6 students (3.4%) raised their results by two full grade levels. With another semester of learning, practice, and support ahead, we are confident the results will continue to show mathematical growth in ALL G-AMS students.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE CLASSROOMS

7th Grade Robotics: Design and Create Mechanical Toys

One of Mrs. Russell's seventh grade exploratory science classes is a Robotics Class. Towards the end of the marking period, the students use the design process to create a pull toy. These are some of the end results. We are proud of our engineering Rams!



All of our fifth grade students read the second book of the Narnia series, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, by C.S. Lewis. The magic of reading started with the students walking into a scene from Narnia. As the students read the novel, they were challenged through Google Escape rooms that focused on the STARS (Strategies To Achieve Reading Success) strategies. It was a wonderful sight to see students enjoying a classic novel together!



There are some exciting things happening in Mrs. Lantinga's STEAM classroom. Students participated in an "oil spill" project which required students to listen to a story about the Exxon Valdez, a huge oil spill that took place in Alaska in 1989. They played games involving ocean habitats, and heard a story about a fish named Wanda who was on a journey to Lake Michigan when pollution from various sources kept entering the water! The students' mission was to save Wanda's life by developing a plan and creating a device to clean up the pollution before it reached Lake Michigan.

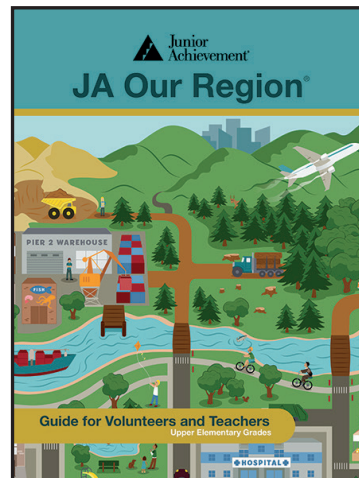


Our 4th grade participated in the Junior Achievement program “Our Region.” This program was made possible through the financial support and volunteerism of our district’s community partner, Eaton Cummins Joint Venture. The program, conducted virtually this year and led by trained volunteers from Eaton Cummin Joint Venture, introduced fourth-grade students to entrepreneurship and fourth grade social studies standards, including regions, resources, and supply chains.

The program taught students:

1. How to become an entrepreneur
2. How to recognize how entrepreneurs use resources to produce goods and services in a region
3. About the skills and tasks an entrepreneur must master to start a successful business
(Our students practiced with a game about opening a hot dog stand.)
4. How to problem solve
5. About trade and what it means to go global as an entrepreneur

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools continue to be very appreciative of the generosity and volunteerism of our community partners at Eaton Cummins Joint Venture.



Galesburg-Augusta Middle School has been awarded the social and emotional learning curriculum “TRAILS to Wellness Grant” through the Building Healthy Communities program. Through this grant we can teach our students about mental health and wellness using the TRAILS curriculum. Each grade level will teach students lessons to help them build healthy identities and relationships, manage strong emotions, and make responsible decisions. Through this mental health support, we will be able to better identify and refer students who need of a higher level of care. Research shows that implementing this type of curriculum increases students’ academic achievements.

Students in Mrs. Way’s seventh grade English Language Arts classes took on the role of detective to learn about the use of inferences and supporting evidence. Mrs. Godde, G-AMS Library Clerk, brought an “urgent” letter to the classroom with a “whodunnit” mystery that needed to be solved by the super-sleuth students. Students were charged with examining evidence, drawing conclusions, and supporting their theories as they solved the case. Mrs. Way reported that all her students were engaged and there was so much learning and fun for all!



GALESBURG-AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL

1076 N. 37th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

Principal: Katie MacDonell • (269)484-2010



Galesburg-Augusta
High School

National Honors Society Induction

On December 8th the Wes and Ruth Burrell Chapter of NHS held its annual induction. Thirteen new members were inducted at the first in-person event since the pandemic. Parents, guardians, and other family members joined in honoring the new members in the simple ceremony. Former president, Megan Earles, was the guest speaker for the event. Congratulations to the new members: Addyson Godde, Caitlin Gregg, Grace Fleck Alexis Peruski, Alexis Christiansen, Jalen Dolph, Hailey Brugh, Hannah McClurken, Hayley Hall, Karina Nigg, Kayla Nichols, Kathryn Standley, and Lydia Kish.



