

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL

December 2018

Principal: Christie Robinson

Dean of Students: Brian Dolph

The best gift you can give someone is your time!



Warm Holiday Wishes

I would like to extend my warmest holiday wishes to all of our Galesburg and Augusta families. The days I spend with your children allow me to build relationships, help students figure out the challenges of their teen years, and guide them on their path to life after high school. The community of GA is like no other, our students have a special bond and our staff love them all as their own children. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your life and share the memories of raising your child.

All my best,

~Christie Robinson

Results of the Student Sit In

Sadly last winter the stories of school violence continued. Schools and students around the nation held walk-outs in protest to the inactivity of the government and officials to stop these horrific events. The staff at Galesburg-Augusta wanted our students to know we value their opinions and feelings regarding safety and security; as a result we hosted our first sit-in to express concerns openly as a group. Our pledge to students was to review policies, update training for staffing, and revisit the topic during the 2018-2019 school year. The day before Thanksgiving break we held the follow-up meeting with the help of Gary Brown, a school security specialist from Van Buren County. The dialogue was powerful!

We will be looking at dates in the future to host a similar discussion with community members. Take time to discuss this serious issue with your student.

City Bus

We are getting connected!! The city bus routes have been extended to include Galesburg! Starting January 7, 2019 you will be able to jump on the bus and travel to a number of locations around Kalamazoo county. If you would like to see a map of the route visit the following site:

<https://bit.ly/2BdQoKN>

Robotics

Team 5623 is building momentum as we enter the 2018 season!! The number of community mentors has grown, the team is stronger than ever, and there is still time to join. If your student is looking for a way to be a part of GA he/she should really consider



attending the meetings leading into the season to learn the goals and philosophy. If you have questions or concerns, contact Donna Beatty at RoboticRams@garams.org.

Senior Trip

Plane tickets are booked, hotel has been reserved and plans are being finalized for the 2019 Senior Class Trip! The seniors are heading to Florida in April, where we will be spending a day at Busch Gardens, a day at Aquatica Water Park, dinner at Dave & Buster's and a sunset dinner cruise on Tampa Bay! This trip has been happening since 2003 and continues to be one of the greatest memories made for our high school seniors!



Attendance Policy

Galesburg-Augusta takes attendance very seriously, we feel it is a strong base for a student's success in and beyond high school. Being late to school or class can affect student grades. Students are allowed up to 10 absences per semester and if they reach 10 in any given class, they may be in jeopardy of losing credit in that class. Letters are sent home to families once a student reaches 6 absences in any given class and again for each class that a student may reach 10 absences. We work very closely with our Kalamazoo County Truancy Officer and report student attendance to them regularly.

If your student is absent for any reason, the absence must be excused within 2 days of the absence. This helps us know that the parent is aware of their student being gone, but the absence will still count towards the 10 absence rule.

Absences and/or tardies reset at the semester. Please feel free to call Mrs. Groetsema for any questions you may have in regards to your student's attendance.



PSAT Reports & Khan Academy

Results are in for the PSAT 8/9 for our 9th graders and the NMSQT/PSAT 10 for our 10th and 11th graders which they took in October. Students should be able to obtain their score reports by going into their College Board accounts. The reports should

give students the information they need to sign up for Khan Academy for targeted practice, if they haven't already done so, or to link these most recent scores to their accounts. Freshmen will receive help with the sign up process at school.

Final Exam Schedule

Students will now have 25 minutes of review time with their class before they take the exam. This new schedule will allow students to get any last minute questions answered. Hopefully, this will help ease any testing jitters!

January 23, 2019 - Full Day

7:35 - 8:00 Review (25)	First Hour
8:10 - 9:40 Exam (90)	First Hour Exam
9:50 - 10:15 - Review (25)	Second Hour
10:25 - 11:55 Exam (90)	Second Hour Exam
12:00 - 12:30 Lunch	
12:35 - 1:00 Review (25)	Fifth Hour
1:10 - 2:39 Exam (89)	Fifth Hour Exam

January 24, 2019 - Full Day

7:35 - 8:00 Review (25)	Third Hour
8:10 - 9:40 Exam (90)	Third Hour Exam
9:50 - 10:15 - Review (25)	Fourth Hour
10:25 - 11:55 Exam (90)	Fourth Hour Exam
12:00 - 12:30 Lunch	
12:35 - 1:00 Review (25)	Sixth Hour
1:10 - 2:39 Exam (89)	Sixth Hour Exam

January 25, 2019 - Half Day

7:35 - 8:00 Review (25)	Seventh Hour
8:10 - 9:40 Exam (90)	Seventh Hour Exam
9:45 - 10:48 Assembly	

Open Lab Hours

The computer lab will be open over the holiday season for students who would like to put in additional time on their courses. (If students are not present at the beginning of the time slot the host will be shutting down the lab for that day.)

The following dates and hours will be available from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

December 27

December 28

January 2

January 3

January 4

ASCR

After School Credit Recovery has been active since the second week of school. All ASCR courses are online format and allow students to progress at their own pace. Students are required to attend after school and they must take assessments in the classroom. If you have a student who needs to enroll in a course contact Lindsey Lake in the counseling office.



CoreSIT Parent Needed

We are looking for a parent volunteer to join the CoreSIT team. CoreSIT is a group of teachers, staff, and administration that meets once a month to discuss changes, challenges, curriculum, scheduling, and other topics that impact the education of our students. If you would like to join, please contact Christie Robinson soon.

