



the **RAM** announcer



what's inside: calendar highlights, bond update, school info, news, and more!

JANUARY 2024

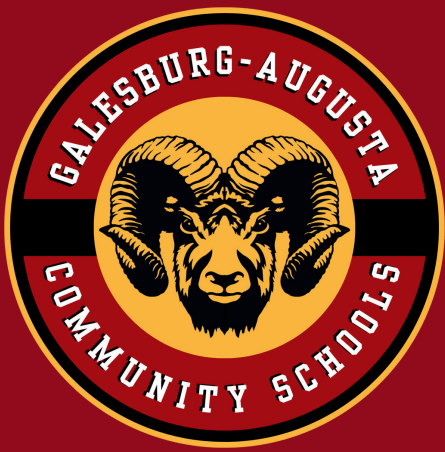


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**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
IS JUNE 7, 2024**

END OF MARKING PERIODS



SCHOOL BREAKS

Winter

DEC 25 - JAN 5

Spring

MARCH 22-29

HALF DAYS

Dec 13 - Teacher PD

Feb 14 - Teacher PD

Apr 17 - Teacher PD

Jan 17 - Teacher PD

Feb 22 - Conferences

May 15 - Teacher PD

Jan 25 - HS Exams

Mar 13 - Teacher PD

Jun 6 - HS Exams

Jan 26 - HS Exams

Mar 21 - End of MP

Jun 7 - HS Exams

NO SCHOOL

Feb 23 - Teacher PD

Feb 26 - Mid-Winter Break

May 27 - Memorial Day

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Hello Ram Fam,

It's that time of year, which can be joyful and stressful all at the same time. From the Galesburg-Augusta Ram Family, we send our best for the holiday season. We hope you enjoy this edition of the Ram Announcer. There is always much to celebrate. A recent colleague of mine walked through each of the buildings last week and shared his observations with the comment, 'G-A must be one of the best-kept secrets... you have lots of amazing stories to tell.' And we do!

We encourage you to visit our district website and Facebook page. We are committed to increasing communication with our families and the community to share our G-A stories. As we step into the year 2023, we've added TikTok as another way to give you a peek at what's happening inside and outside our walls.

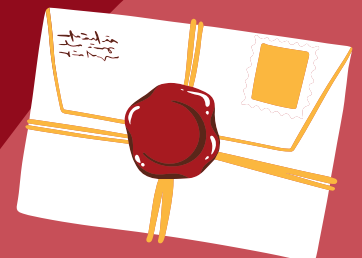
Inside, you'll get an update on the construction for the third bond project—the addition of a multipurpose facility at the high school. We look forward to all the ways our staff and students will be able to use the facility, supporting academics, health and wellness, career and work readiness, to name just a few. With this new space, we can hold blood drives without shutting down our gym, and our robotics team can look forward to sponsoring our own competition here at home.

You'll also see how our school and community celebrated the ribbon cutting of the Primary School's addition and our new athletic field, The Home of the Rams/Maskill Field. We continue to be grateful for our community's support for our students and their needs.

Please do not hesitate to contact your teacher, your building principal, or myself with questions. Sometimes we hear things on social media or from others that we are not sure are the whole story. We want you to know our story! Let us know the questions you have.

All my best,

Wendy





GALESBURG-AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ADDITION



BOND PROJECT UPDATE

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



Our Vision

As the Ram Family, we will **empower** and support each student to **excel** by providing **real-world learning**.



Our Mission

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools will develop **personal connections** and **innovative learning pathways** for each student to become a **successful individual**.

WE VALUE...

- inclusivity
- the Whole Child foundation
- honest communication
- a safe and supportive environment
- engagement among all Ram Family members
- individual student pride and success.
- innovation

WE BELIEVE IN...

- a commitment to providing a **safe, inclusive, and supportive** environment where everyone is **celebrated** and **respected**.
- fostering **positive** and **long-lasting relationships** by focusing on the **whole child**.
- transparent **communication** and **collaboration**.
- the entire Ram community being responsible for encouraging and developing **good citizenship**.
- continuous **growth** and an **innovative approach**.

THREE YEAR PLAN: OUR GOALS AND ACTION STEPS

1. Develop and implement a clear and consistent behavioral support system to create a safe learning environment for students and staff.