Primary Holiday Shopping

The annual Holiday Shop was held at the Primary School prior to the winter break. Several of our student groups volunteered to help Primary students select gifts. Our Interact Club, advised by Mr. Curtiss, is one of the volunteer groups at G-A HS. Thank you High School Rams for helping spread holiday cheer.

New KRESA and Crawlspace Partnership

On Friday, January 14, Galesburg-Augusta High School launched a new program with Crawlspace, an improv group based out of Kalamazoo. During the presentation given at a school-wide assembly, G-A students participated in improv games. Crawlspace uses hands-on activities to help students learn skills such as communication, collaboration, and problem solving. There will also be a session dedicated to teaching essential employability skills. We look forward to what this program will offer students.

Announcement:

Ms. O'Donnell's Business Management & Administration class has opened the high school store during second semester. Snacks and treats for students are available for students to purchase during lunch, including Galesburg Meat Market's meat sticks!



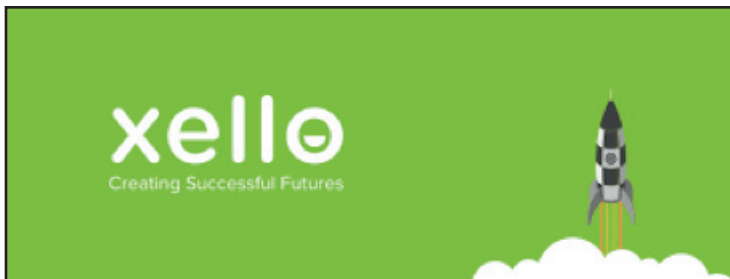
Learn more about the Robotic Rams

By Colin Whitman, Robotics Rams Coach

The Robotic Rams were created to be an interactive and challenging STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) program that invites kids to apply their STEAM skills to real-world situations which deal with intense pressure, friendly competition, and professionalism.

Each January, team members are tasked with the design, construction, and successful piloting of a robot during our scheduled competitions. The students who join our robotics team not only learn about mechanics and engineering, but also gain experience in business, programming, marketing, communication, and press release strategies.

The 2022 Competition Season has already begun. Anyone still interested in joining the team as a student or mentor, as well as sponsoring the team can contact us at roboticramsrcteam5623@gmail.com



Preparing for College & Careers

During the month of January, Mrs. Walmsley met with 9-12th graders to complete Xello career assessments and activities. Students worked on their educational development plans and learned more about how their interests, values and goals align with careers.

What is Xello?

Academically researched and scientifically validated, Xello's award-winning program puts the student at the center of their planning experience. Students document their journey as they build self-knowledge, explore post-secondary options, create plans, and continually reassess as they take in new knowledge, skills, and experiences. <https://xello.world/en/>

Galesburg-Augusta is excited to have added the parent portal. Parents and guardians are able to view their student's results and utilize Xello for their own futures!



This year, Ms. Karly Root, took over the role of High School Secretary. Karly is from the Portage/Vicksburg area. In her free time, she likes to watch movies and hang out with her family and friends. When asked what she likes most about working at G-AHS, Karly said "I love the community and love the people I work with. I enjoy helping to ensure the school runs smoothly. The students always find a way to make my day a little brighter."

Proud of our G-A Artists

Galesburg-Augusta High School art students were challenged to create and exhibit a new work in response to an existing personal work. An amazing art exhibit resulted from the challenge. Students, staff and families enjoyed the artwork that was on display in the library January 26 - February 11.