Powerpuff Volleyball

We will be adding powderpuff volleyball to the events of snowcoming this year. The junior and senior male students will be playing against each other in a battle of their set-spike-hit skills! Put it on your calendar! Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 7:00 in the high school gym. Tickets will be \$3.00; all proceeds donated to the PBIS program.

Ten Things to Do with Your Teen over Break
Digital Scavenger Hunt (send your teen out on a hunt for pictures in nature)

Hike in the Woods (bundle up and get some fresh air)

Read a Book (ask your teen a book title they would like to read, and read it together)

Game Night (put the electronics away and break out the board games)

Sledding (find a local hill and go sledding with your teen)

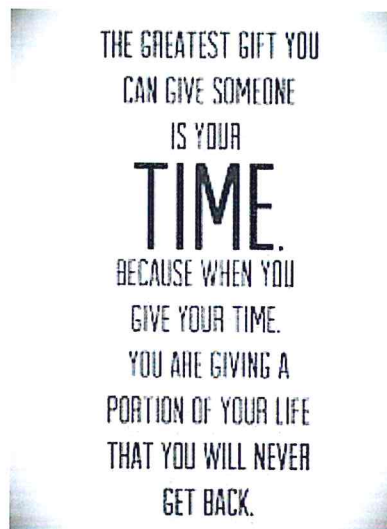
Starters in a Jar (place different conversation starters in a jar and draw a different one each day to discuss over dinner)

Memory Lane (gather some old family pictures and take a walk-talk)

Goals for 2019 (develop short and long term goals for the new year)

Wall of Love (tape notes of love and appreciation on a wall in your house, encourage everyone to join)

Visit Family Legends (never underestimate the value of spending time with your elders).



Metro Bus Route

Metro is connecting people throughout Kalamazoo County

Coming January 7! Our NEW Route 20 - East Comstock Route

Starting January 7, 2019, we will be providing service to the eastern portion of Comstock Township via M-96 and 35th Street and areas around Market Street and River Street. It will be free to ride Route 20 - East Comstock from January until April 1. When boarding on any other routes, including Route 10-Comstock, the rider will need to pay a fare and will receive a transfer. On April 1, it will cost regular fare to ride.

The new Route 20 will link with Route 10-Comstock at Merrill Park on River Street. The schedule will be as follows:

Leave Merrill Park	ML & Sprinkle	Lake & Sprinkle	Comstock Library	Miller & 35th St	Arrive Merrill Park
6:30	6:34	6:38	6:45	7:05	7:25
7:30	7:34	7:38	7:45	8:05	8:25
8:30	8:34	8:38	8:45	9:05	9:25
9:30	9:34	9:38	9:45	10:05	10:25
2:55	2:59	3:03	3:10	3:30	3:50
3:55	3:59	4:03	4:10	4:30	4:50
4:55	4:59	5:03	5:10	5:30	5:50
5:55	5:59	6:03	6:10	6:30	6:50

For more information on this route and connecting to the Route 10 Comstock route, call (269) 337-8222.

Safety Committee Update

*The district safety committee has been meeting monthly to discuss the ongoing concerns and reality of school violence and our approach to keeping kids safe. On the back of this document, you will see a quick view of our safety procedures for "Shelter in Place" and "Lock Down". One of the most important things we can emphasize is **trust the school to work through the situation.***

If we initiate a safety protocol, please keep the following in mind:

- 1. Avoid speculation on social media, facts will be released when the time is right.*
- 2. Do not come to the school to try to find out more about the situation, we need to focus on our student safety.*
- 3. Do not call the building and ask for information, we need the phone lines and all personnel available for our student safety.*
- 4. Do not press for additional information after the district has released a statement, most situations involve private student matters.*

We appreciate your continued support.



Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools 2018-2019
EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN



LOCK DOWN * Potential inside threat or incident on school grounds * All doors locked, no one in or out of the building * Every student and staff member barricaded with in rooms * Students in transit/lunchroom, etc. are instructed to get to the nearest safe zone/room * Buses in route redirected to safe location



REUNIFICATION



SHELTER IN PLACE

SHELTER IN PLACE * Outside or community incident * All doors locked, no one in or out of building * Teaching and activities inside building continue as normal * Buses in route redirected to safe location

Tell someone if/when you suspect a threat!!
 USE THE QUICKEST AND EASIEST OR DO MULTIPLE OPTIONS!!

THREATS ARE NEVER A JOKE!!



Reporting Link
 Silent Observer
<http://www.kalamazoosilentobserver.com/>
 1-800-554-3633



Stop the Silence. Help End the Violence.

Principal, Teacher or
 Central Administration
 Contact school personnel
 269-484-2010

Call or Text
 OK 2 SAY
 Call 1-855-565-2729
 Text 652729

What to do/expect in an ACTUAL EVENT.....

REUNIFICATION COMMUNICATION

- *listen to entire message
- *follow instructions for the safest outcome
- *do not come to the school
- *follow directions for locations - varies by school and type of emergency

ROLE OF PARENT

- *remain calm/do not panic
- *wait for communications from school and listen to the entire message
- *DO NOT CALL or COME TO THE SCHOOL

ROLE OF STUDENTS

- *remain calm/listen and follow directions
- *silence cell phones
- *assist staff and classmates

ROLE OF ADMINISTRATION

- *remain calm/lead
- *contact law enforcement and communicate to staff
- *follow procedures in ERP
- *secure facility
- *manage resources
- *communicate with stake holders

ROLE OF STAFF

- *remain calm and lead students
- *secure room and students
- *follow ERP
- *monitor communications and instructions