2. Implement a clear and consistent system to improve two-way communication.

3. Implement best practices to build an inclusive culture and community.

4. Provide staff with relevant data-driven professional development to support teachers in order to improve student learning.

1. Increase student awareness and accountability for negative behaviors and student conflicts to improve the climate and culture in our buildings.

2. Improve relationships to increase trust throughout the district.

3. Inform our Ram Fam of educational and career readiness opportunities to raise awareness and promote student participation.

4. Increase opportunities for staff engagement in district improvement initiatives.

1. Identify and address student needs through the Whole Child lens to improve student well-being.

2. Increase student and staff relationships through meaningful connections, high expectations, and validation.

3. Provide and facilitate opportunities for Ram Family networking.

4. Equip staff with professional learning and collaboration to engage students and subject matter with real-world scenarios and problem-based instruction.

YEAR ONE BREAKDOWN

Goal #1: Develop and implement a clear and consistent behavioral support system to create a safe learning environment for students and staff.

- Create a whole child handbook based on the MTSS framework.
- Create and implement lesson plans around expectations.
- Provide Positive Behavior Intervention Supports training for all staff.
- Align district-wide celebration of positive behavior.

Goal #2: Implement a clear and consistent system to improve two-way communication.

- Utilize current surveys within the community on how to best provide two-way communication.
- Begin the process of creating a Student Advisory Board.
- Create a designated time for teacher leaders to share and communicate district initiatives.
- Expand opportunities for celebration through increased use of district websites, social media, and interaction with the GAEA.

Goal #3: Implement best practices to build an inclusive culture and community.

- Build collective efficacy in the implementation of instructional practices of the 8 E's framework.
- Utilize staff development time to provide learning around collaborative discourse to support cognitive engagement for all learners.
- Implement the instructional rounds process to create a system of shared leadership with an emphasis on student learning.
- Create a focus group to establish a plan to support and celebrate every individual child to create an increased sense of belonging.

Goal #4: Provide staff with relevant data-driven professional development to support teachers in order to improve student learning.

- Use the curriculum review timeline to ensure evidence-based core instructional resources.
- Create a balanced assessment system that informs daily instruction and measures student success.
- Put into effect a consistent data review process K-12.
- Fully implement the instructional rounds process to collaborate and design effective PD.

RAM SPOTLIGHT

SUPERINTENDENT'S EXCELLENCE AWARD

Celebrating Academic Excellence and Role Models

This month, we're thrilled to shine a spotlight on three incredible students from Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools who truly embody academic excellence and positive role modeling.

Meet **Kelsey McClurken**, our primary school honoree, whose remarkable growth as a reader showcases her determination and progress, transitioning from letter sounds to confidently reading at grade level, as well as reading short stories aloud in class.

In the high school realm, **Giovonni Evans** has quickly become a dedicated G-A student, impressing us with exceptional work ethic, goal-setting, and a willingness to assist peers. His commitment to academics, paired with a polite and respectful demeanor, makes him a role model in the classroom.

Next, we celebrate **Gwen Cooke**, a stellar high school student known for her kindness and hard work. Gwen's dedication to her studies has earned her a promotion to honors level courses!

Congratulations to Kelsey, Gio, and Gwen for their achievements and positive impact on our school community! We're delighted to present them with the prestigious Superintendent's Excellence Award.



Kelsey McClurken



Giovonni Evans



Gwen Cooke



Meet JOSH STUTSMAN

We are delighted to welcome **Mr. Josh Stutsman**, our newest addition to the team, as an English teacher. Coming to us from **Mt. Pleasant** and having spent his formative years in Sturgess, Mr. Stutsman brings with him a wealth of experience and a passion for education. Mr. Stutsman's journey in education began as an **English teacher**, and it continues to be his forte and calling. His commitment to shaping young minds has been a constant in his career, fostering a love for **language and literature**.



Beyond the realm of academia, Mr. Stutsman is a man of varied interests and talents. A true music enthusiast, he finds solace in both listening to and **creating music**. Whether he's **hiking, skiing**, immersed in a good **book**, or exploring the virtual realms of **video games**, his diverse hobbies reflect a zest for life beyond the confines of the classroom.