Here is a sample of some of the artworks that were on display. If you missed seeing the exhibit, you can visit a virtual gallery at Mrs. Niesen's teacher site: www.teacher4change.com



Artist: Cayden Lock



Artist: Emily Vasquez

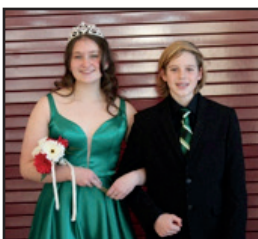


Artist: Megan Hubbard

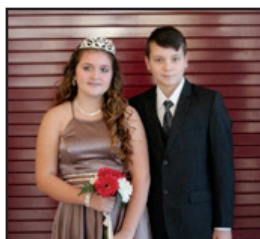


Artist: Lily Vanderhoof

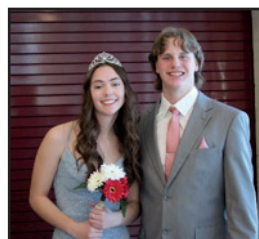
Snow Coming Royalty



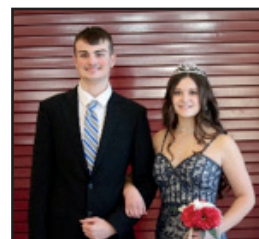
Freshmen Liliana Thompson & Wesley Hoffman



Sophomores Jacy Hardin & Nathaniel Ewert



Junior Grace Fleck & Sophomore Brenden Miller

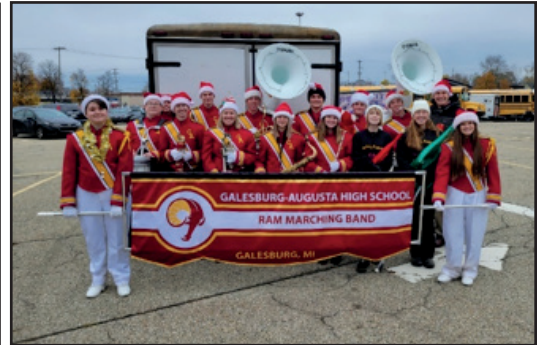


Seniors Heath Bruinekoel & Morgan Bresson



Seniors Casey Murray & Avery Coleman

G-A HIGH SCHOOL NEWS:



Homecoming Festivities



Youth Athletic Program

This year Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools' PE Teacher, Mr. Merasco, became the Coordinator our Youth Athletic Program. The goal of the program is to get our students moving and interested in sports and physical activity. Mr. Merasco has coordinated several programs, camps, and unique opportunities for our students, including:

- Mini-Rams Cheer Camp
46 girls from K-8th grade participated
- Youth Cross Country Camp
12 students, grades 4th and 5th
- Soccer Camp
60 students participated, grades 1st-8th
Participants had a guest coach from the Portage Lightning Soccer Club
- Youth Volleyball Camp
27 girls attended
Participants attended a KVCC Women's Volleyball Game to cheer on a G-A Alum
- Fitness Camp
Two days of speed and agility training, prior to the basketball season
Eight students participated
- Rocket Football Program
130 students in total participated in flag football (K-2nd) and Rocket Football and Cheer (3rd-8th grade)
- Youth Basketball
166 students, grades 1st-6th, participated
Both the boys and girls attended a WMU women's and men's basketball game. Students got to meet a coach, create a team tunnel for Bronco players to run through, and played basketball games on the court. The 5th and 6th grade girls also got to scrimmage at half-time on the court.
- Greater Kalamazoo Youth Basketball League
Currently our boys' teams have a combined record of 9-2 and the girls are 7-4.

Mr. Merasco also works with the MYWAY Youth Wrestling program, which has over 100 kids participating this year.



Middle School Wrestling

On January 22, our wrestling family put on the Ron Hardin Memorial Tournament. We had 13 teams compete from SW Michigan. Our wrestlers were fantastic! They showed incredible toughness, sportsmanship and pride being a student-athlete. We had 11 wrestlers earn medals (4 gold, 3 silver 2 bronze and 4-4th place). Our parents and volunteers were incredible. They ran our score tables, helped set up and clean up and put together a delicious hospitality room.



Middle School Boys Basketball

The Middle School Boys basketball teams had a solid season this year. A highlight of the season was Veterans Night on December 13. Veterans that were in attendance were recognized prior to the game. The 7th grade team was coached by Jake Wortinger and assisted by Bill Stoddard. The team had 10 boys and finished with an 8-4 record. Impressively the team had an average of a 3.28 GPA. The 8th grade team was coached by Tony Smith. The 8th grade had 13 boys, allowing us to have A and B teams. Collectively they finished with a .500 record. The 8th grade team had a 3.02 GPA.



