

GOBLES HOMELINK



Gobles Public Schools Creating a culture of deliberate excellence

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August 2021

Welcome Back from the Superintendent

Dear School Community:
I am certain that everyone is enjoying this well deserved Summer Break. It is my hope that all is well as we transition to a sense of normalcy. Numerous stakeholders have been asking questions about the 2021-2022 school year so that planning can occur. This is understandable. Normally, this communication from the District/Schools happens around the first week of August but because of the uniqueness of this next school year we are expediting our timeline to meet everyone's needs. First, let me say that we have been busy preparing for an exciting 2021-2022 school year. Below are some initial district communications. You will be receiving building communications through the mail shortly. Please look for this information.

Initial District Communication

Staffing: I am pleased to announce that Mr. Tommie Saylor, Jr. will return as Secondary Principal and Ms. Katherine Markovich will return as Elementary Principal. Please join me in welcoming new staff members, Mrs. Cassandra Trapp, 6-12 Guidance Counselor, and Ms. Megan Shein, 6-12 Math Teacher.

School Start Date/Times: School will begin on August 30, 2021 with a half day. Secondary school times for August 30, 2021 will be 7:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., and Elementary school times will be 8:30 a.m. until noon. Regularly scheduled school day times for the Secondary school are 7:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. and for the Elementary school are 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. We understand the difficulty that continuing this staggered school day schedule causes for some families but unfortunately it is the only schedule that the district can staff as Gobles, the County, and the State are all in the midst of a bus driver shortage.

Food Service: All students in the district will continue to receive free breakfast and lunch. The Secondary school will be receiving and eating breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria. The Elementary will be having breakfast in the classroom while students will return to the cafeteria for lunch.

Health and Safety Protocols: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated its guidance for K-12 Public Schools on July 28, 2021 for the upcoming school year recommending, "uniform indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status. At this moment in time, masking will be optional and school buses and classrooms will be scheduled similar to the 2019-2020 school year. The Gobles Public Schools will continue this position until required otherwise by the Van Buren/Cass Health Department.

We certainly want our staff and students to be as safe as possible, but ultimately we want to have as normal of a school year as possible.

School Community Stakeholder Involvement Options: We encourage the school community to partner with the District/Schools. For the 2021-2022 school year, here are some ways to engage with us:

Gobles Public Schools Parent Portal

Gobles Public School is pleased to provide the PowerSchool Parent Portal communication tool. The Portal connects parents/guardians to students' data online, anytime, from anywhere there is internet access. Please note the Parent Portal web address has changed. To access the Parent Portal please use this URL: <https://psgobles.vbisd.org/public/>

The PowerSchool Parent Portal login can also be found on our website at <https://gobles.org>. Our website is undergoing some improvements over the summer and will be ready by the beginning of the school year. When it is complete, we will link the PowerSchool parent portal there and provide you with information on how to access it.

PowerSchool is new to the district this year. More information on how to access the parent side

- Ongoing Communications: District/School Websites, Social Media, Reminder
- Gobles Parent Association: Contact parentsclub@gobles.org
- Gobles Foundation: Contact Mrs. Angela Dickerson at angela.dickerson@gobles.org
- Organizational Chart/Chain of Command (In person, Social Media, Telephone): See District Website.
- School Board Meeting Attendance: See District Website for School Board Calendar.
- District School Improvement Meetings
- Key Communicators Program
- Ambassador Program
- A separate posting with more detail on these opportunities can be found on the District Website and Social Media.

New Website/App: The District/Schools will be transitioning to a new Aptegy website/app that will go "live" on August 20, 2021.

New Student Information System: The District/Schools will be transitioning to a new PowerSchool Student Information System for the 2021-2022 school year.

Tiger Bash: This fun filled evening will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on August 26, 2021, in the central corridor between the elementary and secondary buildings. The K-12 event for students and families will include a hot dog dinner, games with prizes, a dunk tank, music, a free book giveaway, a visit from the therapy dogs, representation from our local fire department and police, and teachers welcoming students back for the 2021-2022 school year. I would like to thank the Welcome Back Committee who planned and will implement this event, Food Service for providing the dinner, Journey Church for donating 400 bottles of water for the meals, and the Gobles Parent's Association for funding the games and prizes. This activity will be in lieu of the traditional Open House and we are looking forward to a huge community showing.