When asked about his favorite aspects of the job, Mr. Stutsman expressed his joy in witnessing the passion and creativity of young minds. He emphasizes the thrill of fostering that creativity, noting that it's a key ingredient in his teaching philosophy.

Looking ahead, Mr. Stutsman has exciting plans for the future. Inspired by his past experiences, including directing "Mamma Mia" at a previous high school, he aspires to introduce a **drama club** or program to our institution. Drawing inspiration from his own high school days when he portrayed **LeFou** in "**Beauty and the Beast**," he envisions creating a space for students to explore their dramatic talents.

To his new colleagues, Mr. Stutsman extends a warm invitation to **smile, say hi, and embrace open communication**. His emphasis on fostering a **positive and communicative work environment** mirrors his dedication to creating an atmosphere where both educators and students can thrive.



Meet JAMIE EVERDEEN

...the new High School Secretary!

Hailing from **Climax**, Jamie Everdeen brings warmth, experience, and a passion for making a positive impact. Having commenced her role as secretary in **December 2023**, she is not just a professional but a dedicated parent too, with a 17-year-old son named Tyler.

A former **basketball player** and coach, Ms. Everdeen's love for the game is only surpassed by her enthusiasm for **working with kids**. When asked about her excitement for joining G-A schools, Ms. Everdeen expressed her eagerness to **connect with students**, emphasizing that every interaction, no matter how small, contributes to building a **stronger community and school**.

Beyond her professional life, Ms. Everdeen unwinds through her love for **baking and cooking**, showcasing a nurturing spirit that extends from the workplace to her home. With a belief that **every effort counts**, Ms. Everdeen is sure to bring positivity and a nurturing touch to our school environment. **Welcome, Jamie Everdeen, to the G-A family!**



Start Time:
7:30pm

Dismissal:
2:33pm

Half-Day Dismissal:
10:50pm

269-484-2010



LINDSAY NEWTON
Principal
269-484-2010
lindsey.newton@garams.org



AMBER COUCH
Counselor Secretary
269-484-2103
amber.couch@garams.org



BETHANY STANTON
Counselor
269-484-2103
bethany.stanton@garams.org



Hi, I'm Mr. O!
 ...the middle school counselor. I'm not only here to help students, I'm also here to help parents and caregivers whenever they have needs. Needs could be academic or social-emotional. I'm always here for you. Feel free to contact me at any time.



269-484-2020

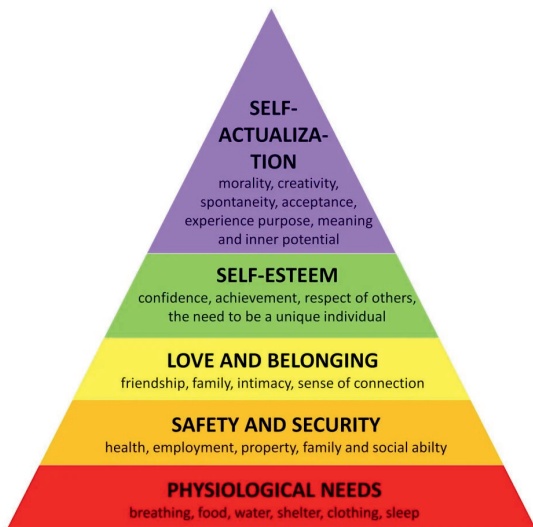
Jason Ochoski & Sarah Larue

Start Time:
8:14 AM

Dismissal:
3:17 PM

Half-Day Dismissal:
11:29 AM

MASLOW'S BOUTIQUE



Galesburg-Augusta Middle School has unveiled Maslow's Boutique, a transformative initiative repurposing space to address students' clothing needs, aligning with Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. This boutique is stocked with diverse clothing items, offering clean and suitable attire to students, particularly those facing financial constraints. The space is designed as a judgment-free environment, fostering a positive and inclusive atmosphere where students can select clothing items with dignity. Maslow's Boutique exemplifies Galesburg-Augusta Middle School's commitment to holistic student development, setting an example for others to follow, and a special thank you goes to Eaton Cummins for their generous support in making this initiative a reality and enhancing the lives of our students.