ATHLETIC CONFERENCE NEWS

Galesburg-Augusta has been a member of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (S.A.C.) since 2016. Current members are Coloma, Constantine, Delton-Kellogg, Fennville, Galesburg-Augusta, Gobles, Hackett Catholic Prep, Kalamazoo Christian, Lawton, Martin, Parchment, Saugatuck, Schoolcraft, and Watervliet.

Beginning next fall, the S.A.C. will be welcoming four additional schools. They are Allegan, Bridgman, Holland Black River, and South Haven. With this addition, the league divisions will be changing with many high school sports.

Football will have three divisions with five schools in each division. G-A will be in a division with Delton, Lawton, Saugatuck, and Schoolcraft. Other sports like volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, and track and field will also have three divisions with five schools. We will be in the Central Division with Delton-Kellogg, Gobles, Holland Black River, Martin, and Saugatuck. Wrestling (14 schools), Cross Country (18 schools), and soccer (15 schools) will continue with a one division format.

Many of us that are involved in our athletic programs are excited for the future of Galesburg-Augusta Athletics. These new divisions will create more competitive balance within the league. Furthermore, we continue to see great improvement in our high school athletic programs. Our gyms and weight rooms are full of student-athletes and dedicated coaches who are working hard "in-season" as well as "out of season" to build strong programs.

News from our Athletic Director

- **Important Requirement:** The Michigan High School Athletic Association (M.H.S.A.A.) states each student-athlete **MUST** have a valid physical on file with the school **BEFORE** they can participate in ANY Middle School or High School athletics. This is a Michigan High School Athletic Association requirement, so please plan on scheduling physicals on or after April 15th of every year. The Athletic Physical form can be found on our school website (under athletics on the High School page). The examination form must be completed before practicing with any athletic team.
- Spring sports for High School will begin on Monday, March 14th (Softball, Baseball, Girl's Tennis, and Girl's and Boy's Track and Field). However, there may be off-season workouts that take place prior to the start of the season. Please contact the Athletic Director, Mike Woodard, at Michael.woodard@garams.org for more information.
- Check out the Southwestern Athletic Conference's website (www.sac-athletics.com) for up-to-date news, game results, standings, and post-season recognition. You can also find league information on Twitter @sacsportsnewsMI
- Our Galesburg-Augusta High School Athletic schedules, physical information, start dates, and more can be found on our school website under "Athletics" in the menu.
- If you are a parent of a high school student-athlete, please be aware of the following school policies:
 - o All uniforms and equipment must be turned in from their previous sport before they may begin their next sport.
 - o Any outstanding athletic bills and/or participation fees from previous athletic seasons must be paid before they may begin their next athletic season.



GALESBURG-AUGUSTA GIRL'S TENNIS SCHEDULE 2022

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Sat. 3-26	Niles Brandywine Indoor Tourn.	Away	TBD
Wed. 4-6	B.C. Pennfield	Home	4:30 p.m.
Mon. 4-11	Three Rivers	Away	4:30 p.m.
Wed. 4-13	Schoolcraft	Home	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. 4-14	Plainwell	Home	4:30 p.m.
Mon. 4-18	LMC/Bridgman	Home	4:30 p.m.
Mon. 4-25	Bronson	Home	4:30 p.m.
Sat. 4-30	Niles Brandywine Tournament	Away	TBD
Tues. 5-3	Comstock	Home	4 p.m.
Thurs. 5-5	Berrien Springs	Away	4:30 p.m.
Wed. 5-11	Schoolcraft	Away	4:30 p.m.
May 18,19,20, or 21	Regionals		

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA VARSITY SOFTBALL SCHEDULE 2022

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE
Tues. 4-5	Comstock (DH)	Away
Tues. 4-12	Delton-Kellogg (DH)	Home
Thurs. 4-14	Plainwell (DH)	Away
Tues. 4-19	Parchment (DH)	Away
Tues. 4-26	Schoolcraft (DH)	Home
Tues. 5-3	Hackett (DH)	Away
Thurs. 5-5	Hackett (single)	Home
Tues. 5-10	Kalamazoo Chr. (DH)	Home
Tues. 5-17	Constantine (DH)	Away
Mon. 5-23	Allegan (single)	Away
Tues. 5-24	Gobles (DH)	Away
Fri. 5-27	Cross River Rivalry vs. Climax-Scotts	Home
Tues. 5-31	Pre-Districts	TBD
Fri. 6-3 or Sat. 6-4	Districts	TBD