District Improvement Plan: The District/Schools submitted a District Improvement Plan to the Michigan Department of Education on June 30, 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year. The Organizational Focus will be to improve Climate, Culture, and Communication. The Core Strategy will be Social Emotional Learning-Relationships. Strategy Implementation Plan Activities include: Welcome Back Tiger Bash, Redesign District Website and Create Mobile App, Transition to new Student Information System, Staff 24 hour Communication Promise, Stakeholder Involvement Options, Annual and Seasonal Student Activity Calendar, Student Involvement Plan, the MTSS Teaching and Learning Model ISD Trails Program Professional Development, and Staff Customer Service Training. A pre and post survey will be utilized to measure District/Schools Progress.

Enjoy the remainder of your Summer! Go Tigers! Jeff Rehlander

Gobles Secondary Welcome!

Dear Students, Parent/Guardians, and Community Members:

It is with great pleasure that I am able to report that we are working hard to prepare for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. Our hope is that the 2021-2022 school year proves to be not just educationally fruitful, but also filled with lasting memories and growth for the students of our community. Given this, and given our desire to make sure every student and parent knows and understands the school's policies and expectations, I encourage parent/guardians and students to review this year's Student Handbook now available on the District website; paying special attention to what I like to call the "big three", the Attendance Policy, Student Discipline Code, and Student Dress Code. As is the tradition each summer, adjustments have been made to the student handbook and policies thereof, so please take the time to review these "big three" handbook items.

On Thursday the 26th of August, starting at 5:00pm, we have scheduled our "Tiger Bash". The "Tiger Bash" is both a celebration and Open House designed to welcome students back to school, have a little fun, reunite, enjoy each other's company, and have an opportunity to meet and greet the Gobles staff. We plan on having games and activities, music, food to enjoy, and a carnival atmosphere taking place between the Elementary and Middle/High School buildings. At the "Tiger Bash", we

walk them to their scheduled entrance if preferred. Teachers and staff will make sure children are welcomed at the door and help them find the way to their classroom! More information regarding Arrival and Dismissal procedures can be found on the website in the elementary handbook for 2021-2022. Teachers will be contacting students before school starts, however don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions.

There will be no supervision and students will not be allowed to enter the building until 8:25 every day, so please do not drop students off prior to this time or they will wait outside unattended until staff reports.

If students are late, they should use the main entrance ONLY and be checked in by a parent or adult.

On opening day, students will walk to their assigned grade-level entrance door, where a teacher and support staff will meet them and walk them directly to class for breakfast. Parents will not be walking their students to class, but may

walk them to their scheduled entrance if preferred. Teachers and staff will make sure children are welcomed at the door and help them find the way to their classroom! More information regarding Arrival and Dismissal procedures can be found on the website in the elementary handbook for 2021-2022. Teachers will be contacting students before school starts, however don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions.

Traffic Flow: Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Middle/High School Parking Lot (off of M-40): Traffic will enter from the north entrance and follow to the front of the school to drop off MS/HS students. The road will continue back to the north exit. Parking will be in rows; lanes are one-way going from the north to the south. If you are dropping off elementary students in this area, please remind them to follow the sidewalks to the elementary building. Do not park and leave your vehicle unattended in the drop-off area.

Elementary- Where to Drop-off and Pick-up Children: There are two areas designated for dropping-off and picking-up children on school days.

The loop between the elementary and the MS/HS can be used to drop-off and pick-up children. We ask that the drivers do not park in the circle drive and only use the loop to drop-off and pick-up children.

The large parking area on the west side of the MS/HS building with access from Van Buren Street (CR 388) is the best location to drop-off and pick-up children as they can use the sidewalks instead of crossing traffic lanes.

Bus Loading and Unloading. Buses will enter the school property utilizing the back entrance off Van Buren Street. The buses will load and unload along the curb area in front of the main elementary building entrance, next to the elementary office. This area will be clearly marked and we ask that parents park in this area at no time. This area will also be used for emergency vehicles so it is very important that vehicles are never left unattended in this parking lane are reserved for those purposes.