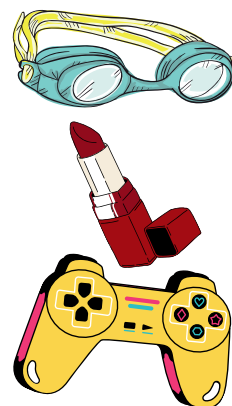
Meet AMELIA MARTIN & DIANA LEWIS

Also pictured: Shaun Sportel



...two extraordinary individuals that play a crucial role in shaping the daily experiences of our students and families. **Amelia Martin** (left) and **Diana Lewis** (right), the dynamic duo at the front desk, whose combined dedication spans decades.

Five years ago, before joining our school community, Mrs. Martin explored diverse fields, from teaching **water aerobics** and **swim lessons** to holding a **cosmetology license**. Beyond the front desk, she finds joy in the virtual realm, where video games, especially **Mario Kart** and **Fortnite**, unite her entire family. Mrs. Martin has also graced the stage on **“The Price is Right!”** Mrs. Martin is an advocate for a healthy school environment, emphasizing the importance of **adhering to the sick policy** to protect the well-being of our young learners. She also **values the partnerships she's built**, particularly with her partner in crime, Mrs. Lewis.



Mrs. Lewis, a seasoned professional with **25 years** of dedicated service, brings a wealth of experience from her previous role in an **in-home daycare**. Beyond the front desk, Mrs. Lewis's passions include enjoying the tranquility of her northern cottage and indulging in her love for **hot rods**, including a **'77 Nova** and a **'69 Camaro**. Her greatest joy, however, comes from spending time with her **five grandchildren**. Mrs. Lewis cherishes the commitment and hard work of everyone at the school, highlighting the **collective effort that goes above and beyond**, often extending into weekends. She **encourages student punctuality**, emphasizing that timely arrivals contribute to the smooth functioning of their responsibilities.



What excites both Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Lewis about their roles is the opportunity to witness the **growth of the little ones** under their care. Mrs. Martin finds fulfillment in the **camaraderie with colleagues**, while Mrs. Lewis takes joy in the sense of generational continuity, **watching students grow** into the next generation. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Lewis for their exceptional service and the positive impact they bring to our school.



269-484-2040

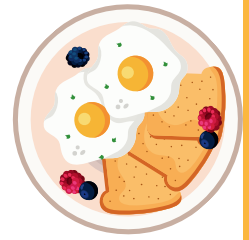
Start Time:
7:50pm

Dismissal:
2:54pm

Half-Day Dismissal:
11:05pm



FREE MEALS FOR ALL STUDENTS!



Galesburg-Augusta Community School is happy to offer free meals for **all students** this year, as part of the Michigan School Meals program!

Michigan School Meals ensures students have access to healthy and filling breakfast and lunch throughout the school year. We're excited to help our students succeed by helping fuel them with favorite menu items and a variety of delicious new recipes!

It is important that families **still complete the 23-24 School Meals and Summer EBT application**, which helps ensure ongoing state funding and may qualify our schools for other special programs, like free summer meals. Parents or guardians can submit applications online at galesburg.familyportal.cloud or in person at your child's school office.

Should any parent/guardian have questions about our food service program, please reach out to our team directly so we can provide you with the information and updates you need.

Mr. David Scohera
Director of Dining Services
269-484-2116
david.scohera@garams.org



From our Transportation Director:

Welcome back, students! The Transportation Department at Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools works hard each day to ensure that all bus riders arrive safely to school and back home again. We are asking our Ram Fam to support us by talking to your students about following these simple but important procedures:



- **Be on time:** Make sure your child arrives at the designated bus stop five-ten minutes early each day.
- **10 – 20 feet:** Students should wait for the bus safely and in an orderly fashion, back from the roadway. Behavior problems at the bus stop can create hazardous conditions for children and drivers.
- **Wait for the signal:** When the bus arrives, your child should wait for the bus driver's signal before boarding. Children should board single file.
- **Ride safely & respectfully:** Teach your child to sit calmly on the bus ride to and from school. Loud noises or behaviors can distract the bus driver, and it is important that they are able to concentrate on driving safely.

We are deeply committed to the safety of your child, other drivers, and our community. If you have any questions, please reach out to the transportation department at **269-484-2015**.