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA VARSITY BASEBALL SCHEDULE 2022

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Tues. 3-22	Dowagiac (DH)	Home	4:15 p.m.
Fri. 3-25	Battle Creek Cent. (DH)	Home	4 p.m.
Tues. 4-5	Comstock (DH)	Away	4:15 p.m.
Sat. 4-9	Union City Tournament	Away	TBD
Tues. 4-12	Delton-Kellogg (DH)	Home	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. 4-14	Delton-Kellogg (Single)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Sat. 4-16	Bloomington (DH)	Home	12 p.m.
Tues. 4-19	Parchment (DH)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. 4-21	Parchment (Single)	Home	4:30 p.m.
Sat. 4-23	Bangor (DH)	Home	11:00 a.m.
Tues. 4-26	Schoolcraft (DH)	Home	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. 4-28	Schoolcraft (Single)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Sat. 4-30	White Pigeon (DH)	Home	11:00 a.m.
Tues. 5-3	Hackett Catholic Prep (DH)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. 5-5	Hackett Catholic Prep (single)	Home	4:30 p.m.
Tues. 5-10	Kalamazoo Chr. (DH)	Home	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. 5-12	Kalamazoo Chr. (single)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Tues. 5-17	Constantine (DH)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. 5-19	Constantine (Single)	Home	4:30 p.m.
Mon. 5-23	Allegan (Single)	Away	4 p.m.
Tues. 5-24	Gobles (Single)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Fri. 5-27	Cross River Rivalry Climax-Scotts (single)	Home	5 p.m.
Tues. 5-31	Pre-Districts	TBD	
Fri. 6-3 or Sat. 6-4	Districts	TBD	

All games are 4:30 p.m. double headers, unless noted.

Please check the school website at g-aschools.org for the most up to date schedules.

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL TRACK/FIELD 2022

DATE	SITE	TIME
Wed. 4-6	Kalamazoo Christian	4:30 p.m.
Wed. 4-13	Schoolcraft (with Hackett)	4:30 p.m.
Wed. 4-20	Constantine	4:30 p.m.
Fri. 4-22	Comstock Invitational	4 p.m.
Wed. 4-27	Delton-Kellogg	4:30 p.m.
Fri. 4-29	Schoolcraft Invitational	3 p.m.
Wed. 5-4	Schoolcraft	4:30 p.m.
Fri. 5-6	Parchment Relays	TBD
Wed. 5-11	Martin	4:30 p.m.
Fri. 5-13	Gobles Invitational	TBD
Wed. 5-18	Parchment (with K-C and Delton)	4:30 p.m.
Tues. 5-24	SAC Championship at Constantine	TBD
Wed. 5-25	SAC Rain Date	TBD
5-19 or 5-20 or 5-21	Regionals at Lawton HS	TBD

Please check the school website at g-aschools.org for the most up to date schedules.

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
1076 N. 37th St.
Galesburg, MI 49053

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Vision Statement:

*To encourage learning, inspire pride and support all students.
WE ARE G-A!*

Mission Statement:

*Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools will empower all students to
be productive and responsible citizens.*

Administration Offices

1076 N. 37th St.
Galesburg, MI 49053
(269) 484-2000

Primary School (Pre-K through 3rd Grade)

Principal: Shaun Sportel
(269) 484-2040
shaun.sportel@garams.org

Middle School (4th - 7th Grades)

Principal: Shana Wiese
(269) 484-2020
shana.wiese@garams.org

High School (8th - 12th Grades)

Principal: Katie MacDonell
(269) 484-2010
katie.macdonnell@garams.org

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, and transgender identity), disability, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic (collectively "Protected Classes") in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. The District's Compliance Officers shall handle inquiries regarding the Board's nondiscrimination policies and any complaint of discrimination.

Complaints or inquiries should be forwarded to:
1076 N. 37th St.
Galesburg, MI 49053