Students Who Walk to School. Students who walk to the building from Van Buren Street should walk across the football parking area to

plan on conducting our Meet Your Device Night, where students receive their Chromebooks (grades 9-12 only, a \$25 deposit and signed user agreement will be required), and we plan on having Geskus Photography here to take school pictures (though pictures will be available for purchase, school ID cards are free of cost to students. If you miss this picture opportunity, another Picture Day has been scheduled for Wednesday the 1st of September during school hours). Our hope is that by doing all of this at a single event, not only will your student be better prepared for the upcoming school year, they will also look forward to the beginning of school; while at the same time, not placing undo strain on the family by scheduling multiple beginning of the year meetings and events.

Finally, I would like to thank the students, parents/guardians, and community members for having faith in Gobles Public Schools, and for giving us the opportunity to educate the children of our community. Without your support all our efforts would be for naught. The children of our community is the reason for our existence, the purpose behind our efforts, and the legacy of our future.

Sincerely,
Tommie D. Saylor Jr., M.Ed.
Principal, Gobles Middle/High School
Gobles Public Schools

Breakfast and Lunch will be offered in the classroom for all students daily at no cost to families.

1/2 Day/Early Release Hours: 8:30-12:00. Breakfast and "take-home" sack lunch will be offered on partial days at no cost to families.

Opening Day is Monday, August 30, 2021. It will be a 1/2 day for students, and breakfast, but NO LUNCH will be offered for students.

There will be no supervision and students will not be allowed to enter the building until 8:25 every day, so please do not drop students off prior to this time or they will wait outside unattended until staff reports.

If students are late, they should use the main entrance ONLY and be checked in by a parent or adult.

Tiger Bash 2021

Monday, August 30, 2021 (Half-Day of School for Students)

7:30am - 7:40am: Students pick up schedules from their assigned teacher
7:40am - 8:00am: 1st hour
8:05am - 8:30am: 2nd hour
8:35am - 9:00am: 3rd hour
9:05am - 9:30am: 4th hour
9:30am: Career Tech. students meet with Principal and Counselor in the Middle School gym, dismissed for the day after the meeting.

9:35am - 10:00am: 5th hour
10:05am - 10:30am: 6th hour
10:35am - 11:00am: 7th hour, students dismissed for the day at 11:00am
No Student Lunch

A detailed arrival and dismissal plan will be posted on the website.

TIGER BASH 2021
Located at the round about in between both schools in lieu of our annual Open House.

WELCOME BACK
Come and meet your teachers

GAMES! STAFF DUNK TANK

FREE FOOD & FUN FOR ALL!

GRADES K-12TH MUSIC!

FAMILY FUN!

THURSDAY AUGUST 26 5:00-6:30

Grade	Teacher	Room
12th	A-G	Mr. Kline 604
	H-M	Ms. Peterson 708
	N-Z	Mr. Piller 804
11th	A-G	Ms. Seiler 610
	H-M	Ms. Redmond and Ms. DeVall 611
	N-Z	Ms. Butler 807
10th	A-G	Ms. Reese 903
	H-M	Mr. Lisowski 609
	N-Z	Ms. Shein 704
9th	A-G	Ms. King 805
	H-M	Ms. Van Duinen 703
	N-Z	Ms. Harbaugh 506
8th	A-G	Ms. Thorpe 503
	H-M	Mr. Hawes 502
	N-Z	Mr. Wood 702
7th	A-G	Mr. Eichler 504
	H-M	Ms. Rambadt 803
	N-Z	Mr. Carlin 802
6th	A-J	Ms. Herman 501
	K-Z	Ms. Boyd 505

Please report to the following rooms according to your grade and fist letter of your last name

Food Services

Breakfast & Lunches Free for K-12

Due to a program from the United States Department of Agriculture we can offer All of Gobles Public Schools K - 12 free breakfast and lunch this school year 2021 - 2022.

We are hoping that all student families will take advantage of this opportunity, the more participants we have in the meal program will allow us the ability to continue this program in the future. Gobles Public School students do not need to complete a free/reduced lunch application this school year, however, to help with funding other school programs a household survey will be sent home and need to be completed by families

We will be offering breakfast at the start of each school day to students. Elementary students will receive breakfast in the classroom and middle/high school students can get breakfast at the start of the school day in the cafeteria.

All breakfast is free for all students at Gobles Public Schools.