THE BLEAT STREET JOURNAL

JANUARY 2024

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

First Day Shoe Fund Delivers with a Helping Hand from Tower Pinkster



BY JEFF RUSSELL

Thursday, October 5, 2023, was a special day at Galesburg-Augusta Primary School as 239 students received a new pair of shoes from First Day Shoe Fund. Maggie Hesketh, Executive Director of First Day Shoe Fund, and a team of volunteers from Tower Pinkster, who sponsored the Primary School this year, were on hand to help the students try on their new shoes. Each student also received a new pair of Bombas ankle socks. The 239 students, which represents 50% of the primary's student body, is the largest number of students ever to receive a new pair of shoes through FDSF. An additional 26 fifth graders received new shoes at the Middle School. First Day Shoe Fund is a Pre-K to 5th grade program. Look for information, to come out again in the spring as this program is offered twice a year.



G-A High School INTERACT Club Marks 11 Years of Holiday Giving

BY ERIC CURTISS

On December 4, 2023, the Galesburg-Augusta High School INTERACT club celebrated its 11th year at the Battle Creek Rotary Christmas Celebration in Full Blast Event Center, Battle Creek, MI. Members played a crucial role in packing gift bags, setting up the venue, greeting guests, serving lunch, and spreading festive cheer through Christmas carols. Rotary leaders praised the G-A INTERACT students, calling them the best in the area, expressing anticipation for their annual participation, commending their respectful demeanor, and acknowledging the impactful lessons taught at the high school. During the event, the students enjoyed a rewarding lunch of pizza, pop, and cookies. The positive experience of helping and serving others left a lasting impression, and the INTERACT club eagerly anticipates their return for another festive December gathering.

Marching Band Earns Straight D1 Ratings at MSBOA District Marching Band Festival

BY SCOTTIE WALKER

Congratulations to the Galesburg-Augusta Ram Marching Band on earning Straight Division 1 (Superior) ratings at MSBOA District Marching Band Festival on Wednesday, October 11, 2023! The band performed its 2023 halftime show, Good Times, Great Oldies at Gull Lake High School for a panel of judges, who provided constructive feedback and a rating. The band earned top grades in all three categories of Music, Marching, and General Effect Showmanship. Congratulations to our high school band students for their hard work and outstanding performance!



A Feast of Kindness: Galesburg Families Enjoy Thanksgiving Thanks to Community Generosity

BY JEFF RUSSELL

This year, 12 Galesburg families were presented with a complete Thanksgiving dinner for their holiday table. Jon Hepner, the Meat Manager at Harding Market in Galesburg, generously donated 12 turkeys, and a private community donation ensured that these same 12 families received all the fixings. An additional contribution came from a former Galesburg-Augusta teacher and her daughter, which assisted in providing a Thanksgiving feast for a family of three. In total, this outpouring of generosity helped feed 71 people, including 35 children of various ages, and 36 adults, including parents and grandparents. Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools are incredibly fortunate to have such a caring and generous group of business and community members who deeply value the well-being and success of our families and students. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to creating many happy and satisfying memories during this Thanksgiving season.



Thrills and Loops: Fifth Graders Engineer Rollercoasters in STEAM

FROM BRENDA LANTINGA

In the latest STEAM adventures, the fifth graders have taken on the thrilling challenge of building their very own rollercoasters. Armed with creativity and engineering skills, these young minds have been busy designing, constructing, and testing their rollercoaster masterpieces. From loops to drops, the students are not only learning about physics and design but are also experiencing the excitement of turning their imaginative ideas into a reality. The STEAM classroom has transformed into a hub of innovation as these future engineers navigate the twists and turns of rollercoaster design.

G-A Finally Gets a TikTok

BY AUDRÉ BALANDA

In a bold move, Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools has embraced the TikTok wave, recognizing it as a potent tool to connect with diverse generations and fortify community bonds. TikTok's widespread appeal across age groups makes it an ideal platform for the school to bridge generational gaps and foster unity. By delving into TikTok, Galesburg-Augusta aims to create a space where students, parents, teachers, and the broader community can come together, share experiences, and celebrate community achievements.

The platform's short-form videos encourage creativity and collaboration, allowing the school to showcase its unique culture, highlight student achievements, and share glimpses of vibrant school life. This not only enhances the school's online presence but also engages the community in a more dynamic way. Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools' venture into TikTok reflects its commitment to staying current in the evolving digital landscape. By embracing this modern communication platform, the school is not just joining a social media trend but creating a dynamic space that resonates with a broad audience, ensuring that the colors of community spirit shine brightly in the digital realm. **Follow us on TikTok at @galesburgaugusta!**

Ryderbucks Café: A Unique Reward for Good Behavior and Reading Achievements

FROM STACEY RYDER

In a delightful twist of creativity, Ms. Ryder's third-grade class recently experienced a unique reward system for good behavior and reading goal achievements. Today, the classroom transformed into the charming "Ryderbucks Café," a coffee haven that had the students buzzing with excitement. Complete with an array of tempting treats like chocolate milk, rich chocolate and caramel sauces, fluffy whipped cream, and delectable donuts, the students were in for a sweet surprise. Plastic cups adorned with the distinctive "RYDERBUCKS COFFEE" logo added a touch of authenticity to the cafe experience.



Surgical Skills & Robotic Wonders: Second and Third Graders Shine in STEAM

FROM BRENDA LANTINGA

Prepare for a journey into the world of STEAM where second and third graders have been donning their surgical caps and unveiling the secrets of robotics and alien creation. In a recent project, students in these grades engaged in a hands-on surgical experience, delving into the world of biology and anatomy. But the learning didn't stop there! These young innovators also took on the challenge of constructing their own robots and crafting imaginative extraterrestrial beings. From scalpel to circuit boards, the STEAM classroom is abuzz with the sounds of exploration and discovery as these students showcase their creativity and problem-solving skills. The future looks bright for these budding scientists and engineers!



Hemenway Delivers Backpacks and School Supplies to Primary Students



BY JEFF RUSSELL

Jim Hemenway, of Hemenway Wealth Management at Raymond James, and his team generously donated 50 Fuel backpacks filled with school supplies to students during the Open House on August 23, 2023. The backpacks were equipped with a pencil box, pencils, markers, glue sticks, crayons, and a spiral notebook. Additionally, Hemenway Wealth Management contributed folders and paper towels, providing extras of each item for use throughout the school year.

Fifty primary students, identified by the primary staff, were selected as recipients of these backpacks and supplies, offering valuable assistance to ensure a positive start to their school year.

The atmosphere was filled with smiles as both parents and students expressed gratitude for the support and the quality of the provided backpacks. The Primary administration and staff extend their heartfelt thanks once again to Jim and his team for their generous contribution.

Pup for the Primary

Donate Today!

Make a difference at G-A Primary School

Paws with a Cause: Pup for the Primary School

FROM SHAUN SPORTEL

Galesburg-Augusta Primary School, is excited to share a heartwarming development that unfolded this winter. Following a successful application to Paws with a Cause, the school has been granted the honor of welcoming a facility dog, a delightful addition set to positively impact not only the Primary School but the entire district.

As the Primary School caters to approximately 500 students, ranging from 3-year-olds to 4th graders, the introduction of a therapy dog marks a significant stride in enhancing the well-being of its students. This initiative aims to address various aspects of student life, including stress management, mental health support, and an elevated level of academic engagement.

The Primary School endeavors to create an environment where every student feels supported and valued.

Please consider donating today to this adorable cause at gofundme.com/f/pup-for-the-primary, or scan the QR code pictured above!

Want to See Your Story Here?

BY AUDRÉ BALANDA



My name is Audré Balanda, and I am the Central Office Associate/Multimedia Specialist for Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools. I am always seeking to highlight stories and photos from our school community. If you have something you would like to share, give me a call at 269-484-2005 or email me at audre.balanda@garams.org

NINE DAYS OR LESS FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS!

Here at G-A, **ensuring regular school attendance is a top priority.** Our aim is for every student in the district to miss **no more than nine school days.**

Research indicates that students missing 1.5 days per month could miss the equivalent of over a year of instruction by high school graduation. Regardless of the reason, excessive school absences can lead to academic, emotional, and social setbacks. Prior to the pandemic, around 8 million students nationwide were chronically absent, a number that has doubled since Covid-19.

Now, more than ever, we need your support to ensure our students attend regularly. **Please send your child to school every day,** except in cases of fever or contagious illness. We will closely monitor attendance throughout the year and offer support to families when absences become a concern.