Lunches will be served in the cafeteria and students will be eating in there also. We are excited for all the food options we will have for the students this year. Please contact us if you have any questions about the lunch program.

Again, to help with funding other school program please complete a household survey for your students. Only one survey per household will need to be completed and these will be sent home at the start of the school year.

Sincerely, Eric Meloche
Food Service Director



Opening Day Schedule:

Monday, August 30, 2021 (Half-Day of School for Students)

7:30am - 7:40am: Students pick up schedules from their assigned teacher
7:40am - 8:00am: 1st hour
8:05am - 8:30am: 2nd hour
8:35am - 9:00am: 3rd hour
9:05am - 9:30am: 4th hour
9:30am: Career Tech. students meet with Principal and Counselor in the Middle School gym, dismissed for the day after the meeting.
9:35am - 10:00am: 5th hour
10:05am - 10:30am: 6th hour
10:35am - 11:00am: 7th hour, students dismissed for the day at 11:00am
No Student Lunch

A detailed arrival and dismissal plan will be posted on the website.

SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

The Gobles Public School District recognizes and abides by the standards of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act and the Drug Free Workplace Act. These standards prohibit the unlawful manufacture, possession, use, sale, distribution, or concealment of illegal drugs and alcohol in school programs, school vehicles, school premises, and at school-sponsored activities on or off school property. Drugs include all controlled substances as defined by law, as well as "look-alike" drugs, steroids, and alcohol. These standards apply to all Gobles Public School District students and staff members. The use/abuse of drugs and alcohol poses serious health and safety risks to students, staff, and visitors. We urge students, parents, guardians, and care providers to work hand-in-hand with the district to ensure that these important standards are upheld.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Gobles Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, genetic information, sex, age, disability, religion, height, weight, or marital status in its programs and activities. The district also ensures that all students will have access to Free and Adequate Public Education (FAPE), defined by Michigan law, that will not be limited by a student's ability to pay.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy: Jeff Rehlander, Superintendent 409 N. State Street, PO Box 412 Gobles, MI 49055. 269-628-9390.

ADVISORY TO ALL PARENTS

Gobles Public Schools has adopted an Integrated Pest Management program. Inherent with this are the district's efforts to reduce pesticide use as much as possible. While it may occasionally be necessary to apply a pesticide, these will only be used as a last resort. This program does not rely on routine pesticide applications to resolve problems. We use various techniques such as habitat alteration, sanitation, mechanical means, exclusion, etc., to prevent pests from becoming a problem. You will receive advanced notice of the application of a pesticide other than a bait or gel formulation at your child's school. This advance notice of the application will be given 48 hours before the application. The law requires us to do this notification by using two methods. The first method required by law is the posting at entrances to your child's school. The second method we are going to use is the posting in a common office area located by the main office of the school. Parents are also entitled to receive this notice by first-class United States mail postmarked at least three days before the application. If you would like to be notified by mail, please send in writing your name, mailing address, and the school your child attends to the District Operations Office, PO Box 412, Gobles, MI 49055.

In an emergency (for example, bee's nest), pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. Any questions can be directed to Chris Miller, Director of Building and Grounds, at 269-628-9394.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request.

NOTICE TO PARENTS WITH CHILDREN OF LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

If you would like your student to receive services through Gobles' English Language Learner instruction program, please notify Superintendent, Jeff Rehlander, at 269-628-9390. Each child identified for participation in this program will receive information related to the standards and objectives of the program and information relating to the child's level of English proficiency.

NOTIFICATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION AND THE RELEASE OF STUDENT INFORMATION

The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires Gobles Public Schools to obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's educational records, with certain exceptions. Gobles Public Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the district to the contrary, in accordance with district procedures.

The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Gobles Public Schools to include this type of information in certain school publications. Examples include: annual yearbook, honor roll or other recognition lists, programs showing your student's participation in school activities. Gobles Public Schools has designated the following information as directory information: Student's Name, Address, Telephone Number, Photograph, Major Field of Study, Grade Level, Participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height, and weight, membership on athletic team, dates of attendance, date of graduation, honor rolls, scholarships, and awards received. If you do not want Gobles Public Schools to disclose your child's directory information without your prior written consent, you must notify the district within ten (10) days of the date of this notification. Please notify the Superintendent, Jeff Rehlander, P.O. Box 412, Gobles, MI, 49055. Additionally, directory information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released can be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, colleges and universities, companies that supply class rings, yearbooks, etc.

Federal law requires schools to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of students, unless parents have advised the school district they do not want their student's information disclosed without prior written consent. To have your student's information excluded from listings provided to military recruiters, you must send written notification to Superintendent, Jeff Rehlander, PO Box 412, Gobles, MI 49055.

ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT

In July of 2007, RDH Asbestos Consultant completed a regularly scheduled inspection of all remaining asbestos-containing materials in district facilities. This inspection and routine six-month inspection performed by district personnel are part of our Management Plan. Asbestos material were confirmed in both the elementary building and middle/high school building. They were found to be in good condition and present no danger to students, staff, or visitors. If and when any changes occur, employees and parents will be notified. Parents who wish to review the district's Management Plan should contact Mr. Chris Miller, Director of Building and Grounds, at 628-9394.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

For the safety and health of all Gobles students and to comply with Michigan laws, any medication taken at school must be checked in at the office. A physician's prescription with written direction is required along with a completed form to allow a student to take over-the-counter or nonprescription medications at school. School personnel may administer medication only if:

- 1) It is prescribed by a physician (as well as over-the-counter or non-prescription medicine);
 - 2) Medication is in the original container from the pharmacy with written directions;
 - 3) Written permission from the parent or guardian is on file (forms are available in the office);
- All medicine must be brought to the office or picked up from the office by an adult. Medicine will be administered as prescribed by the physician. Special cases related to medications should be discussed with a building administrator. Any medications unclaimed by the parent at the end of the school year will be destroyed.

2021-2022 CALENDAR

Month	Day	Event
August	23-24	No School
	25	No School for Students – Professional Development for teachers
	26	No School for Students – Teacher workday
	27	No School
	30	½ day of school -Elementary released at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m. – Teacher workday p.m.
September	3	No School
	6	Labor Day – No School
	29	No School for Students – Professional Development for teachers
October	13	Early Release Elementary students dismissed at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m. - professional development for Teachers
	1st Marking Period ends October 29, 2021	
November	8, 10	Early Release, Elementary students dismissed at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m. - Conferences – Elementary 12:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m./ Secondary 11:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	12	No School
	24-26	Thanksgiving Vacation
December	20-December 31, 2021	Inclusive
January	17	No School for Students – Professional Development for teachers
	18-21	Semester Exams
	19-21	½ day of school -Elementary released at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m., Teacher workday p.m.
	19-21	2nd Marking period ends January 21, 2022
February	22	Conferences – Grades 6-12 2:45-6:30 p.m.
	23	No School for Students – Professional Development for teachers
	24	Conferences – Grades 6-12 2:45-6:30 p.m.
March	16	Early Release Elementary students dismissed at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m. - professional development for Teachers
	3rd Marking Period Ends March 25, 2022	
	28	Early Release Elementary students dismissed at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m.— Conferences Grades K-5 12:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. - Secondary Teacher workday.
	30	Early Release Elementary students dismissed at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m.— Conferences Grades K-5 12:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. - Secondary Teacher workday.
April	1	No School
	SPRING VACATION	
	April 4-April 8, 2022	Inclusive
May	30	Memorial Day – No School
June	1	Baccalaureate
	2	Commencement
	3	Final Exams
	6-8	Final Exams
	6-8	½ day of school Elementary released at 12:00 p.m., Secondary 11:00 a.m.
	4th Marking Period ends June 8, 2022	

GOBLES TIGERS
All Seasons Sports
Application 2021-22
Names to appear on card:

Telephone: _____

\$180 Family Pass (Includes all students still enrolled at Gobles Public Schools)

\$80 Single Adult Pass

\$40 Single Student

All Season Athletic Passes
Once again the Gobles Athletic Department will be offering all-season/all-sports athletic passes to individuals and families wishing to support our athletes on a regular basis. The pass will admit individuals to all home Varsity, JV, and Middle School games, with the exception of tournament games which Gobles is host on behalf of another organization, such as the SAC conference or Michigan High School Athletic Association.
Any senior citizen living in the Gobles School District who is at least 62-years-old is provided a senior citizen pass for free. Season passes will be filled out and mailed to your home. Passes can also be purchased Monday through Friday in the Middle School Office from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.