If your child is at risk of missing more than nine days, please contact any of the following staff members for assistance. We appreciate your continued partnership in achieving our attendance goal.



Jeff Russell, Family Advocate	269-484-2049
Hilary Diebold, Coordinator of Interventions & Supports	269-484-2128
Jillaine Zonts, Pathways to Potential, MDHHS	269-484-2126

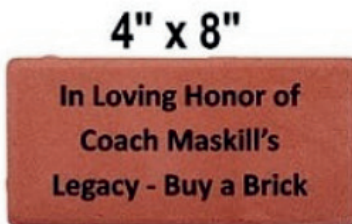
Sources: www.attendanceworks.com.
 Sprick, Jessica, and Randy Sprick. 2019. School Leader’s Guide to Tackling Attendance Challenges. Eugene, Oregon: Ancora Publishing.

BUILDING ON COACH MASKILL'S LEGACY, BRICK BY BRICK

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools is accepting orders for custom bricks, which will be placed in our new athletic complex. Sponsor an engraved brick in honor of family or friends, an athletic team, an organization, or in memoriam of a loved one!



Bricks will be displayed at the Home of the Rams stadium, just as you walk out to Maskill Field.



Brick Size	Price Text Only	Price with Clip Art
4" x 8" Red	\$100	\$110
8" x 8" Red	\$150	\$160

For questions and concerns, please call the Admin Office at 269-484-2000

GALESBURG-AUGUSTA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION



Did you know??? Since the **Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools Foundation** began in 1992:

- a total of 357 seniors have benefited from \$510,490 in scholarships awarded
- 291 Education Enhancement Grants have been awarded totaling \$108,781.51
- 104 Middle School Students have been recognized with gift cards totaling \$2600.

A grand total of **\$621,871.51** has been distributed to assist our G-A students!



G-A FIGHT SONG

We'll always be loyal and true
all through our school days
and when we are through!

On G-A High!

Three cheers for you!
We pledge our hearts
and our souls to you!

V-I-C-T-O-R-Y

Victory!!

Schedules are subject to change.
Please visit our website for the
most up-to-date schedules.

WRESTLING

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Wed. 1-3	at Parchment vs. S. Haven and Martin	Away	6 p.m.
Sat. 1-6	Homer Tournament	Away	9 a.m.
Wed. 1-10	vs. Fennville and Parchment	Home	6 p.m.
Wed. 1-17	vs. Coloma and Watervliet w/Parchment	Home	6 p.m.
Fri. 1-19	Comstock Tournament	Away	4 p.m.
Wed. 1-24	at Delton vs. Allegan and Delton	Away	6 p.m.
Mon. 1-29	Mendon Dual	Away	6 p.m.
Wed. 1-31	S.A.C. Make up date		
Sat. 2-3	S.A.C. Championship Tourn. At Constantine	Away	10 a.m.
Thurs. 2-8	Team Districts with Climax-Scotts and Athens	Home	6 p.m.
Sat. 2-10	Individual Districts	TBD	
Wed. 2-14	Team Regionals	TBD	
Sat. 2-17	Individual Regionals (Boys)	TBD	
Sun. 2-18	Individual Regionals (Girls)	TBD	
March 1-2	Individual State Tournament (Little Ceasars Arena)		

GIRL'S BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	LEVEL	SITE	
Thurs. 1-11	Martin	JV	Home	w/boy's
Fri. 1-12	Martin	Var.	Away	w/boy's
Tues. 1-16	Coloma	Var only	Home	
Thurs. 1-18	Gobles	JV	Away	w/boy's
Fri. 1-19	Gobles	Var.	Home	w/boy's
Tues. 1-23	K-Christian	JV/Var	Away	
Thurs. 1-25	Delton-Kellogg	JV	Home	w/boy's
Fri. 1-26	Delton-Kellogg	Var.	Away	w/boy's
Tues. 1-30	K-Zoo Home School	JV/Var	Home	
Wed. 1-31	Climax-Scotts	Var.	Away	w/boy's
Thurs. 2-1	Saugatuck	JV	Home	w/boy's
Fri. 2-2	Saugatuck	Var.	Away	w/boy's
Mon. 2-5	B.C. Pennfield	JV/Var	Home	
Tues. 2-6	Watervliet	JV/Var	Away	
Thurs. 2-8	Black River	JV	Away	w/boy's
Fri. 2-9	Black River	Var.	Home	w/boy's
Tues. 2-13	Hackett	JV/Var	Home	
Thurs. 2-15	Martin	JV	Away	w/boy's
Fri. 2-16	Martin	Var.	Home	w/boy's
Thurs. 2-22	Gobles	JV	Home	w/boy's
Fri. 2-23	Gobles	Var.	Away	w/boy's
Tues. 2-27	Plainwell	JV/Var	Away	
Thurs. 2-29	B.C. St. Philip	JV/Var	Home	
3-4/3-9	Districts	Var.	TBD	

BOY'S BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	LEVEL	SITE	
Thurs. 1-11	Martin	JV	Home	w/girl's
Fri. 1-12	Martin	Var.	Away	w/girl's
Tues. 1-16	Allegan	JV/Var	Away	
Tues. 1-16	Fennville	Freshman	Away	4:00pm
Thurs. 1-18	Gobles	JV	Away	w/girl's
Thurs. 1-18	Watervliet	Freshman	Away	4:15pm
Fri. 1-19	Gobles	Var.	Home	w/girl's
Tues. 1-23	Constantine	Freshman/JV/Var	Home	4:15pm
Thurs. 1-25	Delton-Kellogg	JV	Home	w/girl's
Fri. 1-26	Delton-Kellogg	Var.	Away	w/girl's
Tues. 1-30	Zion Christian	JV/Var	Away	
Thurs. 2-1	Saugatuck	JV	Home	w/girl's
Thurs. 2-1	K-Christian	Freshman	Home	4:15pm
Fri. 2-2	Saugatuck	Var.	Away	w/girl's
Fri. 2-2	Bridgman	Freshman	Away	4:15pm
Tues. 2-6	S. Haven	Freshman/JV/Var	Home	4:15pm
Thurs. 2-8	Black River	JV	Away	w/girl's
Fri. 2-9	Black River	Var.	Home	w/girl's
Tues. 2-13	Lawton	JV/Var	Away	
Thurs. 2-15	Martin	JV	Away	w/girl's
Fri. 2-16	Martin	Var.	Home	w/girl's
Thurs. 2-22	Gobles	JV	Home	w/girl's
Fri. 2-23	Gobles	Var.	Away	w/girl's
2-26/3-1	Districts	Var.	TBD	

JV games start at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Varsity games start at approximately 7 p.m. (after JV games)

Friday Varsity games start at 6 p.m.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students who wish to inspect their child's or their education records should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools to amend their child's or their education record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest must be set forth in the school's or school district's annual notification for FERPA rights. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school or school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Student Privacy Policy Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

[NOTE: In addition, a school may want to include its directory information public notice, as required by § 99.37 of the regulations, with its annual notification of rights under FERPA.]

Please visit the district website, www.g-aschools.org, to see the list of the disclosures that elementary and secondary schools may make without consent.

INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT REQUIREMENTS

The Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires all states to have a "comprehensive Child Find system" to assure all children who are in need of early intervention to special education services are located, identified, and referred.

If you have a G-A student or a registered Homeschool and suspect your child might have a disability please contact:

- Early On (Children birth to three years): Kathy Hollis at 269-250-9649
- Pre-primary Evaluation Team (Children three to five years): Felicia Burnette at 269-250-9670
- Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools (children five & up): Jennifer Chiechi at 269-484-2020

NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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 address any complaint of discrimination.

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools
1076 N. 37th St.
Galesburg, MI 49053
269-484-2000

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools

Administration Offices

1076 N. 37th Street Galesburg, MI 49053

Phone: 269-484-2000

Primary School (Pre-K through Grade 4)

Principal: Shaun Sportel

269-484-2040

shaun.sportel@garams.org

Middle School (Grades 5 - 8)

Principal: Amy Pratt

269-484-2020

amy.pratt2@garams.org

High School (Grades 9 - 12)

Principal: Lindsey Newton

269-484-2010

lindsey.newton@garams.org

Vision Statement:

*As the Ram Family, we
will empower and
support each student to
excel by providing real-
world learning.*

Mission Statement:

*Galesburg-Augusta Community
Schools will develop personal
connections and innovative
learning pathways for each student
to become a successful individual.*



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